ICFRE NEWSLETTER

Indian Council of Forestry Research Education
(An Autonomous body under the MoEF&CC, Government of India)

August 2026 Vol. 26 No. 08

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80th Independence Day 2026

- ICFRE (HQ), its institutes, and centers celebrated 80th Independence Day 2026 on 15 August 2026









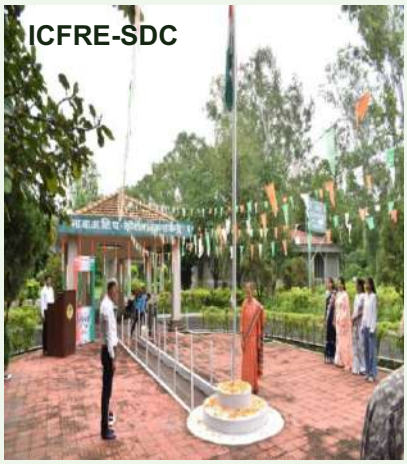
















Significant Research Finding

ICFRE- Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- The chemical composition of the essential oil extracted from the leaves of *Skimmia laureola* collected from Gangad (Taluka), Dharali, and Cholmi site of Uttarkashi Forest Division was analysed by GC– MS. A total of 31, 34, and 39 compounds were identified from the respective oil samples, accounting for 94.30%, 92.92%, and 89.90% of the total oil composition, respectively. The oils were predominantly rich in monoterpenoids, which constituted 78.56–84 .52% of the total oil. The major common constituents identified across the three locations were geijerene (13.76–15. 27%), linalyl acetate (11.69– 14.32%), linalool (11.21 –14.88%), β-phellandrene (8.29–14.94%), α-terpineol (5.54–6.85%), and geranyl acetate (4.41– 5.35%). These constituents exhibited varying relative abundances among the three geographical locations.

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi

- Under the project on "Top Soil Conservation and Eco-rehabilitation of Selected Degraded Coal Mines of Central Coalfields Ltd. Jharkhand through Forestry Interventions", approximately 20,000 saplings comprising of three-tier plantation design with selected native species as per the quincunx planting method were planted at Ashoka site in 10 hectare.

ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru

- Testing was carried out for Identification (08 Nos), Moisture Content (01 No), Mechanical Test (01 No) and Sandal Oil (01 No) and represent to the concerned Department/parties. Inspected Twenty seven trees including 16 *Phoenix sylvestris* and 11 *Plumeria alba* at Galleria Mall, Yelahanka. All trees were recommended for scientific translocation within the same property, subject to safeguards, aftercare and monitoring.

ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru

- Under the project "Evaluation of Fire Ratings of Door Shutters with Fire Ratings of 120 Minutes as per IS 3614:2021", the fire resistance test was conducted as per IS 3614:2021 and the tested door sample maintained satisfactory performance up to 108 minutes. However, integrity failure occurred due to flame penetration through the vision panel and the sample did not meet the 120-minute fire rating requirement.

Consultancies

ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru

- Scientist from ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru visited M/s North-East Veneer and Plywood LLP, Agartala, Tripura during 18 – 19 Aug 2026 to provide consultancy services aimed at improving the resin and adhesive quality used during the pre-pressing stage of plywood manufacturing, as well as resolving shop-floor operational issues.

ICFRE-Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- Conducted analysis of 494 Soil and 226 forest floor samples for FSI, Nagpur for organic carbon and moisture content at ICFRE-SDC - Chhindwara.

Regional Research Conference

- ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla organized Regional Research Conference on Current status, Challenges and Future Prospects of Tree Improvement for Productivity Enhancement for Viksit Bharat @ 2047 on 21st August 2026. 55 Participants including Scientists, Forest Officers and Technical staff of institute participated.



Regional Research Conference at ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla

Workshops/Seminars/Meetings

ICFRE- Forest Research Institute, Dehradun			
01	ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun and Weavers Service Centre, Chamoli jointly organized Conference on "Forest-Based Natural Fibre & Natural Dye-Led Handloom Innovation for Sustainable India"	19th August 2026	Participants including Scientists, Technical Staff, students from ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun and Weavers Service Centre, Chamoli
ICFRE- Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla			
02	Seminar on Genetic Diversity and Population Structure Assessment for Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Genetic Resources: in a Viksit Bharat @ 2047 Perspective	27th August 2026	Scientists, Technical Staff and Research Scholars participated in the programme
ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru			
03	Regional Variety Testing Committee meeting	25th August 2026	12 participants including farmers and Tree growers



