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INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Acorus calamus Linn (Bach) - A threatened medicinal plant growing naturally in the swampy situations in Mothronwala, Dehradun

Courtesy : S.S. Jain,
ICFRE, Dehradun

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UNFCCC Workshop on Reducing emission from deforestation in developing countries : Participation of ICFRE

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) of UNFCCC invited parties and accredited observer organizations to submit their views on 'Reducing emission from deforestation in developing countries'. To facilitate discussion at SBSTA-26 in Bonn, UNFCCC organized a second workshop on the subject in Cairns, Australia from 7th to 9th March 2007.

Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General, ICFRE participated as an accredited observer and made a presentation on 'Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: The Indian Proposal'. He suggested the alternate policy approach to reduce emission and the concept of 'compensated conservation' to reward the countries that have increased their forest cover and thereby have more Carbon stocks despite great population pressure and the increased demand for land resources. It was projected that India would be entitled to claim incentive for maintaining baseline stock estimated at 8.79 Gtc in 2006 and also an increment of 0.96 Gtc projected till 2030, as a result of the improvement of the existing forests and the afforestation carried out in non-forest areas. These projections will result in pushing ahead India's concern regarding incentive to countries for conserving and improving its forests.

Gall Insect Problem in Eucalyptus

Recently there has been an outbreak of an invasive Eulophid wasp, *Leptocybe invasa*, presumed to have come from Australia, on *E. tereticornis* and *E. camaldulensis* plantations and nurseries in several localities in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. This wasp induces galls by laying eggs on



Gall formation in leaf petioles



Nursery seedling showing bunched appearance due to gall damage

shoot terminals, leaf petioles and midribs in nursery seedlings and young saplings in plantations. After conducting field studies IFGTB, Coimbatore has suggested some interim measures to manage the pest problem.

A press conference was called at IFGTB on 30th March 2007 to create awareness amongst the wood based industries, forest corporations, tree farmers/growers about the gall insect problem in Eucalyptus, since this pest problem can have immense negative economic impact on the economies of plantation companies, tree growers, farmers, forest departments.

Research Policy Committee Meeting at ICFRE

The Research Planning division under the Directorate of Research convened the VIII Research Policy Committee meeting on 26th and 27th March 2007 under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE, to give the final approval to the new research proposals submitted by all the research institutes under the Council. The meeting was attended by the Forestry experts, eminent scientists, representative of Planning Commission, NGOs, forest based industries and JFM Committees. During the VIII RPC meeting, 122 new projects were discussed, out of which 72 projects were approved after modification and 37 projects were approved without modification while external funding options were suggested for 7 projects and 6 projects were not approved.

The RPC meeting was followed by the

Directors' meet at ICFRE on 28th February 2007 under the Chairmanship of DG. This was attended by the Directors of all ICFRE institutes and Senior Officers and Scientists of ICFRE headquarters. Matters related to forestry extension and research coordination were discussed besides other miscellaneous issues as per agenda.



Research Policy Committee meeting at ICFRE, Dehradun under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE

Press Meet at ICFRE

A Press meet was arranged at ICFRE Headquarter on 8th January 2007. It was chaired by Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General, ICFRE. The DG briefed the press about the new initiatives of the Council. A presentation on research and development activities of the Council was also made by the DDG (Extension). The meet concluded with an interactive session with the representatives of press and media.



Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG and Dr. Rabindra Kumar, DDG (Extn.) at Press meet at ICFRE, Dehradun

ICFRE BOG Meeting

XXXVI meeting of BOG, ICFRE was held at Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi on 23rd March 2007. Dr. Ajay Karmaker, Scientist-E, IWST, Bangalore made a presentation on the "Wood Polymer

Composites: A Green Technology for the future". After the presentation discussion was held on the agenda items and important decisions regarding different issues were taken.

World Forestry Day at the MoEF, New Delhi

The World Forestry Day was organized at the MoEF, New Delhi. On the occasion Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt emphasized the need to develop village forest for each village and create Forest Panchayats to maintain village forests. It was informed that in Uttarakhand alone, there are more than 11,000 Van Panchayats. Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt suggested that if the concept of 'Village Forest' is developed and the responsibility to maintain, develop and to use forest produce is given to the Van Panchayats, it will help generate local employment, improve livelihoods, aid in soil and water conservation, pollution control, maintain the climatic balance and reduce the financial burden on the Government.

