

## TRAINING ON AGAR AND BAMBOO AT RFRI, JORHAT

**Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat** conducted a week-long sponsored training on Agar and Bamboo from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2018. Four trainees from Kerala, namely, Mrs. Bindu Jayaram Nambiar, Faculty and Coordinator, Agri Business School, ICAR-KVK, Coimbatore; Mr. Divakaran Nambiar, Farmers' Club, Parappa, Kasargod; Mr. Subair C. H., Farmers' Club, Parappa, Kasargod and Mr. P. C. John, Farmers' Club, Parappa, Kasargod attended the training.

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat inaugurated the Training Programme and welcomed the Trainees. He spoke about the importance of the Agar trees and its role in economic upliftment. He gave an overview on the plantation of the Agar tree by various Countries in the world. Malaysia and Indonesia are the major exporter as well as importer of Agar wood. China, Japan and Gulf countries are the main importers of Agar oil. He also explained about the biological complexities of formation of oil in the plants. He also highlighted the economics of raising plantation of Agar trees.

After the brief inaugural session, Dr. R. K. Borah delivered a detailed presentation on nursery and plantation management techniques, artificial induction of Agarwood. The Trainees visited the Pathology laboratory and plantations at RFRI campus and field demonstration on artificial induction of agarwood was done in the matured trees. They visited the natural plantations and distillation units at Amguri and Namti, Sivasagar (Assam).

Sri Kumud Bora gave a detailed presentation on bamboo nursery, propagation, plantation and utilization. They visited bamboo nursery and saw various propagation techniques. They also visited the bambutem, bamboo germplasm bank and bamboo composite unit. Mrs. Ellora Borah and Shri Debojit Neog guided them in nursery and bambusetum. The Trainees paid visit to Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat to know about the integrated farming system followed in Assam.

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