



ICFRE NEWSLETTER

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INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Bioshield being raised with Casuarina plantation at Casuarina Bay (North Andaman) by IFGTB, Coimbatore under the DBT funded project 'Eco-restoration of tsunami devastated coast line of Andaman group of Islands'

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UNFCCC Meetings on Reducing Emission: Participation of ICFRE

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) convened the 26th Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice / Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBSTA / SBI) Meetings from 7th to 18th May 2007 at Bonn, Germany.

During SBSTA among other issues, the following important issues related to Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) were deliberated at length: i) Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Degradation in developing countries (REDD), ii) Demonstrating the eligibility of land for Clean Development Mechanism Afforestation and Reforestation (CDM A&R) Projects and iii) Increasing the limit for small scale CDM A&R Projects. As an outcome, Clean Development Mechanism Executive Board (CDM EB) in its 31st meeting has again decided to call for public input on issue of demonstrating land eligibility for CDM A&R projects. ICFRE has made its submission as observer organization to UNFCCC and also through Government of India. Regarding increasing the limits of small scale CDM A&R projects, India has a position not to increase the limit at present.

ICFRE delegation comprising of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG - ICFRE and Shri Sandeep Tripathi, Head, BCC Division put forcefully its input and intervention on the issue of REDD. On this hotly debated issue of REDD, the Indian concept of "Compensated Reduction" got wide support during SBSTA - 26. US also supported India's stand by asserting that



Participation of ICFRE in the 26th SBSTA / SBI Meetings organized by UNFCCC in Bonn, Germany

a "range of actions" to reduce emissions from deforestation need to be considered, which according to US, should also include "Forest Conservation and Stabilization" efforts also. European Union (EU) considered using the phrase "range of actions" as a compromise formula because of Brazil's opposition to the Indian proposal. Congo Basin countries lead by Cameroon/Gabon stressed on including 'stabilization of forests' as the policy approach suitable to countries in their region with low rate of deforestation. Since stabilization is an outcome of the process of conservation, India supported Congo Basin approach. Many countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Singapore also expressed support.

Highpoint of the process was isolation of Brazil in the G-77 and China forum on the issue of REDD as well as open support to Indian position by China, Singapore, and strong indirect support by Coalition of Rainforest Nations, US and Congo Basin Countries.

Outbreak of alien forest invasive species, *Leptocybe invasa*, on *Eucalyptus* in Madhya Pradesh

The blue gum chalcid, *Leptocybe invasa* Fisher and LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea: Eulophidae), is a gall inducing wasp in *Eucalyptus*



Galls on leaves, petioles and stems of Eucalyptus

species which probably originated from Australia. It was first noticed in India during the year 2002 from coastal Tamil Nadu and now it has spread over to peninsular India. The pest has already affected vast areas of *Eucalyptus* plants in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. As reported by the scientists of Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur this alien invasive species has

entered Madhya Pradesh too as the outbreak of gall maker was observed in nurseries and plantations of Eucalyptus during the month of May 2007.

Validating Tissue Cultured Bamboo through Multi-locational Trial

Locational trial and demo plantation of micro and macro propagated plants of three commercially important bamboo species viz., *Bambusa balcooa*, *B. nutans* and *Dandrocalamus hemiltonii* have been laid out by RFRI, Jorhat in all the 7 states of Northeast India under the Department of Biotechnology-National Mission on Bamboo Applications (DBT-NMBA) sponsored project. Field performance and growth of micro propagated plants of all the three bamboo species are encouraging.

Litsea cubeba - A Lesser Known Promising Plant of North east India

Plants provide a multitude of flavours and fragrances. *Litsea cubeba* is one such plant growing in NE India, which has a great potential of economic development of the area by adopting its cultivation for essential oil and silkworm rearing.

