

Announcement: 10 December 2018

Winner of the 2018 Kader Award in Postharvest Training

The Postharvest Education Foundation (www.postharvest.org)

Awarded by the Board of Directors of The Postharvest Education Foundation to an outstanding graduate postharvest e-learner or a team of e-learners after their successful completion of a year of PEF training on commodity systems assessment, small-scale postharvest handling practices, postharvest demonstration design, postharvest training program design and cost/benefit analysis.

2018 Kader Award in Postharvest Training Winner: Vijay Yadav Tokala (India)



Vijay in Rome in 2015 (left) with his poster for the 1st ADMI Postharvest Congress, and in his lab at Curtin University in 2018 (right).

Vijay is serving on the board of directors for The Postharvest Education Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to reducing global postharvest losses and food waste by organizing and managing postharvest e-learning programs and training activities for the participants from more than 25 different nations. As a volunteer Vijay has developed and is editing quarterly PEF newsletters, has represented PEF at a postharvest conference in Mauritius, edited a CRC Press book on Postharvest Capacity Building with Dr. Majeed Mohammed, and assisted Dr. Lisa with journal articles and chapter writing, plus editing and reviewing for PEF White Papers and the upcoming e-book “100 under \$100: Tools for Reducing Postharvest Losses”.

In India, he has worked as Horticulture Officer in the government of Andhra Pradesh with the roles of field consultant and extension officer, with the main job objective of enhancing quality horticulture production and encouraging farmers towards safe postharvest handling and processing in both rural and urban areas. His undergraduate studies specialized in horticulture and he was a top college student at Dr. Y. S. R. Horticultural University, India. His postgraduate research focused on fruit and vegetable processing and he was awarded a University Gold Medal at S. K. Rajasthan Agricultural University, India. He completed his PEF e-learning program in 2012, won the prestigious International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS)-2016 and Australian Postgraduate Award (APA). Currently Vijay is pursuing a PhD in postharvest horticulture at Curtin University, Western Australia, and studying the effect of novel ethylene antagonists to increase the storage life of fruits in different storage environments.

The Kader Awards in Postharvest Training include:

- An award certificate in honor of Dr. Adel A. Kader, signed by the chair of the PEF Board of Directors
- a trip to participate in our PEF Global e-learning closing workshop or to attend the WFPC Postharvest Congress in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Oct 2019) or Lucknow, India (November 2019)
- a cash prize of US \$500

The winner is asked to prepare and share a one-hour PowerPoint presentation on their activities in the field of postharvest training since the completion of their e-learning program.

Dr. Adel A. Kader (1941-2012) spent the majority of his career at the University of California at Davis, where he was a world-renowned researcher, author, extension specialist and teacher. In 2011 AAK was one of the founding members of the Board of Directors of The Postharvest Education Foundation.



AAK working with LK in India (2008)



AAK in Jimma, Ethiopia (2012)