

29 December, 2017

Research Seminar On 'Application Of Biopesticides And Biofertilizers For Use In Forestry' Organized By Forest Research Institute

Dehradun: Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun organized a research seminar on the topic "Application of Biopesticides and Biofertilizers for use in Forestry" on 27th December 2017. The seminar organized by the Forest Pathology Division, FRI was a part of the novel initiative, which has been recently adopted by Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, to sensitize the minds for future research initiatives and roadmap.

The use of chemical pesticides in disease management has caused serious environmental hazards. To tackle the problems and enhance productivity, biopesticides and biofertilizers are be-

ing used in forestry as an ecofriendly approach. The main objective of the seminar was to discuss the demanding research areas and to find out the research gaps based on the user's needs, industrial priorities and stakeholder's requirements.

Miss Ranjana Juwantha, Scientist B, Forest Pathology Division welcomed all the participants and guests on the occasion. Dr. Savita, Director, FRI, in her inaugural address highlighted that the expected outcomes of this seminar will definitely provide clear dimensions for future research priorities and be helpful in formulation and development of need-based research programmes and inter-

institutional collaborations. Dr. V.P. Sharma, Principal Alpine Insti-



tute, who earlier served as Scientist in Central Silk Board and also Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), strongly emphasized the need of lab to land initiatives for the benefit of the farming community of Uttarakhand.

Dr. Amit Pandey, Scientist G & Head, Forest Pathology Division,

highlighted the importance of biopesticides in integrated disease management programmes. He discussed in details the current research areas and future scope of research in biopesticides.

Dr. Vipin Parkash, Scientist E, Forest Pa-

thology Division discussed the role of biofertilizers in quality seedling production in forest nurseries.

Dr. Shailesh Pandey, Scientist C, Forest Pathology Division, focused his talk on Trichoderma-based biological management of important fungal pathogens affecting medicinal and aromatic plants.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Scientist E, Chemistry Division, delivered his talk on the preparation of quality compost and discussed the role of microbes in quality compost preparations.

Dr. V. K. Varshney, Scientist G, focused on the various natural chemicals capable of inhibiting plant pathogens and delivered a success

story in combating blight disease of Eucalyptus.

Dr. Vineeta Sharma, Scientist ZSI, gave a detailed account on Nematode diseases of important forestry species and alarmed the house about the advancing pine wilt nematode problem and its eco-friendly management.

Dr. Rakesh Pathak, Head Botany Department, DAV college Dehradun, cautioned about the use of bio-control agents regarding its mammalian safety.

All the head of different divisions, Scientists and students attended the seminar. The discussion and brainstorming identified important areas of future research in the development of effective bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers.