L. cubeba, commonly known as MajanKari, is a small tree, 5-12 m high with a stem diameter of 6-20 cm, occurs mainly in mountainous regions up to 2700 m above

mean sea level. Most of the plant parts possess aromatic compounds and yield volatile oils with organoleptis properties. Flowers and fruits are used for flavouring



Litsea cubeba Plant

tea and vegetables. Oil can be extracted by distillation of small, pepper like fruits. It is rich in citral (about 80 percent) and has an intensely lemon-like, fresh, sweet odour. The fruit is edible. It is aromatic and carminative and used for remedy of headache, dizziness, hysteria, paralysis and loss of memory. Leaves and fruits are used as insect repellent. Local tribes use its fruits as preservative for fish.

Yields of oil distilled from the fruit are reported to be 3-5 percent. The plant is also used as a secondary host for Munga silkworm. Wood of *L. cubeba* is sometimes used for making furniture and handicrafts.

FRI, Dehradun celebrated National Technology Day

Forest Research Institute, Dehradun celebrated National Technology Day on 11th May 2007 at Village Shyampur, P.O. Ambiwala, Dehradun. On this day, technologies developed by this institute were demonstrated to the rural people for their benefit.



National Technology Day celebrations at FRI, Dehradun

Wild rose in Miyad valley

The rose - according to fossil evidence- is around 35 million years old. In nature, Genus Rosa has some 150 species spread throughout the Northern Hemisphere, from Alaska to Mexico and including northern Africa.

Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla during recent floristic



survey of the remote 'Miyad Valley' in Lahaul and Spiti - the tribal district of Himachal Pradesh has encountered a wild species of rose with yellow flowers. The yellow flowered species has been reported as *Rosa eglantheria* L.

The rose shrub encountered was a dense deciduous shrub 2-3 m high, with the stems bearing numerous hooked prickles. The foliage when crushed, had a strong apple-like fragrance. Flowers are in clusters of 2-7, with notched tips, bright yellow in colour. The fruit is a globose to oblong red hip, edible.

Moreover, only a few shrubs of this species were seen near Urgos village (3480 m amsl) and near Changut (3400 m amsl) in association with *Juniperus macropoda*, *Ribes alpestre* and *Rosa webbiana*.

Protocols for rapid clonal propagation of sandal and red sanders

Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), Bangalore, has refined a protocol developed for *in vitro* cloning of sandal through auxiliary shoot proliferation, somatic embryogenesis and adventitious shoot induction.

It also standardized physico-chemical condition for shoot initiation and multiplication of red sanders and Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) for rooting.

World Environment Day celebrations

Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur, celebrated World Environment Day was celebrated on 5th June 2007. On this occasion, a roadside Industrial Avenue ceremonial planting was held after clearing the site, which was full of industrial debris. Shri Rajendra Gehlot, Chairman, Urban Improvement Trust, Jodhpur was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Dr. Om Kumari Gehlot, Mayor, Jodhpur Nagar Nigam presided over the function. Other dignitaries, who attended the function, included: Dr. (Smt.) Kiran Soni Gupta, IAS, Divisional



Commissioner, Jodhpur; Smt. Surya Kanta Vyas, MLA; Shri P.R. Meghwal, GM, RIICO and Shri N.P. Gangwar, District Collector, Jodhpur. A pamphlet for mass awareness was released and a quiz programme of two hour duration on Jodhpur FM Radio was also broadcasted by the institute.

To inculcate the sense of Environmental Awareness amongst children, HFRI, Shimla organized a painting competition on the eve of World Environment Day. About 20 children took part in the competition. Later Mrs. Pal, Chief Guest, addressed the children and distributed the prizes to the winners of various age groups.

At Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat the official celebration of this year's World Environment Day was organized at Cheniamguri High School, A.T. Road, Jorhat (Assam) on 5th June 2007 under the chairmanship of Shri E. Meru, IFS, Group Coordinator (Research) of RFRI, Jorhat. Shri L.K. Bhattacharya, Principal, Science College, Jorhat, Dr. Y.C. Tripathi, Senior Scientist and Dr. T.C.



World Environment Day organized at Cheniamguri High School by RFRI, Jorhat

Bhuyan, Research Officer of RFRI were among the speakers. Students, teachers and local villagers participated in the celebrations, which included tree plantation. Some of the students spoke extempore on the topic "We and our Environment". The programme was efficiently conducted by Shri Rajib Kumar Kalita, Scientist, RFRI, Jorhat.

