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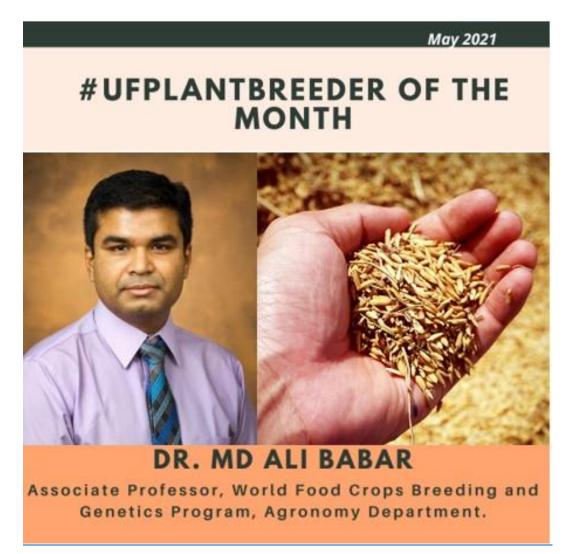
Featuring Ali Babar - University of Florida's "Plant Breeder of the Month"

Ali Babar was the University of Florida's "Plant Breeder of the Month" in May, 2021. What follows is a series of Tweets from <u>https://twitter.com/UFPlantbreeding</u> featuring Ali and his work:



UF/IFAS-PlantBreeders @UFPlantbreeding

"Our plant breeder for the month of May is Dr. Ali Babar, a small grain breeder at the world food crops breeding and genetics program, Agronomy department, University of Florida. <u>#UFPlantBreeder</u>."



"Dr. Ali Babar's research focuses on how small grain crops like wheat, oats, and triticale can be improved through plant breeding to increase crop productivity in stressful environments, especially hot and humid Southeastern US."



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"Dr. Ali Babar's program has developed multiple heat stress tolerant wheat and oat germplasm. He identified and validated multiple genetic loci associated with stem & spike partitioning components that impact harvest index in wheat."



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"To facilitate and reduce laborious and time-consuming phenotyping, Dr. Ali Babar is developing a UAV based high throughput phenotyping tool which enables the screening of large numbers of genotypes in a relatively short time."



"Dr. Ali Babar has developed 16 oat, wheat, and triticale varieties which are currently growing in the Southeastern US and South America. Some of them include Horizon 720, Sweet Carolina, Juggernaut, Impacta, and FLLA11019 oat."



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"Dr. Ali Babar's program also identified the loci associated with post-anthesis heat stress tolerance under field conditions, and have identified two Edamame varieties which are suitable for growing in Florida."



"Ali Babar has trained 11 future plant breeders (graduate students, post-docs, and visiting scientists), published 38 papers in high impact journals, and received 1,700 citations."



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"Want to learn more about Dr. Ali Babar's program on small grain breeding? Be sure to check out his Google Scholar link with information on his research publications <u>https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=wwhCRf8AAAAJ&hl=en...</u>"



Congratulations, Ali!