



First Announcement and Call for Papers

National Workshop on

Forest Seed Science: Recent advances and challenges in seed research

26th -27th February 2014

**Forest Research Institute
Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India**

Background

Forests are important natural resources that fuel the continuous economic and social development of many countries. This is especially true for many of the developing countries in Asia-Pacific region. However, the rather rapid economic and social development experienced by many of these countries was partly fuelled through exploiting these natural resources in an unsustainable manner. There is now an increasing awareness of the need to replant/restore forests, if we are to have sustainable supplies of wood and other forest products and to conserve the rich diversity of tree and other species found in forest ecosystems. However, replanting a high-diversity forest is difficult, and there are many problems related to seeds that need to be solved to accomplish this task. Many forestry species are being used for various end uses and there are numerous others that have either timber or non timber value such as fruits, medicine and lumber, but these species have not gained momentum and are still under utilized due to lack of scientific exploration and proper documentation. To utilize such species in a sustained way and to conserve their population in natural habitat, it is imperative that cultivation techniques as well as conservation strategies have to be simultaneously developed. In propagation and conservation of a species, seeds play a very important role. In recent years owing to greater emphasis on community forestry, wasteland development and to support the National Mission for a Green India as a part of the “National Action Plan on Climate Change” the requirement of seed has multiplied manifold. Large quantities of seed are needed every year to raise the nursery stock for propagating the desired plant species. A plentiful supply of quality seed *i.e.*, high in viability and vigour, is therefore one of the

prerequisites to make such activities successful. Presently in India, requirement of forest seeds for various programmes has not been properly documented though some estimation has been arrived at quantifying the seed demand of various forestry species based on utilization of seed in the past.

Seeds are the most suitable form to conserve and also a means to distribute the plant germplasm. The quality of seed depends on choice of seed collection stand, seed crop abundance, time of collection, handling and storage. The duration of the viability of the seeds in nature vary widely among species due to their varied maturation time and storage physiology.

In view of the increasing importance of seed quality in forestry and the numerous challenges in handling, testing and storage of Forest Seed, a workshop is being organized on 'Forest Seed Science' wherein researchers from academic and R&D institutions, students, State Forest Departments would come together to share their experiences and deliberate on all aspects of forest seed science.

Workshop Themes

- Role and evaluation of quality in forestry seed production
- Seed biology, physiology, dormancy and barriers to seed germination
- Assessment of seed requirement of forestry species for various planting programmes
- Conservation of genetic resources through seeds and sustainability of seed quality
- Biotechnological inputs in seed research
- Seed certification and Policy Issues
- Diseases of seed and their management
- Seed Ecology
- Phenology, fecundity and seed production responses of forestry species to Climate change

Forest Research Institute

Forest Research Institute (FRI) has its roots in the erstwhile Imperial Forest Research Institute established in 1906 to organize and lead forestry research activities in the country. Its history is synonymous with the evolution and development of scientific forestry not only in India but in the entire Indian subcontinent. In the year 1988 FRI and its research centres were brought under the

administrative umbrella of Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE) under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. FRI has focused its research on thrust areas like Managing forests and forests products for livelihood support and economic growth; Biodiversity conservation and ecological security; Forests and Climate Change and Forest genetic resource management and Tree Improvement.

City of Dehradun

Dehradun the capital city of Uttarakhand, is one of the oldest cities of India, nestled in the foothills of Himalayas at about 640 m amsl. The headquarters of many National Institutes and Organizations like ONGC, Survey of India, Forest Research Institute, Indian Institute of Petroleum, etc. are located in the city. Some of the premier educational and training institutes like Indian Military Academy, RIMC (Rashtriya Indian Military College), Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) are also situated in Dehradun. Weather during February will be cold (10-22⁰C) with occasional rains. Heavy woollens are recommended.

Travel

Dehradun is well connected to national capital and states through rail, air and road. Forest Research Institute is situated in the New Forest campus (on Dehradun-Chakrata highway) and is about 25 km from Jollygrant airport, 6 km from the railway station and 7 km from Inter state bus terminus (ISBT).

Call for Papers

Forest Research Institute, Dehradun extends its invitation for participation in this national level workshop to experts, researchers from research & R&D organizations, officials of State Forest Departments, ICAR Institutes, Forestry Universities and colleges, policy makers, etc. Participants are requested to register for the workshop and are invited to submit paper for the same.

Abstracts of papers on workshop themes are invited for oral and poster presentations. The abstract in Microsoft word (.doc) [maximum 250 words; Times New Roman 12 pt should be sent as an email attachment only to thapliyal@icfre.org . The abstract should include title, name of authors, affiliation, postal address, telephone numbers and email address.

Important Dates

Submission of abstracts upto 20th December 2013
Letter of abstracts acceptance 15th January 2014

Workshop on

Forest Seed Science 2014:

Recent advances and challenges in seed research 26th – 27th February 2014

Registration Fee

Faculty/Scientists Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees one thousand only)
Research scholars/students* Rs. 500.00 (Rupees five hundred only)

The registration fee should be paid through a Demand draft in the favour of Accounts Officer, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, payable at Dehradun and sent to Dr. Ombir Singh, Scientist, Forest Tree Seed Laboratory, Forest Research Institute, PO New Forest, Dehradun -248006, Uttarakhand.

*To avail the concessional rates, the student must produce a certificate from the Dean/authorized signatory of the university/college that he/she is a bonafide student of the concerned university/college.

Accommodation

Accommodation will be arranged for the delegates in the Guest houses/Scientist and Visiting Scientist hostel on request and payment basis. It can also be arranged in good hotels of the city on payment basis.

Contact

All inquiries concerning general information about the workshop should be addressed to:

Shri AS Rawat, Head Silviculture Division, Forest Research Institute, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Pin 248 006. Ph. +91-135-2224322, Fax: +91-135-2756865, Email: head_silva@icfre.org

Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Scientist E, Forest Tree Seed Laboratory, Silviculture Division, Forest Research Institute, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Pin 248 006. Ph. +91-135-2224467, Fax: +91-135-2756865, Email: thapliyalm@icfre.org

Website

www.icfre.org

<http://fri.icfre.gov.in>