



ICFRE NEWSLETTER

July-September 2009

Vol. 9 No. 3

INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



Jadhganga and Karmoli Hydroelectric power project site in upper Himalayas of Uttarkashi

Photo: EIA Division

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Participation of ICFRE in Climate Change Talks at Bonn, Germany

ICFRE as part of delegation of Government of India participated in the Climate Change talks held at Bonn, Germany from 10th to 14th August 2009. Shri V.R.S. Rawat, scientist-D, Biodiversity and Climate Change Division was member of the delegation from ICFRE.

Research

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore inoculated artificially cultured *Frankia* (actinomycete) strain, isolated from *Casuarina junghuhniana*, to the seedlings of *C. junghuhniana* at early seedling stage (14 days). After 21 days of inoculation the young seedlings in the mother bed showed root nodule formation, which are nitrogen fixing sites, are rarely found in the young seedlings. These root nodules enhance the growth of *C. junghuhniana* during seedling stage.

IFGTB, Coimbatore assessed the efficacy of crude secondary plant derivatives obtained from *Aegle marmelos* and its seed oil on important insect pests of teak seedlings at nursery stage, Valluvasery, Nilambur (North), Kerala. The preliminary observations revealed that the individual bioactive compounds present in *A. marmelos* were very effective against the teak defoliator, *Hyblaea puera* and nematode at nursery stage.

IFGTB, Coimbatore developed a modified simple protocol for estimation of carbonic anhydrase activity. In general, different assay methods, namely, manometric, colorimetric and electrometric are in use for the assay of carbonic anhydrase. The activity of carbonic anhydrase are measured by titrimetry, where the titration of H⁺ ions produced in a titration reaction and the variations in pH were detected using a titration indicator. The present assay also compared the various titration methods but the modified procedure offers a satisfactory alternative to the usual electrometric method to achieve the same standard of precision.

TFRI, Jabalpur in a study observed that there has been an increase in the incidence of *Holotrichia* and *Schizonycha* white grub species mainly on teak (*Tectona grandis*),

due to the increased seedling production in forest nurseries. As per the study, at Ramdongri forest nursery, FDMC, Nagpur, the damage incidence was upto 52 percent. The detailed field observations revealed that the white grubs, *Holotrichia rustica*, *H. mucida* and *Schizonycha ruficollis* are recorded as pests on teak seedlings for the first time. Studies were undertaken for developing effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) of this pest programme. The IPM package developed included hand-picking of grubs as an mechanical option along with trap-n-kill method, followed by treatments in the nursery beds in judicious combination of chemicals and biological control agents. This practice proved to be successful in managing the white grub population in the nursery.

Seminars /Workshops

FRI, Dehradun conducted a workshop on “Entrepreneurship Development Programme for Sisal Fibre” sponsored by Utrakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST), Dehradun from 31st August to 4th September, 2009.



Workshop on “Entrepreneurship Development Programme for Sisal Fibre”

Participants from Girish Grah Udyog Evam Resha Utpadan Samiti, Kimsar, Kotdwar participated in the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, Director, UCOST. Dr. Dobhal highlighted the importance of Utrakhand region and the natural resource utilization, like Sisal. Dr Sanjay Naithani, Head, Cellulose and Paper Division, FRI briefed the utility of handmade paper and gave an insight into the methods of making handmade paper.

IFGTB, Coimbatore organised a workshop on “Role of Women in Environment Protection” in association with Tamil Nadu



Workshop on “Role of Women in Environment Protection”



State Commission for women on 24th July 2009. The workshop was presided by Dr. N. Krishnakumar, IFS, Director, IFGTB and inaugurated by Dr. R.M. Ramathal, Chairperson, Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women.

AFRI, Jodhpur and Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal jointly organised a consultative workshop on “Development of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable NTFP Management” on 29th August 2009 at Jodhpur. The objective



Participants in Consultative Workshop

of the workshop was to provide a forum for participation of various agencies, institutions and stakeholders dealing with dry and arid NTFP species to share their experiences and knowledge. The meeting was presided by Mr. A.K. Singh, PCCF, MD, CGMFP Federation, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Dr T.S. Rathore, Director, AFRI, welcomed the delegates.

