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

ICFRE NEWSLETTER

"Forest for Sustainable Future"

Research • Education • Innovation • Sustainability

SEPTEMBER 2026 Vol.26 No. 09

Variety Releasing Committee Meeting

- Variety Releasing Committee Meeting was held on 11th September 2026 at ICFRE (HQ) under the chairmanship of Shri S.K. Awasthi, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC in presence of Smt. Kanchan Devi, DG, ICFRE and other committee members. During the meeting 16 clones/varieties of Casuarina (2), Teak (6), Kadamba (3), Melia (5) & Flemengia (2) were released at regional level and (2) clones of Casurina were released at National level.





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Variety Releasing Committee Meeting at ICFRE (H.Q.)

Significant Research Finding

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- In vivo antioxidant and hepatoprotective activity of *Skimmia laureola* leaf essential oil was evaluated using a CCl_4-induced hepatotoxicity model in Sprague-Dawley rats, with silymarin as the standard and essential oil administered orally at 100, 200, and 400 mg/kg for 15 consecutive days. Hepatic oxidative status was assessed through Reduced Glutathione (GSH), Catalase (CAT), and lipid peroxidation (MDA) levels in liver homogenates. CCl_4-induced oxidative stress resulted in marked depletion of GSH and CAT and a substantial increase in MDA, whereas essential oil treatment produced a dose-related improvement in antioxidant status, with the high dose showing the most pronounced restoration of GSH and CAT and reduction of MDA, approaching the response observed with silymarin. The findings demonstrate the potential of *S. laureola* leaf essential oil to attenuate CCl_4-induced oxidative stress and provide hepatoprotective effects through enhancement of endogenous antioxidant defence and reduction of lipid peroxidation.

Consultancies

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- Inspect the Coir Wood/Ply Board Manufacturing Unit (Common Facility Centre) set up under the SFURTI (Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries) Cluster Development Program to assess the technical capability of the machinery installed.

ICFRE-Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- Analysis of 1,170 Soil and Forest Floor samples received from Forest Survey of India, Nagpur (MS), Working Plan Office and State Forest Department, Betul.

Research Advisory Group Meeting

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- Research Advisory Group Meeting was organized for Project Proposal of eight new research projects on 02nd September 2026. The meeting was attended by RAG members & 15 participants including Scientists, Experts members, Technical staff and Research Scholars form ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla participated.

ICFRE-Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- Organized Research Advisory Group Meeting on Evaluating the feasibility of six new research projects across three key research areas on 30th September 2026. The meeting was attended by RAG members & 25 Scientists of ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur.



Research Advisory Group Meeting at ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi

- Organized Research Advisory Group Meeting on Strengthening forestry research and promoting a scientific approach to policy-making of three new research projects on 15th September 2026. 70 participants including Scientists from various institutions, State Forest Department officials, academicians, industry experts and all scientists, technical officers and officials of the institute were present in the meeting.

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- Organized Research Advisory Group Meeting on Assessing Research projects proposed for seven new projects on 22nd September 2026. The meeting was attended by RAG members & 20 participants included, senior officers from Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh.



Research Advisory Group Meeting at ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat

- Organized Research Advisory Group Meeting on Overview of the institute's research, development and extension activities for nine new projects on 18th September 2026. The meeting was attended by RAG members & 30 participants included Scientists, Forest officers and Experts from various institutions across the North Eastern Region.



Research Advisory Group Meeting at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

Workshops/Seminars/Meetings

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla			
01	Seminar on Insecticide Regulation and Eco-friendly Alternatives to Insecticides: Challenges and Mitigation Strategies for Managing Insect Pests of Forestry in the North-Western Himalaya	30th September 2026	25 participants including scientists, technical staff and research scholars
ICFRE-ARID Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur			
02	Seminar on Develops growth, volume and biomass allometric models for tree species of Rajasthan & Gujarat	18th September 2026	35 participants including scientists & technical staff of institute
ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru			
03	Seminar on Indian Forest Management Standard and Forest Certification	28th September 2026	30 participants including scientists and technical staff of institute

ICFRE-Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat

04	Workshop on Climate Change and its impact on Forest Soil Health of Sikkim	29th September 2026	30 participants including forest range officers and block officers

