

Report of VVK training

Health assessment of Trees

[28th February, 2020]

Trees provide numerous benefits to the urban areas, especially with mitigating air pollution and providing a positive impact on human health. Damaged root system hampers the ascent of sap and limiting water and nutrients essential for healthy growth of trees in urban areas. Roots need to breathe and without oxygen the roots asphyxiate and start dying. The soil compaction near the trees limits the oxygen supply to the soil disturbing the health of roots. However, with aging, the vigour of trees decline and they become susceptible to pathogens and insect pests. Physiological examination of the trees as well as soil analysis is required to identify biotic and abiotic factors contributing to decline in tree health and acting as predisposing factors for pathological and entomological problems. Hence, health assessment of trees is essential in urban areas.

Considering above, Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun organized one day training programme on “Health assessment of Trees” for frontline staff of state forest department, eco-club teachers and other stake holders at Botanical Garden, UT Chandigarh on 28th February, 2020 under VVK. The training was inaugurated by Chief Guest Shri B.S. Dalai, CCF, Chandigarh along with Dr. T.C. Nautiyal, CF, Chandigarh and Dr. A.K. Pandey, Head, Extension Division, FRI. Dr. Pandey welcomed all the guests and participants in the training programme and highlighted about the objective of this training. He said that the training was especially designed for the officials of Forest Departments, eco-club teachers and other stakeholders of urban areas of Chandigarh. He also gave overview about the contributions of FRI, Dehradun in health assessment of urban trees.

Shri B.S. Dalai, CCF, Chandigarh UT stated that the training will be beneficial to the participants to maintain healthy urban trees for healthy environment of Chandigarh. He also emphasised on proper pruning of the urban trees of Chandigarh. Dr. T.C. Nautiyal, Conservator of Forest, Chandigarh, UT stated that the training will provide updated information about tree health assessment of Chandigarh. Dr. Amit Pandey, Scientist, FRI, Dr. Ranjit Singh, Scientist, FRI, Dr. Santan Barthwal, Scientist, FRI, Dr. Vipin Parkash, Scientist, FRI and Dr. Abdul Kayum, DCF, UT, Chandigarh were also present on this occasion. 42 participants including forest officials, eco-club teachers and other stakeholders from different part of Chandigarh participated in the training. The lectures on following topics were delivered by subject specialists during the technical sessions of the training:

- Integrated pest management in forestry
- Health assessment of urban trees
- Physiological stress of urban trees
- Indirect contribution of AM fungi to urban trees health
- Field trip to Botanical garden areas for trees health assessment.

A Field visit to have first hand information about tree health assessment was also organized for the participants. At the end certificates were distributed to the participants by Dr. A.K. Pandey, Head Extension Division, FRI. Participants took keen interest in health assessment of trees of urban areas and felt need for such type of training programmes on regular intervals.

Dr. Devendra Kumar, Scientist, Extension Division, FRI, Dehradun anchored the training programme. Shri Rambir Singh, Extension Division, FRI, Dehradun proposed vote of thanks to the participants and other dignitaries.

Glimpses of the Event



Welcome of the chief guest & other dignitaries by Dr. A.K. Pandey, Head, Extension Division, & R.B. Singh, Scientist, FRI



Address by Dr. A.K. Pandey, Head, Ext., FRI & Sh. B.S. Dalai, CCF Chandigarh to the participants



Anchored by Dr. Devendra Kumar and vote of thanks by R.B. Singh, Scientist, FRI to the participants



Dr. Ranjit Singh Scientist, FRI interacting with the participants



Dr. Amit Pandey, Scientist, FRI interacting with participants during field visit



Certificates distribution



A group photo of resource persons with participants of the training