

## THE ARBORETUM, BOTANICAL GARDEN & BAMBUSETUM, FRI

### THE ARBORETUM

The Arboretum of Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun laid out in 1925 covers an area of about 30 ha at New Forest, Dehra Dun. It is divided into 12 compartments. The trees are grown mostly in group plantings. The important trees of the arboretum are *Betula cylindrostachya*, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Ficus krishnae*, *Bauhinia anguina*, *Liquidambar formosana*, *Haematoxylon* sp., *Salix babylonica*, *Podocarpus neriifolius*, *Pterygota alata*, *Aesculus assamica*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Flindersia australis*, Eucalypts, Conifers etc.

### THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

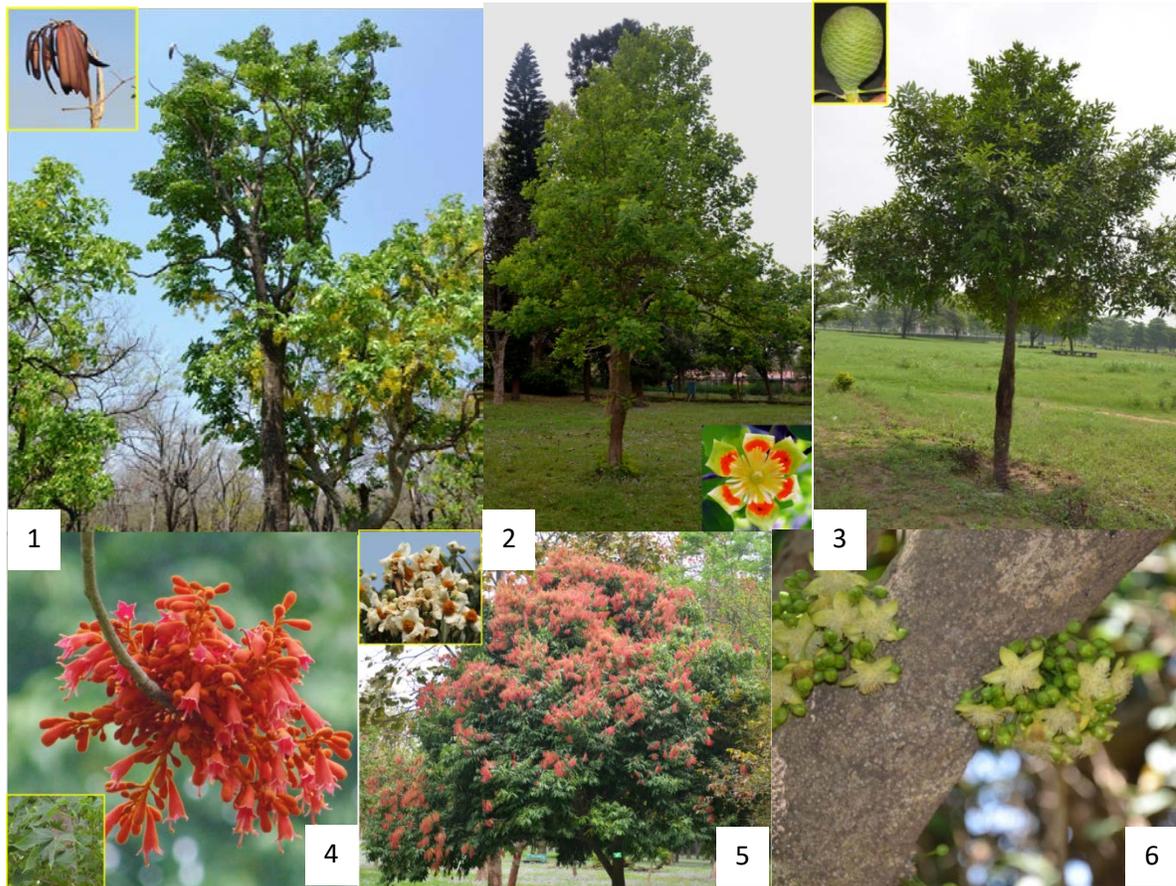
The Botanical Garden was established in 1925 by R.N. Parker who established seed exchange relations with a large number of institutions in India and abroad, accomplished a great deal of planting. Parkinson carried on the task following Parker's plants introduction and establishment. The first list of plants growing in New Forest Campus was published in (1936). The Botanical Garden covers an area of 10 ha. having all plant tagged with their Botanical Names, Family and Country of Origin. Although the introductions were made in large numbers but some have failed for a variety of reasons such as frost attack, insect and fungal attack etc. The plants were arranged alphabetically in the list along with its family name, habit origin, phenology and place of growing etc. Gupta *et al.* (1988) has made an attempt in bringing out a list of plants growing in the Arboretum of Forest Research Institute and about 330 plant species (including Arboretums) have been listed out. Plants from a fruticetum which had started several years before and later abandoned in the New Forest Estate were transferred to the new site to mark the beginning of the Botanical Garden. The garden has been divided into 8 sectors separated by the paths and avenues. They include many perennials, potted plants, annuals and grasses. About 55% of the plant species in the Garden are exotics, which have been brought from more than 25 countries, majority being from Australia and South America. Some of the important