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

05	Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Securing Biodiversity Conservation Commitments	22nd September 2026	35 Representatives from MoEFCC, National Biodiversity Authority, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya Forest Departments, Meghalaya Biodiversity Board, ICFRE-IFGTB and ICFRE-RFRI participated



Workshop on Climate Change and its impact on Forest Soil Health of Sikkim at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat



Meeting on Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Securing Biodiversity Conservation Commitments at ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

Training Programmes

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education

01	Artificial Intelligence in Forestry	01st September 2026	110 participants including scientists, technical and admiration staff





Training Programme on Artificial Inteligence in Forestry at ICFRE (HQ)

02	Empowering Rural Communities for Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality through Sustainable Land Management Practices	09th to 11th September 2026	39 participants including FPOs, panchayat representatives, progressive farmers and NGOs members
03	Transforming Barren Basaltic Terrain into Productive Land for Sustainable Crop Production	21st to 25th September 2026	27 participants including government officials, researchers, KVK experts, ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), NGOs, and progressive farming communities



Training Programme on Empowering Rural Communities for Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality through Sustainable Land Management Practices at ICFRE(HQ)



Training Programme on Transforming Barren Basaltic Terrain into Productive Land for Sustainable Crop Production at ICAR-NIASM (Baramati)

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

04	Plywood Manufacture	21st to 25th September 2026	22 participants from various plywood and wood-based industries

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

05	Sandalwood Cultivation	01st to 03rd September 2026	31 farmers from Telangana



Training Programme on Plywood Manufacture at ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun



Training Programme on Sandalwood Cultivation at ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

06	Plywood manufacturing technology	01st to 30th September 2026	08 participants including graduates, panel industry and plywood industry
07	Bamboo Composites Technology for Industrial Production	19th September to 08th October 2026	20 students of Bamboo Research and Training Centre (BRTC), Chichapalli
08	Field Identification of Important Timbers	21st to 25th September 2026	15 participants including officials from naval dockyards, wood-based industries and forest department



Training Programme on Bamboo Composites Technology for Industrial Production at ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru



Training Programme on Field Identification of Important Timbers at ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

09	Sandalwood Cultivation and Prospects	23rd to 25th September 2026	28 participants including farmers, tree growers, land developers and students etc.
10	Manak Manthan	29th to 30th September 2026	35 participants from various industries and staff of IWST & BIS, Kolkata



Training Programme on Sandalwood Cultivation and Prospects at ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru



Training Programme on Manak Manthan at ICFRE-IWST, Field Station, Kolkata

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi

11	Lac production and market opportunities, bamboo nurseries, bamboo processing and value addition, tissue culture technology	08th September 2026	80 participants including foresters and forest guards from forest training school, Hazaribagh
12	Nature based Eco-Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands	28st to 30th September 2026	50 participants including Officials and representatives from various prominent government and non-government organizations



Training Programme on Lac production and market opportunities, bamboo nurseries, bamboo processing and value addition, tissue culture technology at ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi



Training Programme on Nature based Eco-Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands at ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi

13	Fire Safety	29th September 2026	30 participants including staff and students of AWTC and WPP Division

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

14	Ecological Restoration of Degraded Lands in the North-Western Himalaya	16th to 18th September 2026	50 participants including Officials and representatives from various prominent government and non-government organizations
15	Use of Biofertilizers and Biopesticides in Forestry practices	23rd to 25th September 2026	30 participants including Representatives from the Department of Ayurveda, universities, colleges, eco task force, panchayati raj institutions, and cooperative societies



Training Programme on Ecological Restoration of Degraded Lands in the North-Western Himalaya at ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla



Training Programme on Use of Biofertilizers and Biopesticides in Forestry practices at ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

16	Clonal propagation and cultivation techniques of Casuarina	07th to 09th September 2026	22 staff of Maharashtra Forest Department





Training Programme on Clonal propagation and Cultivation Techniques of Casuarina at ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

17	Teak Plantation Management	10th September 2026	80 participants including farmers, saw mill owners and forest department staff
18	GREENSHIELD: Role of Mangroves and Casuarina in Disaster Mitigation	15th to 17th September 2026	12 IFS officers from all over India

Awareness and Demonstration Programme

ICFRE- Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- Organized hand-holding and skill development programme on the cultivation, conservation, and marketing of the Karu (*Picrorhiza kurroa*) medicinal plant on 22nd to 23rd September 2026 at Sargha and Baga Sarahan, Kullu, HP. 65 participants including farmers, Front Line Staff of Forest department and JICA official from Kullu, Himachal Pradesh participated in the programme.