HFRI, Shimla organised a workshop on 10th September 2009 on “Network Project on *Picorhiza kurrooa* and *Valeriana jatamansi*” under NMPB funded multi-institutional research project. Details of the work done in the past and future strategies, related to implementation of the project activities by the participating institutes were presented and discussed during the workshop.

IFGTB, Coimbatore and Tamil Nadu Forest Department organised a seminar on “Role of Carbon Management and Afforestation in Climate Change Mitigation in Tamil Nadu” at Chennai on 6th August 2009, sponsored by Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission.



Participants in Seminar on “Role of Carbon Management and Afforestation in Climate Change Mitigation in Tamil Nadu”

Trainings

FRI, Dehradun organised a training course on “Development of Green Belts” from 17th to 21st August 2009. The training was attended by 19 participants from West Bokaro Tata Steel (Jharkhand), NTPC (Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh), ACC Cement, NABARD (Lucknow, Tamil Nadu), BAIF (Uttarakhand), Barauni Refineries, West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd., and Himachal Pradesh Forest Department.

FRI, Dehradun organised a training course on “Plywood Manufacture” from 24th to 28th August 2009. Participants from Industries located in Yamuna Nagar and surrounding areas attended the training course. The course consisted the theoretical and practical aspects of plywood manufacture and its quality control.

FRI, Dehradun imparted three months training on “Essential Oils, Fragrance and Flavour Materials” from July to September 2009 to Shri Mohammad Nazrul Islam Bhuiyan, Scientific Officer, CSIR, Bangladesh under fellowship sponsored by Centre for Cooperation in Science and Technology among Developing Societies (CCSTDS), Chennai. The training components consisted of fundamentals and applied aspects, related to agricultural practices of different aromatic crops, extraction and value addition for essential oils, fragrance/flavour materials, quality assessment, techniques for characterization, and quantisation of an aromatic analyte in a plant matrix, new applications such as aromatherapy and creation of fragrance and flavour were discussed. Also detailed exposure was given to new trends in R&D activities in the area of essential oils, flavour and fragrance.

IFGTB, Coimbatore organised an intensive training programme on “Instrumentation Methods and Chemical Analysis - Extraction, Separation, Suitability of Solvent Ratio, TLC Elucidation and UV Characterization of Plant Metabolites” on 27th to 28th July 2009 to students, research scholars and lecturers from different colleges and universities.

IFGTB, Coimbatore organised a training on “Industrial Agroforestry Cultivation for



Eucalyptus" on 30th August 2009 for farmers of Chinnadharapuram, Karur district under the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP).

CFRHRD, Chhindwara, TFRI, Jabalpur organised four trainings on "Cultivation, Uses, Processing, Marketing of Medicinal Plants and Development of Value Added Food Products" for farmers and tribal women under NMPB project of state forest department during 1st to 23rd September 2009 at regular intervals.

CFRHRD, Chhindwara organised a training on " Agroforestry and Medicinal Plants" at the Centre, for farmers and forest officials of Maharashtra on 8th & 9th July 2009 and for farmers of Chhindwara district, Madhya Pradesh on 28th & 29th July 2009.

IWST, Bangalore conducted a compulsory training course for IFS Officers on "Advancement in Wood Production and Utilization with Special Focus on Climate Change Mitigation" from 17th to 21st August 2009. Shri A.K.Varma, IFS, Managing Director, KSFIC, inaugurated the training programme and Shri C.S.Vedant, addl. PCCF, CEO, Lake Development Authority, Bangalore conducted the panel discussion.

RFRI, Jorhat conducted a training on "Application of GPS Technology in Land Resource Survey" from 14th to 16th September 2009. Participants



Participants learning the application of GPS technology

from Nagaland Forest Department and NGOs attended the training.

