

NEW PROJECTS INITIATED DURING THE YEAR 2008 – 2009

PLAN PROJECT

Project 1: A study on the biodiversity of the plant resources of the patch vegetations around rural homestead in Jorhat district, Assam and its role in socio-economy of the villagers (RFRI/EE/15/2008-2011)

Status: Study sites were selected and data on socio-economic status and their dependency on homestead forest of the villages of Pokamua, Lahing, Boloma, Selenghat, Kakojan and Tamulisiga were collected. Phyto-sociological studies were done in patch vegetation at the above sites. Analysis of collected data of vegetation as frequency, density, dominance is in process. Composite soil samples were collected from above sites for analysis.

Project 2: Ecological assessment of medicinal plants in Nambor Reserve Forest and their socio-economic impact on fringe villagers (RFRI/EE/14/2008-2011)

Status: Literature on medicinal flora of Nambor Reserved Forest was consulted & collected. Data collection format for Phyto- sociological studies were developed and tested in the field. Sampling for the enumeration of medicinal plants is under process. Socio-economic survey of one village namely Tegaani has been completed. Market survey for availability of medicinal plants & their source was done at Shillonijan, Karbi Anglong.

Project 3: Development of commercially viable dye products from selected plants of Northeast Region. (RFRI/BIK/02/2008-2011)

Status: Survey was carried out in the nearby areas of Jorhat district and Nambor Reserve Forest for collection of *Baccaurea sapida*, *Aporusa dioica* and *Biscofia javanica*. Plants were identified with the help of BSI, Shillong and herbarium was maintained. The plant material was extracted and material to liquor ratio and time for isolation of dye has been optimized with the help of analytical facilities in Chemistry Division of FRI, Dehradun.

Project 4: Exploration and documentation of indigenous knowledge of Phyto-resources among Mishing tribe of Assam (RFRI/BIK/03/2008-2010)

Status: Field visits were made to *Mishing* villages (viz. Bahfola, Lalitimukh, Neul gaon, Kumolia, Hatisal and Jopong. Sonari, Sundarpur, Bojalkota, Bheloguri in Jorhat District and Agoratoli, Dhaboati, Mohkhuti, Dhanbari Bamungaon, Palas bari, Dhansirimukh, Moriahola, Nikorighat, Amtenga, Alisinga, Ouguri, Nahorkhana Mishing gaon, Nikori under Golaghat District of Assam). Information on plant applications for Pneumonia-6, Worm problem- 2, Ring worm-2, Stomach pain-4, Post natal pain- 7, Nail infection-1, Urinary problem-8, stop bleeding-1, Skin diseases-2, Fever-3, Dysentary-6, Nasal bleeding-2, Blood pressure-1, Easy delivery-1, Jaudice-2, Stomach pain-2, Cattle stomach pain-1, Blood dysentery-3, Cattle eye infection-1,

Indigestion and liver trouble-1, Intestinal ulcer- 1, Cuts-1, Cattle larval infection-1, Snake bite-1, Headache-1 was collected.

Project 5. Impact of climate change on litter microbial dynamics in *Dipterocarp* forest. (RFRI/ FP/13/2008-2011)

Status: The leaf and litter samples were collected from two sites *viz.* Deomali (Arunachal Pradesh) and Moreh Town (Manipur) during winter season. Experimental site was selected at Deomali, Arunachal Pradesh to study the decomposition rate of leaf litter under natural conditions. Five fungal genera *viz.*, *Aspergillus*, *Fusarium*, *Curvularia*, *Mucor*, and *Alternaria*, were observed to be noticeably dominant over others. Three genera *viz.* *Aspergillus*, *Fusarium*, and *Rhizopus* were found to be thermo tolerant under laboratory tests.

Project 6: Seed production potential, seed and seedling quality of planting stock in seedling seed orchards of *Dipterocarpus retusus* (Syn *D. macrocarpus*). (RFRI/G/23/2007-2010)

Status: Seedling seed orchard of *Dipterocarpus retusus* (Holong) at Deovan, Naharoni and Joypur has been assessed for seed production potential. Data on flowering and fruiting parameters were collected. Seeds were collected from Deovan. Seeds were sown in nursery for assessment of germination behavior and quality of planting stock of different progenies of plus trees.

Project 7: Appraisal of tree-crop association pattern in selected Jhum areas of NE region for efficient land use under agroforestry (RFRI/SC/12/2008-2009).

Status: Different existing land use systems have been identified out of which most of them are traditional with transforming trends. New LUS have also been in practice with some newly introduced crops under different programs of Govt. and Non-govt. agencies. Site survey was also conducted to identify the suitable sites for field research trials.