RFRI Observed World Forestry Day

The Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat celebrated 'World Forestry Day' on 21st March 2007 at the Botanical Garden, Jorhat. On this occasion Painting competition for School Children and a plantation programme was organized. Villagers, school students, farmers and children participated in the function. Seedlings were distributed to children and farmers.



World Forestry Day celebration at RFRI, Jorhat



Datisca cannabina Linn.: *Requires conservation*

Datisca cannabina, which belongs to the family Datisceae, is commonly known as Akalbir and is generally distributed in temperate Himalayas from Kashmir to Nepal. A floristic survey in cold desert area of Pooh sub division of district Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh has revealed that the species is also found in the moist locations along the Nallah in Chila top area of Pooh valley at an elevation of 3100 m above msl. The plant is a glabrous herb and its flowering and fruiting normally occurs during the months of June-July. The herb acts as a diuretic. It is bitter, purgative, occasionally used in fevers and in gastric and scrofulous complaints. The bruised root acts as sedative in rheumatism and is also applied to carious teeth.

Keeping in view the medicinal uses and the threatened status of the species, there is an urgent need for conservation of this species.



Datisca cannabina

Interactive Meeting

A one day interactive meeting with stakeholders was organized at Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI) jointly with Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), Bangalore. It was attended by farmers, artisans, forest department officials, wood industries and saw millers. A total of 77 participants attended the meeting. Dr. C.N. Pandey, Director IPIRTI and Dr. K.S. Shashidhar, IFS, Director, IWST initiated the discussion. Director, IPIRTI highlighted the importance of extension, transfer of technologies and the importance of value

addition for efficient utilization of wood, which plays very significant role. Director, IWST was of the view that demonstrations in the field and at the lab have their own importance, and efficient networking between lab and field, through demonstrations will promote awareness.

Grant-in-aid to the Forestry Universities

Financial Support was provided to the Universities which impart forestry education in the country in order to strengthen the infrastructural facilities for the forestry education. This includes Infrastructure development, purchase of scientific equipment, books/journals, establishment of mist chambers and other similar teaching/research facilities, sports/games and other amenities for students, establishment of interpretation centre-cum-museum, preparation of teaching manuals, organization of workshop/seminars and participation of teachers in workshop/seminar etc. and students' educational tours. Overall Rs.700.00 lakhs as Grant-in-aid has been released to the 22 universities during the financial year 2006-2007.

Workshops organized

Institute of Forest Productivity (IFP), Ranchi conducted a Regional Workshop on 'Forestry Extension Strategy Review' on 23rd March 2007. Delegates from SFDs, Universities, Central Govt./ State



Delegates at Regional Workshop on Forestry Extension Strategy Review at IFP, Ranchi

Govt. Organizations, NGOs, Progressive Farmers, and Officers, Scientists and Research Officers of IFP attended the workshop. The workshop was also attended by Shri N.M. Prasad Ex-Addl. I.G.F. (Gol) and Dr. Rabindra Kumar, DDG (Extn.), ICFRE.

Short Term Training Courses

- Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun organized a customized training course on 'Bamboo Utilization, Medicinal Plants, Vermi Composting and Soil Testing' sponsored by the Sri Bhuvneswari Mahila Ashram (SBMA)-Plan Gairsen, Uttarakhand for the farmers and Van Panchayat members from 12th to 16th March 2007.
- FRI, Dehradun organized a two day training programme on 'Personal Effectiveness' sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi for IFS Officers in various Govt. of India Institutes and Uttarakhand Forest Department. It was conducted by the Prasanna Trust, Secundrabad at National Forest Library and Information Centre (NFLIC), Dehradun.
- IWST, Bangalore organized a compulsory training course for IFS officers on 'Biotechnology for Forest Conservation' from 15th to 19th January 2007. A total of 29 officers participated in the course.
- IWST, Bangalore organized a short term training programme 'Extraction/ Purification techniques and instrumentation analysis' from 14th to 16th March 2007. Six students from M.S. Ramaiah College of Arts, Science and Commerce attended the training programme.
- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore conducted five days training programme on 'Tree Improvement and Productivity Enhancement' for the staff of Tamil Nadu Forest Department from 8th to 12th January 2007.
- RFRI, Jorhat imparted training to the visiting Ranger's trainees from SFS

College, Burnihat on Bamboo propagation, commercial cultivation and management on 8th January 2007.

