

ONGOING EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

Project 1: Setting up 100 hectare demonstration plot in Himachal Pradesh and production of elite planting material of *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*

Status: Raised 50 ha demonstration plots of Tissue Culture and Stem Cutting raised *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii* at Dhadiyarghat in Solan Forest Division. The Tissue Culture raised plants have shown 84 per cent survival and Stem Cutting raised has survived up to 95 per cent. Monkeys, Porcupines and landslides were the main reasons of mortality. The growth data are being recorded periodically.



Performance of Tissue Culture Raised Plants

Project 2: Suitability of *Jatropha curcas* L. seeds sources in lower and mid-Himalayan regions of Himachal Pradesh [BT/PR/5094/AGR/16/429/2005-2010: DBT Funded Project]

Status: Demonstration-cum-experimental plantations established on 23 ha. of area during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 at various locations in H.P. were maintained intensively during 2008-09 for better survival and growth so that it could be used for future planting material resource as well as training purposes. It was estimated that about 33,500 cutting could be made available to funding agency for future propagation from those demonstration plantations. About 22 fresh seed samples amounting approximately 10 kg collected from different seed sources of Himachal Pradesh during November 2008 and are being analyzed for oil estimation. Growth and survival data pertaining to experimental-cum-demonstration plantations are being recorded regularly. The project has been extended for two years by the funding agency i.e. up to 31st March 2010 for getting possible logical conclusion from the project being executed under *Jatropha* micro-mission of DBT.



Demonstration Plantations of *Jatropha curcas*

Project 3: Production of quality planting material of *Aconitum heterophyllum* Wall. Ex Royle & *Angelica glauca* Edgew and extension of their cultivation technology to local communities [GO/HP-07/2006-2009: NMPB Funded Project]

Status: Raised and maintained about 2.20 lacs nursery stock of *Aconitum heterophyllum* Wall. ex Royle (Atish) & 1.05 lacs nursery stock of *Angelica glauca* Edgew (Chora) at two nurseries of the Institute viz., Shillaru nursery (Shimla) and Brundhar medicinal plants nursery (Manali) during 2008-09. The nursery activities mainly included preparation of land for nursery beds, sowing/pricking, shading, irrigation and other maintenance activities. Overall, up to March 2009, the Institute has raised 3.80 lacs of quality planting material of Atish and Chora under this project in different nurseries. Under extension activities of the project, Institute has successfully organized two training & demonstration programmes on 'Commercial cultivation of Atish & Chora' at Mashobra, Shimla on 29th August, 2008 for 44 farmers & field functionaries of SFD HP and at Mahunaag in Karsog Forest Division of Himachal Pradesh on 5th December 2008 for 60 numbers of farmers, members of Mahila Mandal, NGO & field functionaries of SFD HP. Besides these, around 2.00 lacs QPM of Atish and Chora distributed to various end users during the year. The project has completed its period of 3 years on 31st March, 2009; however, one year extension for the project is under consideration with the funding agency to fully achieve all the objectives of the project.