Regional Variety Testing Committee meeting at ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad			
04	Meeting on Feasibility and potential for Red Sanders cultivation in Nagaland	18th August 2026	35 Participants from Nagaland Forest Department staff
05	Meeting on Clonal testing evaluation and volume table development for the cultivated clones	31st August 2026	Participants from Telangana Forest Development Corporation Limited

Trainings Programme

ICFRE- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur			
01	Plantation techniques for semi-arid and arid region of Rajasthan	14th August 2026	26 participants including Staff and officials of UltraTech Mines, Kharia
02	Integrated Snail and Slug Management in Forest Nursery	25th August 2026	39 participants including Forest guard, Ranger, Nursery incharge, Van Mitra, Nursery staff from Sirohi, Rajasthan





Training Programme on Integrated Snail and Slug Management in Forest Nursery

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad			
03	Transforming Bio-resources into market innovation: Extraction, Product Development & Patenting of NTFPs and Medicinal plants	05th to 07th August 2026	30 Stake Holders from Hyderabad





Training Programme on Transforming Bio-resources into market innovation: Extraction, Production Development & Patenting of NTFPs and Medicinal plants

ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru			
04	Wood as a sustainable material	05th to 07th August 2026	30 participants including Wood based industries, Academicians, Researchers and students

05	Bamboo composite technology for industrial production	17th to 19th August 2026	18 participants including Artisans, Architects, Entrepreneurs and Farmers



Training Programme on Wood as a sustainable material



Training Programme on Bamboo composite technology for industrial production

06	Integrated pest management in forest nurseries and plantations	31st August to 02nd September 2026	26 officials from Government institutions and organizations
	ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat		
07	Agarwood Cultivation & Artificial Inoculation (Two Trainings)	05th to 07th August 2026	7 participants from four states-Maharashtra, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam





Training Programme on Agarwood Cultivation & Artificial Inoculation

	ICFRE- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur		
08	Capacity Building of Nursery Personnel for Integrated Health Management of Forest Nurseries (Three Trainings)	19th, 21st and 24th August 2026	90 participants including Forest Officers, Forest Rangers, Deputy Rangers, Foresters and Forest Guards from Khandwa, Betul & Seoni Circles, Ratlam, Jhabua & Indore Circles and Bhopal, Gwalior & Sagar Circles





Training Programme on Capacity Building of Nursery Personnel for Integrated Health Management of Forest Nurseries

Awareness and Demonstration Programme

ICFRE- Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- Organized training programme on hand-holding and skill development regarding the cultivation, conservation, and marketing of the Karu (*Picrorhiza kurroa*) medicinal plant on 25th August 2026 at Nigulsari, Kinnaur (H.P.). 60 participants including Comon Interest Group representative of Taranda, Nigulsari, Taranda-I, II and Progressive Farmer, Representative of Mahila Mandal, Front Line Staff of Forest department and JICA official of Kinnaur participated in the programme.



Training Programme on hand-holding and skill development regarding the cultivation, conservation, and marketing of the Karu (Picrorhiza kurrooa) medicinal plant at Nigulsari, Kinnaur (H.P.)

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- 54 students from Sujatha Degree College for women, Abids, Hyderabad visited ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad on 13th August 2026. They were made aware about forest biodiversity, its importance, conservation and role of forest in maintaining ecological balance.



Students from Sujatha Degree College for Women, Abids, Hyderabad visited ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 60 Forester trainees from Coimbatore visited Gass Forest Museum of ICFRE-IFGTB, coimbatore on 10th August 2026.

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- 47 students from The American College, Madurai

visited chemistry lab, wood museum and Advance Woodworking Training Centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 24th August 2026.



Students from American College, Madurai visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

ICFRE- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- 25 Farmers from Pratapgarh, Rajasthan visited ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur on 20th August 2026. Lecture on how to cultivate bamboo species for income generation was also delivered.



Farmers from Pratapghar, Rajasthan visited ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur

Participation in Exhibition

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru participated in MATECIA Technology Conclave from 20th to 23rd August 2026 at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi by showcasing innovative technologies on wood composites, bamboo and bamboo-based housing at the exhibition.



ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru participated in "MATECIA Technology Conclave" at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi

Mission LiFE

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- Organized awareness programme on Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting on 04th August 2026 at Government Senior Secondary School, Mehli, Shimla. Around 150 students participated in the programme. They were also briefed about importance of rainwater conservation, and also encourage about sustainable and judicious use of water resources.

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- Organized awareness programme on Save Energy and Adopt a Healthy Lifestyle on 13th and 19th August 2026 at Sujatha college and Ramagundam, Telangana.



ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad organized Awareness Programme at Ramagundam, Telangana

- ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized awareness programme on Say No to Single-Use plastic, Water Conservation, Reduce E-waste and Save energy on 13th and 17th August 2026 at Andhra University, Siripuram and R.K. Beach, Visakhapatnam.



ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized Awareness Programme at Siripuram, Visakhapatnam

Prakriti Programme

ICFRE- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- Organized Nursery Establishment and Seedling management techniques programme on 11th August 2026 at Mahatma Gandhi Government Senior Secondary School, Pabupara, Jodhpur. 20 students were participated in the programme.



Nursery Establishment and Seedling management techniques programme at Mahatma Gandhi Government Senior Secondary School, Jodhpur

ICFRE- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- 35 students along with teachers from Kendriya Vidyalaya, TFRI, Jabalpur visited ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur on 20th August 2026. They were briefed about cultivation of medicinal plants using hydroponics technology and the efforts being made for environmental conservation during the visit.



Students from Kendriya Vidyalaya, TFRI, Jabalpur visited ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur

ICFRE- Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- Organized awareness programme at Girls Senior Secondary School, Leh on 10th august 2026. 50 students participated in the programme. Lecture on Insect Attacks Causing Serious Damage to the Forests of the North-Western Indian Himalayas: Challenges and Solution Strategies was also delivered during the programme.



ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla organized awareness programme at Girls Senior Secondary School, Leh

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized Prakriti Programme at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Shri Vijayanagar-II, Visakhapatnam on 25th August 2026. 170 students participated in the programme.

They were also made aware about Biodiversty the role of plants, animals and other organisms in maintaining ecological balance during the programme.



ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized Prakriti Programme at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Shri Vijayanagar-II, Visakhapatnam

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 647 students from ELGI school, GRD -CPF Matriculation HSC, The Camford International school, PSG primary school, Coimbatore, Aalaya Academy, Vidhya Vikashini matriculation school Tirupur, Doon Public school, Junior wing, Coimbatore and Merit Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore visited Gass Forest Museum of ICFRE- IFGTB, Coimbatore on 06th, 07th and 25th August 2026.



Students from Aalaya Academy, Coimbatore visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- 129 students from RPES Jnana Sarswathi Public School, Rajajinagar and Samsidh International School, Vidyaranyapura visited tissue culture lab, nursery, wood museum, Technology Demonstration Centre and Advance Woodworking Training Centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 11th, 13th and 14th August 2026.



Students from Samsidh International School, Vidyaranyapura visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat

- 45 students from Air Force School, Rawriah, Jorhat visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat on 21st August 2026. They were briefed about various research activities of the institute during the visit.



Students from Air Force School, Rawriah, Jorhat visited ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Memorandum of Understanding

- ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur signed MoU with Sh. Khushal Singh, Chordiya, Setrawa, Phalodi and Sh. Guman Singh, Sargia, Kagal, Pipar City, Jodhpur on 13th August 2026 for establishing one acre sandalwood demo plot.

- ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur signed MoU with Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur on 18.08.2026 for the development of High-density plantation/greenbelt at Chanderiya Lead-Zinc Smelter Complex, Chittorgarh Rajasthan.



Signing of MoU by ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur with Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with M/s. Crimson Lounge Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai on 03rd August 2026 for testing and evaluation of fire ratings of two door shutters with fire ratings of 60 minutes and 120 minutes as per IS:3614.

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with National Highway Authority of India, Bengaluru on 04th August 2026 for evaluation of plantations established along selected National Highway stretches in Karnataka.

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with Karnataka Forest department, Bengaluru on 11th August 2026 for Development of sandalwood and rosewood estates and management of sandalwood reserves in Karnataka.

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa on 17th August 2026 for joint research & development, capacity building and resource sharing in the field of bamboo and agroforestry value addition.

- ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur signed MoU with Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh on 4th August 2026 for strengthening academic, research and institutional cooperation between HED institutions and TFRI in forestry, biodiversity, ecology, climate change and allied areas.



Signing of MoU by ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur with Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh

- ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat signed MoU with Sibsagar University on 05th August 2026 for academics, research and capacity building.



Signing of MoU by ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat with Sibsagar University, Jorhat

- ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat signed MoU with NE-SAC, Meghalaya on 17th August 2026 for strengthening collaboration in research, technology development & application of geospatial technologies for sustainable management of natural resources.