- RFRI, Jorhat organized a training programme on 'Apiculture and management', under the DST sponsored project at Kakotibari village, Golaghat, Assam on 18th March 2007.
- RFRI, Jorhat imparted training and demonstration on bamboo propagation techniques, cultivation, nursery techniques and silvicultural operations etc. to six Forest Officials of Deomali Forest Division, Arunachal Pradesh on 19th March 2007.



Bamboo propagation training to forest officials of Deomali Forest Division (AP)

- RFRI, Jorhat organized a training programme on Fish Farming and management at Kakoti bari Village, Golaghat, Assam under the project sponsored by DST on 31st March 2007.
- HFRI, Shimla organized a two-day training programme on 'Cultivation of Medicinal Plants' at Rajgarh under Rajgarh Forest Division, district Sirmour, on 6th February 2007, under the Good Idea Fund (GIF) Project funded by the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department. Shri Ganga Ram Musafir, Hon'ble Speaker, Himachal Pradesh inaugurated the programme. On the first day about 84 participants comprising of farmers, members of Village Forest Development Committee, Mahila Mandals, etc. participated in the programme. On the second day of the training 50 field functionaries comprising of Range Officers, Deputy Rangers and

Forest Guards of Rajgarh Forest Division were present. While inaugurating the training programme, Mr. Musafir appreciated the efforts of HFRI and hoped that the cultivation of medicinal plants on large scale will certainly improve the economy of farmers in this hill state.

- HFRI, Shimla organized a two-day training programme on 'Cultivation of Medicinal Plants and Planting Stock Improvement Programme' on 21st and 22nd February 2007, in close collaboration with State Forest Research Institute, Jammu & Kashmir, for the frontline staff of Jammu & Kashmir Forest Department. Shri Qazi Mohammad Afzal, Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Environment, Housing and Urban Development to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir inaugurated the programme. Mr. Qazi appreciated the efforts of Indian Council of Forest Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla and State Forest Research Institute, Jammu for organizing this training programme on these two important issues of forestry and hoped that the trainees will benefit from it. Mr. Qazi stressed the need for cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants in the state of Jammu & Kashmir on a large scale and also added that the climatic conditions of the state are ideal for growth of medicinal plants. He further said that government would take all necessary steps to boost this type of cultivation in the state particularly in the higher regions of Himalayas. Mr. Aijaz Ahmad K

han, Minister of State for Forests to the Government of J&K, Mr. Attal Dulloo, IAS, Secretary (Forests) to the Government of J&K, Mr. Irshad Ahmed Khan, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K, Dr. Rabindra Kumar, IFS, Deputy Director General (Extension), ICFRE, Dehradun, Dr. C.M. Seth, IFS, Director, SFRI, Jammu & Kashmir, Dr. K.S. Kapoor,



Shri Qazi Mohammad Afzal, Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Environment, Housing and Urban Development to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir inaugurated the programme

Director-in-Charge, HFRI alongwith other Officers and Scientists were also present during the inaugural session.

- HFRI, Shimla organized a two-day training-cum-demonstration programme on 'Wild Apricot : Its Uses, Nursery and Plantation Techniques' under NOVOD board project at village Jari in Parvati Forest Division of Himachal Pradesh on 12th and 13th March 2007. The Conservator of Forests, Kullu Circle inaugurated the training programme. It was attended by about 50 farmers of the Manikaran valley of Kullu district.
- HFRI, Shimla organized a training-cum-demonstration programme at village Seriti in Chopal Forest Division on 26th and 27th March 2007 on 'Commercial cultivation of Atish and Chora' under National Medicinal Plants Board project. The Pradhan Gram Panchayat Khaddar inaugurated the training programme. It was attended by about 40 farmers of Chopal region of Shimla district.
- IFP, Ranchi conducted two training programmes of 5 days duration each for the officers of SFD Jharkhand on 'Bamboo propagation', from 12th to 16th February 2007 and 19th to 23rd February 2007. The training programmes were attended by 23 Range Officers and 21 Assistant Conservator of Forests of SFD, Jharkhand.
- Centre for Forestry Research and

Human Resource Development (CFRHRD), Chhindwara organized a one-day training course on 'Agrotechniques of Achar (Chironji) and Biofertilizer and Biopesticide' on 19th February 2007 for Farmers of the

area.

