

Signing of agreement between IFGTB and Seshasayee Paper and Boards Limited on 21.02.2018 for Non-exclusive licensing of Casuarina clones for commercial use

The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) has so far released 30 clones of Casuarina and Eucalyptus with superior characters like fast growth, wind-hardiness, drought tolerance, insect attack tolerance and ability to grow in sodic soils. The new clones are capable of producing 25 to 40% more pulpwood compared to the currently planted benchmark clone depending on the planting site and cultivation practices adopted. The wide adaptability, fast growth, pest tolerance and uniform growth of the clones help the farmers to realize the maximum potential of land and the crop and in turn increase raw material availability for paper industries.

In order to make these clones available to farmers and other tree growers in different locations, IFGTB has so far given six non-exclusive licenses to paper industries and private nursery operators for commercial production and supply of the new clones. The seventh license for commercial propagation of two Casuarina clones viz., IFGTB-CH-1 and IFGTB-CH-2 has been issued to Seshasayee Paper and Boards Limited (SPB), Erode, Tamil Nadu for deployment in its farm forestry programme. The Licence agreement was signed by Dr Mohit Gera, IFS, Director, IFGTB and Shri S. Velmurugan, Manager (Forests), SPB, in the presence of Dr. S. Murugesan, Group Coordinator (Research) and Dr. A. Nicodemus, Head, Division of Genetics and Tree Breeding on 21.02.2018. IFGTB has realized a total license fee of Rs.20,00,000/- through the seven licenses issued so far to different organizations.



Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director IFGTB with officials of Seshasayee Paper and Boards Limited, Dr. S. Murugesan, Group Coordinator (Research) and the team involved in the development of Casuarina hybrid clones after signing the license agreement with the Company on 21.02.2018.



Handing over of Casuarina hybrid clone IFGTB-CH-2 to Shri S. Velmurugan, Manager (Forests) and Shri M. Sivakumar, Deputy Manager by Dr. Mohit Gera, Director and Dr. S. Murugesan, Group Coordinator (Research), IFGTB on 21.02.2018.