AFRI, Jodhpur organised a Stakeholders' Meet at Jaipur under Chairmanship of Shri Abhijit Ghosh, PCCF, Rajasthan on 28th July 2009. Shri U. M. Sahai, PCCF emphasised for cost effective wasteland



A Stakeholders' Meet on Prioritization of Research Themes at Forest Training Institute, Gandhinagar management for productive utilization. The second stakeholders' meet about prioritization of research themes was organised at Forest Training Institute, Gandhinagar under Chairmanship of Shri Pradeep Khanna, PCCF, Gujarat on 8th September 2009.

IFP, Ranchi conducted training on "Propagation, Plantation, Utilization and



Training on "Propagation, Plantation, Utilization and Marketing of Bamboos"

Marketing of Bamboos" for farmers and field functionaries of Chhatisgarh under National Bamboo Mission from 14th to 18th September 2009 at the institute.

HFRI, Shimla organised a one-day training programme on "Forest Productivity: Enhancement Through Tree Improvement"



Training on "Forest Productivity: Enhancement Through Tree Improvement" at Bir Plasi, Nagalgarh

on 17th September 2009 at FRS, Bir Plasi, Nagalgarh. About 50 participants attended the training programme.

HFRI, Shimla organised an interactive workshop - cum - training programme on "Ecological and Socio-economic Significance of Some Important Species of the Cold Deserts" at Field Research Station (FRS), Tabo (L&S), Himachal Pradesh on



25th September 2009. The participants comprised of field functionaries of the State Forest Department, farmers including women from the Mahila Mandals of the villages, Tabo, Lari and Poh attended the training. The inaugural function of the training was chaired by Shri Giacing Sonam Angdoi, Head Lama of Tabo Monastery and Shri Phunchong Rai, Ex-Minister, Tribal Development, Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Van Vigyan Kendra / Demo Village

FRI, Dehradun organised a training on "Importance, Utilization and Protection of NTFP Species" from 13th to 17th July 2009 at VVK, Hoshiarpur, Punjab, from 9th to 13th August 2009 at VVK, Pinjore, Haryana and from 1st to 5th September 2009 at VVK, Delhi for foresters and farmers.

FRI, Dehradun organised a training on "Cultivation Practices of Forestry And Medicinal Plants" in the Demo Village, Shyampur, P.O. Ambiwala, Dehradun for the identified villagers from 20th to 24th July 2009.

IWST, Bangaluru organised a training-cum-demo programme for 26 farmers at Byranahalli, Demo Village, Karnataka on 1st July 2009 on "Plantation Technique". After the training 2000 seedlings of Silver Oak were distributed to the farmers.

IWST, Bangaluru conducted a demonstration programme on "Modern Nursery Practices and Wood Preservation" at VVK, Kadugodi, Karnataka on 3rd July 2009, in which 70 participants attended the programme.

IWST, Bangaluru conducted a demonstration programme on "Wood Science and Technology" at VVK, Dulapalli Andhra Pradesh, on 27th August 2009, in which 54 participants attended the programme.

IWST, Bangaluru conducted a demonstration programme on "Forestry & Wood Science" at institute, as a part of VVK activity on 10th September 2009. Forest Range Officer's from Karnataka Forest Department participated in the programme.

TFRI, Jabalpur organised a training for officials of state forest department, NGOs

and farmers on "Nursery Techniques, Maintenance of Nursery and Planting Stock Improvement" at Dindori on 11th and 12th August 2009, under activity of VVK, Madhya Pradesh and at Koraput on 26th and 27th August 2009 and on 16th and 17th September 2009 under VVK, Orissa.

TFRI, Jabalpur organised a training for officials of state forest department, NGOs and farmers on "Non-destructive Harvesting and Value Addition of Medicinal Plants" at Katni on 4th and 5th September 2009 under activity of VVK, Madhya Pradesh.



Training on "Non Destructive Harvesting and Value Addition of Medicinal Plants" at Katni

TFRI, Jabalpur organised a training programme on "Nursery and Plantation Techniques, Utilization and Marketing of Bamboos" sponsored by Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) of National Bamboo Mission (NBM) from 7th to 11th September 2009 for farmers, NGOs and field functionaries of state forest department of Madhya Pradesh.

