

***PLENARY SPEAKER***

**Dr. Bhimanagouda (Bhimu) Patil**

Texas A&M University



Bhimu Patil, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Horticultural Sciences and director of the Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center. Patil received his B.S and M.S. in Agriculture from University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore and Dharwad in 1984 and 1986 respectively. He received his Ph.D. in Horticulture from Texas A&M University in 1994. He also served as Associate Director from 2002-2004 and Director from 2005-present, of the Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center. Patil has been a member of the graduate faculty department of Horticulture since 1997 and also a member of Intercollegiate Faculty of Nutrition and Molecular and Environment Plant Sciences.

Patil's research emphasis is on 'foods for health'. His research on isolation and characterization of naturally occurring compounds has started to provide 'proof of concept' of role of vegetables and fruits in human health. Additionally, his research is focused on pre and postharvest effects on bioactive compounds in citrus, pepper, onion, melons, and pomegranate. Patil has developed two multi-disciplinary and multi state first-of-its kind course, "Science of Foods for Health" and "Phytochemicals in Fruits and Vegetables to Improve Human Health" which are being offered at several universities.