



A Report of Training Programme on “Role of Agroforestry in Trans- Himalayan Cold Deserts for Augmenting Additional Income of Local Communities” Held on 23rd July 2024 at Village-Tabo, District-Lahaul & Spiti, Himachal Pradesh

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla organized a one-day Training programme on “*Role of Agroforestry in Trans Himalayan Cold Deserts for Augmenting Additional Income of Local Communities*” for the farmers of Spiti Valley, Lahaul & Spiti district, Himachal Pradesh on 23rd July 2024. The training programme was attended by 30 farmers of Tabo, Poh, Lari and Hurling villages of Spiti Valley, district-Lahaul & Spiti, Himachal Pradesh.

During the inaugural session, **Shri Pitamber Singh Negi, Scientist-D and Training Coordinator**, welcomed all the participants and resource persons who were attending this one-day training programme. Then, he gave a brief overview of the training programme and said that this training programme is being organized under the ongoing Plan Project “*Assessment, Ecological Niche Modelling and Strengthening of Agroforestry Systems for Securing the Livelihoods of Inhabitants in Cold Desert Region of Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh*” funded by ICFRE, Dehradun. Thereafter he invited **Dr. R. K. Verma, Scientist-G, and Head of Office**, ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla to deliver his inaugural address. **Dr. R. K. Verma, Scientist-G** welcomed all the participants and then spoke on the research and extension activities undertaken by HFRI, Shimla in its jurisdiction states of Himachal Pradesh, Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He apprised that Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla, is a regional research Institute under the *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education*, Dehradun-an autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change. He further talked about various research and extension activities being undertaken by HFRI, Shimla in the mandated states and union territories of north western Himalayan region.

After that, **Shri Pitamber Singh Negi, Training Coordinator** gave a detailed presentation on “*Role of Agroforestry in Trans Himalayan Cold Deserts for Augmenting Additional Income of Local Communities*”. He discussed in detail the traditional agroforestry systems of cold desert regions, their benefits and various interventions required for promoting agroforestry systems in cold desert regions. He further said that agroforestry has a greater role to play in improving the tree cover of the country as well as enhancing the supplementary income of communities living in the Trans Himalayan region.

Shri Jawala Prashad, Senior Technical Officer, HFRI, Shimla, gave a detailed presentation on “*Modern Nursery Technique for Production of Quality Planting Stock of Agroforestry Species*”. He elaborated on all the details of modern nursery techniques for the production of quality planting stock of agroforestry species.

Thereafter, **Shri Pitamber Singh Negi, Scientist-D** made another presentation on “*Nursery and plantation techniques of important agroforestry species of cold deserts*”. He discussed in detail the propagation and plantation techniques of the most preferred agroforestry species of cold deserts viz.,

Populus nigra, *Populus ciliata*, *Salix alba*, *Prunus armeniaca*, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, *Juniperus polycarpus* and *Fraxinus xanthoxyloides*. Then, **Sh. Dushyant Kumar**, Senior Technical officer, HFRI, Shimla made a detailed presentation on “*Carbon sequestration potential of agroforestry species in Cold desert landscape*”. After the presentations, the queries raised by the participants were duly addressed by the respective resource persons. The participants were also taken to the Field Research Station, Tabo to apprise them the ongoing activities of the institute and show them demonstration plantation of *Juniperus polycarpus* established by HFRI, Shimla. Juniper saplings were also given to participants for planting on their agricultural land for conservation purposes. In the end, **Sh. Jawala Prashad**, Senior Technical Officer extended a vote of thanks to all the participants, resource persons and the staff of HFRI, Shimla involved in organizing this training programme.

GLIMPSES OF TRAINING PROGRAMME