RFRI, Jorhat organised training on "Patchouli Cultivation and Management" on 25th August 2009 at the institute. Participants from Demo Village attended the training programme.

RFRI, Jorhat organised training on "Harvesting, Preservation and Value Addition of Edible Bamboo Shoot" on 25th August 2009 at institute. Members of SHG of Demo Village, Ranbhonghat participated in training.

RFRI, Jorhat imparted training to Officials of state forest department at Tuensang, Nagaland on 27th and 28th August, 2009 under Van Vigyan Kendra, activity of



HFRI, Shimla organised a training on "Bee Keeping and Integrated Pest Management" on 29th September 2009 for farmers of Demo Village-Lanabaka, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh.



Training on "Bee Keeping and Integrated Pest Management" at Demo Village - Lanabaka

Meetings

IFGTB, Coimbatore organised a technical meeting on "Descriptors of Eucalyptus and Casuarina" sponsored by Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Right Authority of India, held on 23rd September 2009 at the institute.

Van Mahotsava

AFRI, Jodhpur celebrated 60th Van Mahotsava on 30th July 2009 in the institute and planted neem trees in the campus. All scientists, officers and staff of the institute participated actively in the function.



Ceremonial plantation in the AFRI campus on Van Mahotsava

Publications

● **IFGTB, Coimbatore** published a book titled "Introduction to Field Oriented Forest

Entomology" by Shri John Prasanth Jacob and also published a brochure on "Women and Environment" in Regional Tamil language.

● **IFP, Ranchi** published "Annual Lac Bulletin" .

Patent

RFRI, Jorhat was granted a patent on "An Apparatus for Post Harvest Treatment and Preservation of Bamboo" (Patent application #452/KOL/2003) by the Indian Patent Office, Kolkata. The scientists involved are Dr. K. G. Prasad, Dr. A. N. Singh and Shri D. Gurung.

Consultancies

● **Chhatisgarh State Electricity Board (CSEB)** has awarded ICFRE a consultancy to carry out Catchment Area Treatment Plan Study for the proposed Bodhghat Hydro Electric Project on river Indravati in Dantewara district, Chhatisgarh. The EIA / EMP study for the same was successfully completed by ICFRE during the year 2005.

● **Jaypee Pvt. Ltd.** has awarded a consultancy study on "Biodiversity Assessment Work" to ICFRE for the proposed Ganga Expressway from Greater Noida to Balia, Uttar Pradesh. The proposed expressway is of 155m wide, passing through Varanasi, Mirzapur, Allahabad, Pratapgarh, Rae Bareli, Unnao, Hardoi, Farrukhabad, Shahjanpur, Badaun and Bulandshahr.

Hindi Week/ Fortnight

ICFRE, Dehradun (Headquarters) and RFRI, Jorhat organised Hindi Week from



Director RFRI, Shri N.K.Vasu distributing the Prizes to winner of Hindi week programmes



14th to 18th September and from 8th to 14th September 2009, respectively. Various competitions were organised during the week with a view to promote use of Rajbhasha Hindi in the offices of the Council and institute.

AFRI, Jodhpur and **HFRI, Shimla** organised Hindi Fortnight in the institutes



A Hindi fortnight function at AFRI, Jorhat

during 14th to 29th September 2009. During the celebration, activities were organised including competitions for ministerial and scientific/technical staff.

Visit of Dignitaries

A Japanese team led by Mr. Yutaka Kawashima, Forest Management Expert, JICA visited **IFGTB, Coimbatore** on 13th August 2009 under the project for Capacity Building of State Forest Training Institutions and SFS Colleges.

Ms. Deidre Boyd, UNDP Country Director (India) along with Ms. P. Soni, Assistant



UNDP personnel on the project site

Country Director, Ms. Lianchi, Programme Officer and Dr. Yashpal Singh, Consultant, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India visited **IFP, Ranchi** on 14th September 2009.