Signing of MoU by ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat with NE-SAC, Meghalaya

Rajbhasha Activity

- ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore and Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore jointly organized workshop on Official Language Implementation on 04th August 2026 at Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore. 40 participants from ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore and BSI, Coimbatore participated in the programme.



ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore and Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore jointly organized workshop on Official Language Implementation

Miscellaneous

- ICFRE (HQ), along with its institutes and centers, celebrated the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2026 from 09th to 17th August 2026.











- Under the National Campaign – Catch the Rain ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad dispersed Seed balls near water bodies on 01st, 04th & 28th August 2026.



ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad organized National Campaign – Catch the Rain: Seed balls were dispersed near water bodies as part of the campaign

- ICFRE institutes and centres celebrated Organ Donation Day on 3 August 2026.







HR NEWS

Retirement

Name of Officer	Date
Dr. R.K. Verma, Scientist-G ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla	31.08.2026
Dr. R.K. Gupta, CTO, ICFRE-AFRI,Jodhpur	31.08.2026
Sh. Kalyan Hazarika, STO, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat	31.08.2026
Sh. Rakesh Sharma, FRO, ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla	31.08.2026

Publication

Research Paper:

- Sharma L., Thapliyal M., Rawat S.and Ghuniral D. (2026). Developing Seed Storage Protocol for *Chukrasia tabularis* A. Juss. Conservation. *Indian Forester*,152(7A):22-26

- Mahanta, D. K., Bhoi, T. K., and Krishnappa, C. (2026). Ecological niche modelling reveals climatic determinants and future distribution of the entomopathogenic fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae* (Metschn.) Sorokin. *International Journal of Tropical Insect Science*, 1-15.

- Kumar, A., Kumar, J., Bhoi, T. K., and Mahanta, D. K. (2026). Host-mediated variation in insect biology, feeding efficiency and defensive phytochemicals underlying resistance of poplar clones to *Clostera cupreata* (Butler, 1881). *Phytoparasitica*, *54*(5), 102.

- Ray A., Kumar A. and Rashid M. (2026). Additional records to the Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea) fauna of Odisha with first report of seven species from India. *Entomon*, 51(1): 59–70.

- Monisha S, Kanchana M, Balasubramanian A, Selvakesavan RK (2026). Advances in Betalain Biosynthesis and Metabolic Engineering for Sustainable Natural Pigment Production. *BioTech* (Basel). 19;15(3):56.

- Anandalakshmi, R., Lalitha, S., Devamanikandan, P., Vijayaraghavan, A., Thangamani, D., Fatima Shirin, Berry, N., Vijay M.K., Ravi, N., Tresa, H., Pattanaik, S., Suresh Kumar, K.,, Sathish, A., Rajesh, C., Deeparaj, B., Mahalingam, L. and Vineetha, M.V. (2026). Potential Ecological Distribution Mapping of *Terminalia anogeissiana* in India. *Indian Forester*, *152*(4), 334–344.

- Aarthi, M. Anandalakshmi, Vijayaraghavan, A.,* Vineetha, M.V., Suresh Kumar, K., and Sathish. (2026). Effect of seed germination and growth performance in different populations of *Limonia acidissima* L. (Wood apple). *Ecology Environment and Conservation*. pp. (S361-S367) .

- Divakara B.N., Sankar G.M. (2026). Assessment of Performance of Sandalwood Grown under Different Agro-Climatic Zones of Karnataka Based on Relationship and Principal Component Analysis. *Open Journal of Forestry*, 16, pp. 305-346

- Gowda B., M., Thanuj, G., Ebenezer, B.L., Murthy, N., Thulasiram, B.V. and Rekha, C.R., 2026. A comparative study on wood anatomical properties of *Ziziphus oenopolia* (L.) Mill. and *Ziziphus mauritiana* Lam. *TIJER - International Research Journal*, 13(8), pp.a179–a185.

- Devi Charan M. R., Rakshitha D, Rekha C.R., Murthy N., and Thulasiram B.V. (2026) "Anatomical Characterisation of *Monoon longifolium* (Sonn.) B. Xue & R.M.K. Saunders from Four Distinct Locations." *International Journal of Novel Research and Development*, vol. 11, no. 8, pp. a812–a818

Book Chapter:

- Ramkrishna, Negi, N., Pandey, S. (2026). FASTA-Fetcher: A Multicolumn Tool for Bulk Retrieval of NCBI Sequences in Plant-Biotic Stress Research. In: Muthappa, SK. (eds) Plant Biotic Stress. Methods in Molecular Biology, vol 3017. Humana, New York, NY.

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