Hand-holding and Skill development programme on the cultivation, conservation, and marketing of the Karu (*Picrorhiza kurroa*) medicinal plant at Sargha and Baga Sarahan, Killu (H.P.)

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- Organized awareness programme on Forest Biodiversity its importance, conservation and the role of forest in maintaining ecological balance on 29th and 30th September 2026. 99 students from School of Agricultural Science, Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad participated in the programme.



Awareness programme on Forest Biodiversity its importance, conservation and the role of forest in maintaining ecological balance at ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad

- 25 students from Department of Marine Living Resources, Andhra University visited ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam on 29th September 2026. They were briefed about Marine Interpretation Unit, Marine Biodiversity, Mangrove Nursery and various research activities of the institute.



Students from Department of Marine Living Resources, Andhra University visited ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad

ICFRE-Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- 55 students along with faculty from Lachoo Memorial College, Jodhpur visited Interpretation Centre, VMG of Shisham clone, Thar shobha khejri and neem khad compost pits on 08th September 2026. They were briefed about various research activities of the institute.



Students from Lachoo Memorial College, Jodhpur visited ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 76 students along with faculty from Government college for Women, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala and Sona College of Arts and Science, Salem visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore on 15th and 23rd September 2026. Lecture on Tissue Culture Techniques and Basic Techniques of Biotechnology was also delivered.

- 309 students from Hindusthan College of Arts & Science, Vinayaka Mission's Kirupananda Variyar Engineering College, Salem, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai and FCRI, Mettupalayam visited Vegetative Multiplication Complex and PBT&C Lab of ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore on 10th, 18th and 25th September 2026. They were briefed about various research activities of the institute.



Students from Hindusthan College of Arts & Science, Coimbatore visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- 48 students along with faculty from Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Irruvakki, Shivamogga visited nursery, wood museum, Advanced Woodworking Training Centre and Technology Demonstration centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 15th September 2026.



Students from Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Science, Irruvakki, Shivamogga visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

- 80 forest guard's trainees from Forester Training School, Chaibasa visited wood museum, Advanced Woodworking Training Centre and Technology Demonstration centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 25th September 2026. They were briefed about various research activities of the institute.

Mission LiFE

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- Organized awareness programme on Healthy Lifestyle Adopted, Single Use Plastic and Reduce e-waste on 21st September 2026 at Bahudurpally, Hyderabad, Telangana. 20 participants from nearby area participated in the programme.



Awareness programme on Healthy Lifestyle Adopted, Single Use Plastic and Reduce E-Waste at Bahudurpally, Hyderabad, Telangana

- ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized awareness programme on Save Energy and Healthy Lifestyle Adopted on 17th and 25th September 2026 at MLR Institute of Technology, Hyderabad and Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. 65 students participated in the programme.

Prakriti Programme

ICFRE- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- Organized Nursery preparation Training Programme on 28th September 2026 for 50 students from PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya No.2, Shikargarh, Jodhpur. They were sensitized about importance of protecting Flora-Fauna and natural habitats in anticipation of Wildlife week.



Nursery Preparation Training programme at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 2, Shikargarh, Jodhpur



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

ICFRE- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- 15 students from Army Public School, Sadar, Jabalpur visited Technology Demonstration Centre of ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur on 23rd September 2026.



Students from Army School, Sadar, Jabalpur visited Technology Demonstration Centre of ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized Prakriti Programme on 08th September 2026 at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Vijayanagar-I. 120 students participated in the programme. They were made aware about importance of biodiversity and its conservation.