ones are *Agathis robusta*  
(Australia), *Cupania*  
*anacardioides* (Australia),  
*Enterolobium contortisiliquum*  
(Brazil), *Eucalyptus alba*  
(Australia), *Eucalyptus deglupta*  
(Indonesia), *Flindersia australis*  
(Australia), *Homalium*  
*tomentosum* (Burma and



1. *Bauhinia galpinii* 2. *Koelreuteria paniculata*

Malaysia), *Joanesia princeps* (Brazil), *Koelreuteria paniculata* (China), *Liquidambar formosana* (Taiwan), *Taxodium mucronatum* (Mexico), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (North America), *Tipuana tipu* (South America), *Acacia confusa* (Philippines), *Ginkgo biloba* (China), *Aleurites moluccana* (Malaysia), *Castanospermum australe* (Australia), *Bauhinia galpinii* (South Africa) etc.



Some of the spectacular trees of botanical garden: 1. *Oroxylum indicum* 2. *Liriodendron tulipifera* 3. *Agathis robusta* 4. *Firmiana colorata* 5. *Mesua ferrea* 6. *Gynocardia odorata*

Apart from exotic there are large numbers of valuable indigenous species which contribute a great deal to the plant wealth in the garden, like *Gleditsia assamica*, *Duabanga grandiflora* (all from Northeast India). Garden of the institute possess rare, endangered and some spectacular species of forestry and economic value, for example *Indopiptadenia oudhensis*, *Trachycarpus takil*, *Tipuana tipu*, *Eucalyptus deglupta*, *Dillinea indica*, *Tectona hamiltoninana*, *Bauhinia anguina*, *Elaeocarpus sphaericus*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Firmiana colorata*, *Oroxylum indicum*.

## THE BAMBUSETUM

The Bambusetum or bamboo garden of Forest Research Institute is situated in the Compartment No. 3 of FRI Estate Reserve Forests, which is behind the main building. This was initially laid out for the introduction of tree species in 4 ha of area. In 1930s the bamboos were introduced and now this is the one of the important collections of the germplasm of the bamboo resources of the country. The development of the Bambusetum



was a visionary step as in 1930s the forests resources were plenty and the concept of *in-situ* conservation was not well established. The Bambusetum of Forest Research Institute serves an important role in bamboo research and education. It has 32 bamboo species collected from different parts of country and abroad with collection mainly from Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and South America. In addition to its role in research and education it also provides planting material to different organizations/ Institutes/ researchers. The Bambusetum is visited by students of biology, environment, and forestry research institutions from different parts of the country and abroad. Bambusetum is represented by the species and variability of *Bambusa balcooa* Roxb., *B. bambos* Roxb., *B. multiplex* (Lour.) Raeusch. ex Schult. *B. nutans* Wall. ex Munro, *B. tulda* Roxb., *B. vulgaris* Schrad. ex Wendl., *Dendrocalamus asper* (Schult.) Back. ex Heyne, *D. calostachyus* (Kurz ) Kurz, *D. longispathus* (Kurz ) Kurz, *D. membranaceus* Munro, *D. strictus* (Roxb.) Nees, *Gigantochloa atroviolacea* Widjaja, *Melocalamus maclellandii* (Munro) Naithani, *Melocanna baccifera* (Roxb.) Kurz, *Phyllostachys aurea* Carr. ex Riv, *Schizostachyum pergracile* (Munro) Majumdar, *Sinarundinaria falcata* (Nees) C. S. Chao & Renvoize and *Thyrsostachys oliveri* Gamble.