- CFRHRD, Chhindwara organized a two-day training course on 'NWFP-value addition/Livelihood through Ecotourism and Soil conservation' on 14th and 15th March 2007 for SFD

Staff News

Promotions:

FRI, Dehradun

Shri A.K. Mamgain, Scientist-B	25.01.2007
Shri R.K. Manchanda, E&AO	25.01.2007
Shri J.P.S. Rana, Chief Pharmacist	25.01.2007
Shri Arvind Johri, Head Clerk	29.01.2007
Shri Vivek Goyal, Head Clerk	29.01.2007
Shri Pitambar Dutt, Head Clerk	29.01.2007
Shri Rajesh Bhatia, UDC	29.01.2007
Shri M.C. Kukreti, R.A.-I	29.01.2007
Shri Ramesh Chand, R.A.-I	29.01.2007
Shri Hemant Gupta, R.A.-II	29.01.2007
Shri A.K. Khenaja, R.A.-II	29.01.2007
Shri M.P. Bhandari, RA-I (Artist)	29.01.2007
Shri V.K. Gaily, RA-II (Asstt. Foreman)	29.01.2007
Shri Raj Pal, RA-II (Asstt. Foreman)	29.01.2007
Shri A.K. Nautiyal, RA-II (Elect.)	29.01.2007
Shri Pawan Singh, R.A.-I	02.02.2007
Shri Sunder Lal, R.A.-II	02.02.2007
Smt. Roshni Chauhan, R.A.-II	02.02.2007
Shri B.M. Uniyal, R.A.-II	06.02.2007

ICFRE, Dehradun

Smt. Vijay Dhasmana, E&AO	25.01.2007
Shri Vinay Kumar, E&AO	25.01.2007
Shri Devendra Kumar, R.O.	05.02.2007
Shri S.N. Nautiyal, R.O.	27.02.2007

AFRI, Jodhpur

Shri Bilas Singh, R.O.	29.01.2007
Smt. Sangeeta Tripathi, R.O.	29.01.2007
Ms. Neelam Verma, R.O.	29.01.2007
Smt. Meeta Sharma, R.O.	29.01.2007
Shri Mohinder Singh, FRO	26.02.2007

Shri Surinder Singh, FRO, HFRI, Shimla	21.01.2007
Smt. S. Manjula, P.S., IFGTB, Coimbatore	29.01.2007
Shri Ved Pal Singh, R.O., CFR&HRD, Chhindwara	06.03.2007

Repatriation

Shri N.S. Bisht, IFS (AGMUT:85)	12.02.2007
Dr. S.P. Singh, IFS (AM:83)	31.02.2007
Shri B.P. Singh, IFS (AGMUT:92) (Retired)	31.03.2007
Shri Sandeep Kuzur, IFS (J&K:95)	31.03.2007
Shri K.S. Thakur, IFS (HP:89)	31.03.2007

Joining

Dr. Rabindra Kumar, IFS (AGMUT:84), DDG (Extn.), ICFRE, Dehradun	02.01.2007
Shri Sunil Kumar Kapta, IFS (HP:95), DCF, HFRI, Shimla	02.01.2007
Dr. Sanjay Singh, Scientist C, IFP, Ranchi	08.01.2007