- Organized training programme on Raising of Nursery on 02nd September 2026 at the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Coimbatore. 140 participants including students and teachers participated in the programme. They were made aware about seed germination and nursery development.



Training Programme on Raising of Nursery at The Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Coimbatore

- 956 students along with teachers from KVS English Medium School,Virudhunagar, oaz public school, Tambaram, East and West preschool, Coimbatore, CS Academy, Little Indians Academy, Appu Arivaalayem CBSE Secondary School, Coimbatore, Sri Suka Brahma Maharishi Vidyalayam Matric Higher

secondary School, Peedampalli and Anan International School,Coimbatore visited Gass Forest Museum of ICFRE- IFGTB, Coimbatore on 01st, 02nd, 03rd, 08th, 10th, 11th, 16th and 22nd September 2026.



Students from East and West Pre School, Coimbatore visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- 140 students along with teachers from Presidency School, Nandini Layout, Bengaluru and S.G. International School, Nandini Layout, Bengaluru visited nursery, wood museum, Advanced Woodworking Training Centre and Technology Demonstration centre on 03rd, 07th and 18th September 2026.



Students from Presidency School, Nandini Layout, Bengaluru visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

Activities under Van Vigyan Kendra/ Krishi Vigyan Kendra

- ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi and KVK, Khunti jointly organized training programme on Value addition of Mahua on 25th September 2026 at KVK, Khunti. 50 participants including Farmers and Villager from Khunti area participated in the programme. Lecture on Mahua plants and income generation by Mahua products was also delivered.



Training Programme on Value Addition of Mahua at KVK, Khunti

- Field Research Station-cum-Van Vigyan Kendra, Jagatsukh organized awareness programme on Solid Waste Management Rule 2026 on 26th September 2026 at Government Senior Secondary School, Jagatsukh, Kullu (H.P.). Around 80 students along with teachers participated in the programme. They were made aware about importance of minimizing the use of plastic and the scientific methods of composting.



Awareness Programme on Solid Waste Management Rule 2026 at Government Senior Secondary School, Jagatsukh, Kullu(H.P.)

Memorandum of Understanding

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with IORA URVARA Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi on 24th September 2026 to develop the IORA Mobile Pyrolysis Unit (IMPU-05) – an indigenous, certifiable, mobile pyrolysis system for distributed biochar production and carbon credit generation.

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru signed MoU with Federation of Indian Plywood and Panel Industry (FIPPI), New Delhi on 28th September 2026 to develop Draft Standard for Engineered Wood Flooring.

Radio Talk

- ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat recorded a Radio Talk on Joibo Bichitratat Axomor Bah Kheti and Xachi Gash on 13th September 2026 at Akashvani, Dibrugarh.

Rajbhasha Activities

- Hindi Pakhwada was celebrated from 14th to 29th September 2026 by the ICFRE Headquarter, Institutes, and Centres.













- ICFRE(HQ) organized quarterly meeting of the Official Language Implementation Committee on 07th September 2026 under the chairpersonship of Dr. Sudhir Kumar, DDG, Extension, ICFRE. The meeting was attended by the Directors, Assistant Director Generals, and Senior Officers of the ICFRE Headquarters and Official Language Officers/ Officials from all the institutes. The progress made in the implementation of the Official Language policy at the ICFRE Headquarters and all its institutes was reviewed.

- ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru Field Station, Kolkata, organized workshop on Digital India and Official language on 11th September 2026. All officials and staff members of the Centre actively participated in the programme.



Visit of Dignitaries to Institute

- Dr. Henri Bailleres from Bio Economy Research Institute, New Zealand visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 21st September 2026 to discuss about various aspects of wood. Director, GCR, HoDs, all scientists and research scholars attended the meeting.



Dr. Henri Bailleres from Bio Economy Research Institute, New Zealand visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru





Miscellaneous

- ICFRE, HQ, institutes and centres carried out cleanliness dive as a part of celebration of Swachhata Campaign 6.0 from 15th to 30th September 2026

- ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur organized lecture on Global Action for a Cooler Planet on 16th September 2026. All Heads of division, Scientists and Technical staff of institute participated in the programme.