FRI, Dehradun organized two days' "Vaniki Mela" on 5th and 6th June 2007 at Shatabdi Van Vigyan Kendra, City Centre Rangers' College, Dehradun, on the occasion of World Environment Day and FRI Day.



World Day to combat Desert and Desertification

World Day to Combat Desert and Desertification was celebrated on 17th June 2007 at village Tibna, Tehsil Shergarh in Jodhpur district by AFRI, Jodhpur. Multi-tier, multi-purpose National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)-funded Silva-Ayurveda Project was also launched on this day at Tibna Village. Dr. B.L. Gaur, the Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan Ayurved University, Jodhpur was the Chief Guest while Director, AFRI, Dr. R.L. Srivastava presided over the function. A logo/sticker and two pamphlets were also released for mass awareness and educating the people on this day.



World Day to Combat Desert and Desertification celebrations at AFRI

RFRI, Jorhat also celebrated World

day to Combat Desert and Desertification. To commemorate the occasion, two lectures were organized in the conference hall of RFRI. Dr. Anju and Shri Dhruba Jyoti Das, Scientist 'B', Ecology and Biodiversity Division, RFRI delivered lectures titled "Global Climate Change" and "Geospatial approach of combating desertification" respectively.

National Symposium at TFRI, Jabalpur

Tropical Rain Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur organized a two-day National Symposium on "Emerging trends of Bio-inoculants in Forestry" on 26th and 27th April 2007. The symposium was inaugurated by Dr. S.M. Paul Khurana, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur (M.P.). Dr. Shashi Kumar, IFS,



National Symposium on "Emerging trends of Bio-inoculants in Forestry" at TFRI, Jabalpur

Director (Research), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun was the special guest of the occasion. The symposium was attended by senior executives, scientists and head of institutions from the country. Dr. A.K. Mandal, Director, TFRI in his welcome address introduced the theme of the symposium. Over all, 45 research papers from all over the country were presented in the two day deliberations in the symposium. Dr. Jamaluddin, Scientist-G and Head, Forest Pathology Division was honoured for his valuable service. Programme ended with the vote of thanks by Dr. Jamaluddin, Convener of the symposium.

Participation of ICFRE in workshop organized by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and first meeting of the Working Group on India-China Forestry Bilateral Cooperation Agreement

Dr. Rabindra Kumar, DDG (Extn.), ICFRE, Dehradun attended a workshop on 'Changing Environment Paradigm and the New Roles for IFS Cadre' organized by MoEF in collaboration with GTZ in New Delhi on 14th May 2007 and made a presentation in the Technical Session on Traditional Role vs. New Challenges for Indian Forest Service.



Dr. Rabindra Kumar, DDG (Extn.), making his presentation in the Working Group Meeting

Dr. Rabindra Kumar, DDG (Extn.), ICFRE, Dehradun also attended the first meeting of the Working Group on India-China Forestry Bilateral Cooperation Agreement held in New Delhi on 15th May 2007. A presentation on Research and Development activities of ICFRE was made by him.

Meetings organized

- Himachal Pradesh State Forest Department in collaboration with International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), organized 1st Meeting of State Level Bamboo Steering Committee (SLBC) on 4th May 2007 at HFRI, Shimla.
- IWST, Bangalore organized a one day interactive meeting with stakeholders

[joint meeting of IWST and Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI)]. The meeting was attended by farmers, artisans, forest department officials, wood industries, saw millers etc.

Conference organized

A consultation and field visit of Entomologists was organized by Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore on 17th April 2007 and 24th and 25th June 2007 to evolve strategy and extension plan for control measures in Gall insect problem in Eucalyptus.

Draft action plan has been prepared and Working Group of Scientists constituted to oversee and monitor the problem.