Shri A. Muthu Kumar, Scientist-B, IFP, Ranchi	31.01.2007
Shri Lalmunsanga Khawlhring, DCF, ARCBR, Aizawl, Mizoram	01.02.2007
Shri Binay Kumar Mishra, SFS, DCF, ARCBR, Aizawl, Mizoram	01.02.2007
Shri Binay Kumar Mishra, SFS, DCF, RFRI, Jorhat	12.02.2007
Shri Mohinder Pal, IFS (HP:81), Director, HFRI, Shimla	07.03.2007
Shri Piar Chand, IFS, DCF, (WB:91), DCF, FRI, Dehradun	15.03.2007
Dr. V.R.R. Singh, IFS (HP:85), CF, FRI, Dehradun	28.03.2007
Shri Shonk Ram, Forest Range Officer, RFRI Jorhat	29.03.2007

Transfers

Dr. S.P. Subramani, RA I transferred to IFGTB, Coimbatore	02.03.2007
Dr. Vijay Prakash Pandey, RA I transferred to CSFER, Allahabad	02.03.2007
Dr. Vijayaraghvan, Scientist-B transferred to IFGTB, Coimbatore	16.03.2007

Recruitments

Shri A. Muthu Kumar, Scientist-B, IFP, Ranchi	31.01.2007
Shri Hari Om Saxena, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	05.02.2007
Km. Bhawan Sharma, Scientist-B, AFRI, Jodhpur	07.02.2007
Shri Alok Yadav, Scientist-B, RFRI, Jorhat	06.03.2007

Retirements:

Smt. Champa Gupta, O.S., ICFRE, Dehradun	31.01.2007
Shri Virender Singh Thapa, T.A. (Carpenter), FRI, Dehradun	31.01.2007
Shri Mahavir Singh, Chowkidar, FRI, Dehradun	31.01.2007
Shri Charan Singh, Forester, FRI, Dehradun	28.02.2007
Shri Virender Singh Rawat, LDC, FRI, Dehradun	28.02.2007
Shri Jagmohan Singh Chauhan, R.A.-I, FRI, Dehradun	28.02.2007
Shri Mohan Lal, Jamadar (Khalasi), ICFRE, Dehradun	28.02.2007

Resignation from ICFRE Service

Dr. Mohan Verghase, Scientist-E, IFGTB, Coimbatore	12.02.2007
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Publications

IFP, Ranchi has published Annual Lac Bulletin 2005-2006 and booklets on 'Bans Utpadan Ki Unnat Technique Evam Prabandhan', 'Poplar' and 'Kissan Nursery' and leaflets on various agroforestry species for distribution among farmers under the project 'SASVPSY' of Bihar.

Awards

Junior Young Scientist Award and Gold Plated Medal for Best Research Paper Presentation awarded to Ms. Ruma Bisht, in the 'National Seminar on Medicinal Plants: Conservation, Cultivation and Utilization' organized from 9th to 11th March 2007 by DST-FIST & UGC-SAP, Deptt. of Zoology and Environmental Sciences, Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar.

Consultancies

ICFRE has been awarded with consultancy-'Mid term evaluation of National Afforestation Programme of National Afforestation and Ecodevelopment Board (NAEB)' by the MoEF for a nation wide evaluation. Accordingly the ICFRE institutes FRI, HFRI, RFRI, TFRI, IFP,

AFRI and IFGTB are evaluating the FDAs in their state jurisdictions.

Visit of dignitaries

Prof. Dr. Masao Koike and Dr. Nur Muhammed, JSPS Post Doctoral Research Fellow of Forest Policy Laboratory, Shinshu University, Japan visited FRI, Dehradun on research trip to India on Community/Social Forestry from 11th to 15th March 2007.

Grand Children of Sir Dietrich Brandis, the first Inspector General of Forests visited FRI, Dehradun on 12th March 2007.

Shri K.B. Thampi IGF (NAEB) and Shri Sanjay Kumar, DIGF (NAEB), MoEF, New Delhi visited the Advanced Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan, Aizawl, Mizoram and appraised the latest development of the new project underway on 7th February 2007.

Prof. V.L. Chopra and Shri B.N. Yugandar, Members, Planning Commission, Government of India visited IFGTB, Coimbatore and interacted with officers and scientists on 15th February 2007.

OBITUARY

ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise and prays for the peace of the departed soul of:

Shri Amar Nath, Chowkidar, FRI, Dehradun	-	13.01.2007
Shri S.P. Nailwal, Head Clerk, FRI, Dehradun	-	25.02.2007

Patron :

Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE

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