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Prof. Palitha Weerakkody currently serves as a Professor in Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. He graduated from the University of Peradeniya in 1988, completed his master level and doctoral postgraduate qualifications from Hiroshima University, Japan and the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, Peradeniya, respectively and attained the professorship in 2009. He is currently involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and training on general horticulture, fruit and vegetable production and protected culture (CEA). He has also served as a research fellow at the Universities of Sydney, Warwickshire and Shizuoka (Japan) and Bologna (Italy). Prof. Weerakkody has extended service by holding honorary positions in various committees and organizations such as Center for Environmental Studies (CES), University of Peradeniya (2014-16), Fruit and Vegetables Advisory Board of the Export Development Board (2005-2013) and Editorial Committee of the University Research Magazine (2014-15) and Protected Culture Entrepreneurs Association etc (2003-2010). Prof. Weerakkody has supervised more than 100 undergraduate research projects and 15 postgraduate research projects. His full publications and abstracts are nearly 120. During the last 10 years, he has completed nearly 20 externally funded research projects as the main/co-investigator. He has served as a Co-editor/reviewer for more than 10 journals and symposium proceedings. In recognition of his research work, Prof. Weerakkody has been awarded with NRC Merit Award (2010) and many other awards jointly with co-researchers. His academic excellence is also illustrated in terms of his active participation with sister organizations as an external examiner, paper reviewer and member of project monitoring teams and consultancy groups.