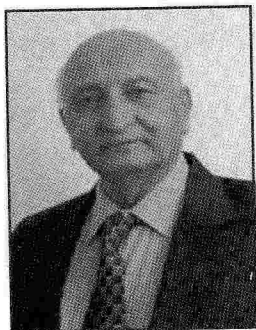


GREAT GURUS OF AGROMETEOROLOGY IN INDIA



Dr. Arvind N. Mehta

Dr. Arvind N. Mehta, born on 28 March 1933, graduated in Physics from M N College at Visnagar of Mehsana district, Gujarat. He started his career in 1955 as a Demonstrator in Physics at M N College, Visnagar and later on joined B A College of Agriculture at Anand in 1957 as a Demonstrator. He earned his M. Sc (Agri) degree in Agricultural Statistics and Agricultural Meteorology in 1968. The Department of Agricultural Meteorology at B A College of Agriculture was the first in India to start Ph.D programme in Agricultural Meteorology in 1975 and Dr Mehta was the first student to join this programme under able guidance of Dr. P. D. Mistry. Dr Mehta was awarded Ph.D degree in Agricultural Meteorology in 1980. He served the Gujarat Agricultural University in various capacities and became Professor and Head of Department of Agricultural Meteorology in 1982. Prof Mehta was instrumental in establishment of full fledged Department of Agricultural Meteorology and starting of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology at Anand with support from ICAR. He is pioneer in starting collaborative research work on application of remote sensing techniques in agriculture with special reference to moisture and nutrient stress detection in field crops, in association with Space Application Centre, ISRO Ahmedabad and also initiated independent research in Remote Sensing with support from Government of Gujarat. He created infrastructure facilities in the department through different research projects funded by DST and ICAR.

Dr Mehta guided seven M. Sc and six Ph. D students in Agricultural Meteorology and published 21 research papers in National and International journals. Although, he retired from the university service in March 1993 but he continued to provide the his guidance to students and to the department until 1997. At present, he is in USA with his children.