

One week refresher course on
“RECENT ADVANCES IN FORESTRY RESEARCH & TREE IMPROVEMENT”

SPONSORED BY
UTTAR PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH

17-21st February, 2020

INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS & TREE BREEDING, COIMBATORE

Institute of Forest Genetics & Tree Breeding, Coimbatore imparted 5 days refresher course on **“Recent Advances in Forestry Research & Tree Improvement”** to the Forest Officials working in the Research wing of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department during 17-21st February, 2020. The training was imparted in two batches to 32 forest official's viz., Assistant Conservator of Forests, Range Officer, Deputy Range Officer, Forester and Forest Guards from Kanpur, Barelilly & Varanasi regions of Uttar Pradesh State. The training was sponsored by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Course was designed to refresh the professional skills of the in-service forest officials and also to help them keep abreast of the latest developments and changes in the sector at all levels including regional and national issues in forestry and related disciplines. The first batch of training was held from 20-24th January, 2020.

The five day refresher module included inputs on Genetic Improvement of Trees, Establishment & Management of Seed Orchards, Field trials and Data Analysis, Seed Source & their significance, Quality Seed Production and Seed Certification, Seed Handling techniques for important and practical session on clonal propagation. The hands on training at Vegetative Multiplication Garden was designed to impart new methodologies in clonal propagation of tree species. Dr. R. Yasodha, Dr. A. Nicodemus, Dr. V. Sivakumar, Dr. R. Anandhalakshmi, were the key resource persons for the training course, while Dr. A. Vijayaraghavan & Smt. K. Shanthi supported the participants for hands on exercises & field work.

Besides technical session an exposure visit to Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Peechi was also included for giving greater exposure to the field officials. Dr. P. Sajeev, Scientist, KFRI briefed the participants on the activities of KFRI while Dr. Syam Viswanath, Director, KFRI addressed the participants. The participants also visited Nilambur Teak Plantations and Shola forests of Nilgiris during the training course. IFGTB conducted this programme in active support of KFRI and SFDs viz., Kerala Forest Department and Tamil Nadu Forest Department. Dr. V. K. W. Bajpai, retired Scientist of IFGTB was roped in as an expert liaison for effective communications during the course.

The team of officials from Uttar Pradesh Forest Department was led by Dr. Kuruvilla Thomas, IFS, PCCF and Director State Forest Research Institute, Kanpur. He emphasized the need for capacity building of forest officials for increasing the productivity of the forests specifically for Trees outside Forests (TOF). He also highlighted the contribution of IFGTB being a pioneer research institution of Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE) in field of tree improvement and breeding. He also remarked that UPFD will explore greater collaboration and strategic partnership with IFGTB for inculcating applications in forestry research in the working of the department.

Dr. S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB, in his address highlighted the role of forest officials in society. He also emphasized that IFGTB is implementing long term breeding programmes of Eucalyptus, Casuarina and Teak which has resulted in establishment of Seed Orchards, Vegetative Multiplication gardens and field trials propelling genetically improved seeds and clones of above species. The improved planting material deployed in large scale commercial plantations has resulted in increased wood production. He remarked that the refresher course is designed to share the expertise for building capacities of the research personnel of the forest department. Director, IFGTB released the training manual of "*Clonal Propagule Production in Forest Trees*" – Hindi version during the session.

The training also included a group activity, wherein three groups were formed to work on themes viz., Learning's from IFGTB on *Recent Advances in Forestry Research*, Experience from KFRI & Way forward for SFRI, Kanpur & Key takeaways from Research wing of Kerala Forest Dept. & Tamil Nadu Forest Department. Each group made a presentation and shared their learning's and experiences. Shri. Rajesh Gopalan, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests and co-coordinator of the course organized the programme.

**Director
IFGTB**



Handing Over of Training Manual by Dr. S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB to Dr. Kuruvilla Thomas, PCCF & Director, SFRI



Shri. Rajesh Gopalan, IFS, Head, Extension & Course Co-ordinator addressing the participants



Session on Clonal Forestry : Procedures and Practices, Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist, IFGTB



Visit to Karunya Field Research Station of IFGTB, Dr. Sivakumar, Scientist



Visit to Seed Processing Centre, IFGTB
Dr. R. Anandhalakshmi, Head, FGR & Scientist



Clonal Propagation - Hands on Training
Smt. K. Shanthi, CTO, IFGTB



Visit to Soil Museum, KFRI, Peechi



Visit to Seed Production Areas of Teak at
Cherupuzha Reserve Forest, Nilambur,
Kerala



Presentation by participants



Certificate distribution by Dr. S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB

News reports on the training course



UP forest staff get trained in IFGTB

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

PRINCIPAL Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF) of Uttar Pradesh, Kuruvilla Thomas, said that the department would explore the possibilities of greater collaboration and strategic partnership with the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) on various applications in forestry research.

Kuruvilla Thomas, who is also the director of State Forest Research Institute in Kanpur was speaking at the

end of a five-day refresher course on 'Recent Advances in Forestry Research & Tree Improvement training' for forest officials (research wing) of Uttar Pradesh at IFGTB in RS Puram.

The training programme, from February 17 to 21, was imparted in two batches to 32 forest officials who include assistant conservator of forests, range officer, deputy range officer, forester and forest guards from Kanpur, Bariely and Varnasi. It was held with the departments of forest in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The training was sponsored by the Uttar Pradesh government.

An exposure visit to Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI), Peechi, Nilambur Teak Plantations and Shola forests of The Nilgiris are the salient features of the course.