Short Term Training Courses

A short term training course on "Management of Forest Herbarium and Arboreta" was organized from 7th to 11th May 2007 by the Botany Division, FRI, Dehradun. A total of nine participants from Bangladesh Forest Research Institute, Chittagong, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) (Srinagar and Ghaziabad), School of Science, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Bhagalpur University, Punjab University, Tibetan Medical and Astro Institute, Dharamshala, MF PARC, Bhopal and UA Forest Department attended the training programme.



Short term training course on "High-tech nursery and Plantation management"

The Non Wood Forest Products Division, FRI, Dehradun organized a one week compulsory course for IFS officers on "Management NWFP for Sustainable

Development" from 18th to 22nd June 2007, sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India.

A ten-day training course on "Hi-Tech Nursery and Plantation Management" was organized by Silviculture Division, FRI, Dehradun from 18th to 27th June 2007.

FRI, Dehradun along with Society Towards Environmental Protection (STEP) organized a training programme for the 25 nominated persons by Khadi and Gram Village Industrial Board in the Shatabdi Van Vigyan Kendra from 11th to 17th June 2007.



Training programme organized for 25 nominated persons by Khadi and Gram Village Industrial Board

HFRI, Shimla under one of the ongoing projects, organized a "Village Forest Development Committee (VFDC) member Meeting" to understand the impact of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) activities at Dhalwan, Mandi (H.P.) on 23rd May 2007. About 30 villagers participated in the meeting.

RFRI, Jorhat organized a training for farmers on "Vermicompost and its role in enhancement of productivity in crop land of Jhum cultivation area" on 25th May 2007.

Visit of dignitaries

1. Visit of Monitoring Mission to review the ITTO funded project being implemented by ICFRE : A mission from ITTO consisting of Dr. Steven E. Johnson, Editor and Communications Manager, ITTO and Dr. Bipin Behari, Deputy Inspector General of Forests, SU Division, Ministry of Environment

and Forests, Govt. of India, the National Focal Point for ITTO in India visited ICFRE on 16th and 17th May 2007 to monitor the project activities.



Mr. H.S. Sohal, ADG, Statistics Division, explaining the exhibit to Dr. Steven E. Johnson at FRI museum

2. Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt and Dr. S.K. Sikka, Scientific Secretary to Principal Scientific Advisor to PM visited ICFRE on 12th April 2007.



Visit of Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt and Dr. S.K. Sikka

3. Mr. Binoy Viswan, Hon'ble Forest Minister of State of Kerala visited FRI, Dehradun on 2nd May 2007.
4. Shri Syed Mohmood Nasir, Conservator of Forests, Director Biodiversity, Ministry of Environment, Govt. of Pakistan, Islamabad, visited FRI, Dehradun on 3rd April 2007.
5. Mr. David Hu Loncl, High Commissioner of Canada visited FRI, Dehradun on 9th April 2007.
6. Shri M.M. Pallan Raju, MP MOS, (Defence), Govt. of India visited FRI, Dehradun on 22nd April 2007.
7. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personal, Public Grievances, Law and Justice visited FRI, Dehradun on 20th and 21st June 2007.

Staff News

Promotions:

FRI, Dehradun

Shri N.K. Bohra, RO	09.04.2007
Shri S. C. Sharma, RA-I, FRI	01.06.2007
Shri S.K. Rawat, Pharmacist-I	01.06.2007
Shri Laxmi Kant, RA-I	04.06.2007
Shri A.K. Gazwal, RA-I	04.06.2007
Shri Desh Bandhu, RA-I	04.06.2007
Shri Sanjay Kumar, RA-I	04.06.2007
Shri Uttam S. Rawat, RA-II	04.06.2007
Smt. Kusum Sharma, UDC	04.06.2007
Shri Preet Pal Singh, Forester	04.06.2007
Shri Phool Chand, RA-II (Fine Ins. Mechanic)	04.06.2007
Shri Dhirender S. Bisht, RA-II	19.06.2007
Shri Anil Sachdeva, RA-II	19.06.2007
Shri Dina Nath, RA-II	19.06.2007
Shri Mahendra Singh, RA-II	19.06.2007
Shri B.K. Sharma, Head Clerk	20.06.2007
Shri M.C. Jain, Head Clerk	20.06.2007
Shri Nawabuddin, Driver Gr.-II	20.06.2007
Shri Dinesh Chand, Driver Gr.-II	20.06.2007
Shri M.N. Juyal, Head Clerk	21.06.2007
Smt. Poonam Pant, Head Clerk	21.06.2007
Shri Shakeel Ahmad, UDC	26.06.2007
Ms. Pratima Devi, UDC	26.06.2007