Shri Binoy Viswam, Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Wildlife Protection, Environment and Housing, Government of Kerala visited the institute on 17th and on 24th September 2009. The Minister interacted with scientists and

visited the laboratories and appreciated the work being carried out.



Visit of Hon'ble Forest Minister, Kerala
Shri Binoy Viswam

Miscellaneous

IFGTB, Coimbatore organised a sensitization program on sexual harassment of women at work place on 23rd July 2009. An awareness lecture was delivered by the Co-chairperson, Dr. K.C. Leelavathy, Director, Centre for Women's Studies, Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore. Dr. Punitha Ekambaram, a renowned orator in Tamil Literary field delivered special address on the need for women to be aware of their rights. The presidential address was delivered by Dr. R.M. Ramathal, Chairperson, Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women in which various acts like Harassment Act, Domestic Violence Prevention Act etc. were explained.

Dr. Rashmi, Scientist-B, FRI, Dehradun was awarded postdoctoral Visiting Research Fellowship by Daiko Foundation Research Fellowship Programme, Japan. She worked as visiting scientist with Professor Akito Nagatsu at College of Pharmacy, Kinjo Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan from May to August 2009. During this period she acquired hands on training on isolation of pure compounds, structure elucidation, interpretation of spectral data and analysis using instruments, viz. UV, IR, HPLC, LC-MS and NMR spectrometer.



“NATIONAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FORESTRY BY ICFRE” for the period 2006-2008 No. 47-2/2006-2008-ICFRE

Nominations/applications were invited for “NATIONAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FORESTRY BY ICFRE” for the period 2006-2008 up to 30th April 2009 vide advertisement No. 47-2/2006-2008-ICFRE published in all editions of Indian Express News Paper on 29th March 2009.

These Awards are given for original and outstanding work/research contribution in the fields of (a) Forest Education (b) Forest Research (c) Forest Extension and (d) “Young Scientists' Award in Forestry” with work preferably linked to the project (s) of ICFRE.

Each of the four Award carries Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh) and a certificate. Detailed advertisement together with eligibility criteria etc. is available at ICFRE website www.icfre.org, www.icfre.gov.in and at the office of Secretary, ICFRE, Dehradun. The last date of receiving of nominations/applications is **extended upto 15th November 2009**. Complete application to reach Secretary, ICFRE, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun 248006 (Uttarakhand) on or before 15th November 2009.

The applicant, who already applied for these Awards in response to earlier advertisement, need not to apply again.

Staff News

S.No.	Name & Designation	Date
Promotion:		
1.	Smt. Ashima Gaur, P.S. FRI, Dehradun	18.08.2009
Transfer:		
1.	Shri. M.P. Singh, ADG (M&E), ICFRE, Dehradun	10.08.2009
2.	Shri R.K. Tiwari, Associate Professor , IGNFA	10.08.2009
3.	Dr. Anil Negi, Scientist-B, ICFRE , Dehradun	20.08.2009
4.	Dr. S. Patnaik, Scientist-D, FRC, Hyderabad	29.09.2009
5.	Shri Shonk Ram Koundal, FRO , HFRI, Shimla	22.09.2009
Recruitment:		
1.	Shri R.S. Topwal, R.O. (Civil Engg.), FRI, Dehradun	11.08.2009
2.	Shri Jawed Ashraf, Scientist B, FRI, Dehradun	01.09.2009
Repatriation:		
1.	Shri T.N. Dutta, FRO, ANIFFDC Ltd. Andaman	21.09.2009
Retirement:		
1.	Dr. Rameshwar Dayal, Scientist F& Head, Chemistry Division, FRI, Dehradun	31.08.2009
2.	Shri Ram Lal, Scientist C, FRI, Dehradun	31.07.2009

OBITUARY

ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise of Shri Naresh Ashwal, Sales Manager, Entomology Division, FRI, Dehradun on 20.08.2009 and prays for the peace of the departed soul.

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Printed at : AVI Printers, 21, E.C. Road, D.Dun Ph.: 0135-2659970