Lecture on Global Action for a Cooler Plant by ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur

- ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla and ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur celebrated Ayurveda Day on 23rd September 2026





HRNEWS

Retirement:

Name of Officer	Date
Dr. Praveen Kumar Gupta, Scientist-G, ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun	30.09.2026
Sh. Bilas Singh, CTO, ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur	30.09.2026

Repatriation:

Name of Officer	Date
Smt. Richa Misra, IFS, CF, ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun	02.09.2026

Publication

Research Paper

- Meena D. K., Sharma C. L. and Rai P. (2026). Successional Trajectories and Community Assembly of Spontaneous Pioneer Vegetation on Acidic Coal Mine Spoils in Northeast India, *Indian Forester*, 152 (8): PP. 744-755

- Jasmin, Singh P., Pattanaik S., Ashwitha B., Suman goud B. and Mishra A. (2026). Studies on Germination Potential of *Soymida febrifuga* Seed. *Indian Forester*, 152 (7): 638-647.

- Verma K, Pandey R and Sharma P (2026) Beyond canopy targets: a performance- and risk-aware framework for urban tree species selection. *Front. Sustain. Cities,* 8:1861981, 01-06.

- Tsopoe M., Meetei KB, Giri K and Pandey, R. (2026). Climate change vulnerability, ecological resilience, and adaptive capacity of Angami agroecological systems in Kohima, Nagaland, Northeast India. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 198:1096, 01-27.

- Li T. and Pandey R. (2026). Mainstreaming nature-based solutions in human-dominated landscapes: from isolated interventions to evidence-based landscape governance. Ecological Indicators, 01-08.

- Ranjana J, Namitha N. K., Munesh K., Naveen, K. and Jyoti, P. (2026). Antifungal Potential of Selected Wild Plant Extracts against *Curvularia soli:* An In-vitro Evaluation. *Journal of Experimental Agriculture International*, 48 (11), 128-135.

- Tomar A., Singh B. K., Singh S., Srivastav A. and Singh S., (2026). Evaluating growth performance and carbon stocking potential of *Populus deltoides* clones in Terai region of Uttar Pradesh. *Current Science*, vol. 131(4), 364-368.

- Juwantha R., Namitha N. K., Kumar M., Kumar N., and Papola J. (2026). Antifungal potential of selected wild plant extracts against *Curvularia soli*: An in-vitro evaluation. *Journal of Experimental Agriculture International, 48*(10), 355–363.

- Mahanta D. K., and Singh A.P. (2026) Climate Change will Expand the Potential Habitat of *Dichomeris eridantis* Meyrick (*Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae*), A Shisham Defoliator, across Uttarakhand: A Maxent Modelling Approach. *Indian Forester*, 152 (7): 684-689.

- Komal J., Mahanta D.K., Pandey J.P., Nadaf H., Bhoi T.K. (2026) Climate-driven Habitat SuitabilityMapping of *Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb.) Wight & amp; Arn. in Tropical Tasar-growing States of India using Maxent Modelling. *Indian Forester*, 152 (7): 678-683.

- Hamalton T., Lavanya V., Sreedevi C. N. and Ranjitha M. B. (2026) Optimisation and validation of method for DNA extraction from leaf and woody tissues of *Dalbergia latifolia*. *Indian Forester*, 152 (8),799-804.

- Kumari A., Bhatt S., Choudhary A., Thakur N. and Tapwal A. (2026). Plant derived metabolites and nanoparticles as a revolutionary strategy for managing human pathogenic fungal biofilms. *Journal of Nanomycology*, 1(1): 19-35.

- Lata, S. (2026). Diversity and indigenous usage pattern of socio-economically important plants in the *Pinus gerardiana* forests in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, Northwestern Himalaya, India. *Indian Journal of Ecology,* 53(3), 598-617.

Popular Article

- Sahoo S. C. (2026). From farm waste to plywood value: Modified corncob residue as a sustainable alternative to wheat flour extender. Ply Reporter, 26(9), 203–207.

- Rawat P., Soni K., Chauhan S., and Kapoor (2026). *Olea ferruginea* Royle (Kahu): A Multipurpose Tree Species. *Taruchintan*, pp. 29-32.

Patron:

Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun

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