IWST, Bangalore

Shri Subhas Chandra Bose, Head Clerk	04.06.2007
Shri G. Narayana, RA-II (Workshop)	05.06.2007
Smt. Shalini P. Rao, RA-I	15.06.2007

ICFRE, Dehradun

Shri Sanjeev Khugshal, Head Clerk	20.06.2007
Shri Munnu Singh, UDC	26.06.2007

IFP, Ranchi

Shri Patanga Ram, FRO	13.04.2007
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Repatriation

Shri M. Rajkumar, IFS, (AGMUT:2000), DCF, HFRI, Shimla	13.04.2007
Dr. R.K. Srivastava, IFS (TN:85), FRI, Dehradun	18.04.2007

Shri Prabhkar Jha, SFS (BH:89), DCF, IFP, Ranchi	30.04.2007
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Shri Sanjai Mohan, IFS (KT:85), IWST, Bangalore	31.05.2007
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Dr. Manu Malviya, SMO, NFH, FRI, Dehradun	13.06.2007
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Joining

Shri Ashok Kumar, IFS (MT:84), AFRI, Jodhpur	04.05.2007
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Shri A.S. Rawat, IFS (JKD:88), FRI, Dehradun	17.05.2007
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Shri E. Venkat Reddy, IFS (AGMUT:2000), TFRI, Jabalpur	18.05.2007
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Shri S. Senthil Kumar, IFS (AGMUT:98), TFRI, Jabalpur	21.05.2007
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Shri Ashish Rawat, IFS (JKD:86), FRI, Dehradun	25.05.2007
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Shri Jabber Singh, IFS (JKD:95), AFRI, Jodhpur	28.05.2007
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Shri S. Jaya Kumar, Scientist-B, IFGTB, Coimbatore	07.06.2007
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Shri. R.B. Singh, RA-II, CFRHRD, Chhindwara	20.06.2007
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Transfers:

Dr. Sunil Pal Singh Rawat, Scientist-F, FRI, Dehradun	22.06.2007
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Retirements:

Shri Jai Singh, Chowkidar, FRI, Dehradun	30.04.2007
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Smt. Chamali Devi, Khalasi, FRI, Dehradun	30.04.2007
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Shri B.K. Bhatia, Scientist-F, ICFRE, Dehradun	01.05.2007
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Shri Ajmer Singh, TA (MO), FRI, Dehradun	31.05.2007
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Shri K.H. Shankaranarayana, RO, IWST, Bangalore (VR)	01.06.2007
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Dr. Mohindar Pal, Scientist-G, ICFRE, Dehradun	30.06.2007
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Dr. Jamaluddin, Scientist -G, TFRI, Jabalpur	30.06.2007
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Shri Asgar Ali, R.O., ICFRE, Dehradun	30.06.2007
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Resignation from ICFRE Service:

Smt. Surekha G. Sawant, Scientist-C, IWST, Bangalore	04.04.2007
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Dr. S. Samboth, R.O., IFP, Ranchi	07.06.2007
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Shri R.S. Sahoo, Scientist-'B', CFRHRD, Chhindwara	11.06.2007
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OBITUARY

ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise of Shri Kishan Lal, Safaiwala, FRI, Dehradun on 24.05.2007 and prays for the peace of the departed soul.

Patron :

Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE

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All communication and suggestions for improvement may kindly be addressed to :

Honorary Editor

Shri H.S. Sohal, IFS, ADG (Media & Publication)

Directorate of Extension, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education,

P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006

E-mail : adgmedia@icfre.org Phone : 2755221 FAX : 91-135-2750298