

## CIMAP gets ISO 9001:2000 accreditation

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The Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow, has acquired ISO quality certification, becoming the only biological laboratory in CSIR to do so. The accreditation is being hailed as a remarkable achievement as it has become necessary for any organization to

be certified for quality system. This is another feather in the cap of the institute as CIMAP is already certified by the NABL for chemical testing for the past eight years. CIMAP has been granted ISO 9001 license for quality management systems, which cover research and development, testing and analysis, process development, agrotechnology, production of quality medicinal and aromatic herbs, products and varieties and training in multidisciplinary research tools and cultivation and processing of medicinal and aromatic plants.

### ... Wins IDMS patent Appreciation award (2004)

The Indian Drug manufacturer's association (IDMA) has recognized CIMAP's US patent on "Antimicrobial Composition" as the best patent in pharmaceutical biotechnology for their patent application award 2003-04. The patent is the result of concentrated research in genomics approach for drug discovery by the team led by Dr SPS Khanuja, director, CIMAP. The award recognizes the novelty of approach at CIMAP in discovering new bioactive molecules by following the genomics approach to relate specific mutations conferring resistance in Mycobacterium and E coli like pathogenic bacteria against widely used antibiotics of the fluoroquinolone group such as ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, lomefloxacin and the parent molecule nalidixic acid. The research opens new avenues of searching novel drug molecules from plants and other sources with the capability to prevent drug resistance emergence in a combination mode.