

AWARENESS WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT OF FOREST WEED SPECIES

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) organized an Awareness Programme Cum Workshop on impact of *Mikania micrantha* on native forest species and its effective management in collaboration with Sivasagar Forest Division on 18th May 2017. Thirty participants including Forest officials, JFMC members of Sivasagar Forest Division and villagers are actively participated in the programme. The Awareness programme was held at Office of the Forest Range Officer, Sonari and it was presided by Forest Range Officer, Sri Prasanta Gogoi.

Dr. Kuntala N. Barua delivered a presentation on invasive weed in forest ecosystem. She discussed about the effects of invasion of exotic weeds on regeneration status of forest seedlings.

Dr. Indrani P. Bora emphasized on the impact of weed infestation on nutrient status of soil. Invasion of *Mikania micrantha* significantly decreased the nutrient content of the soil due to its high germination potentiality and fast growing nature. Maximum lessening of moisture content due to infestation hamper the seedling germination forest species.

During the discussion session with Forest Officials and JFMC members, many issues came up related to management of invasive weed in forest ecosystem, the detrimental effect on vegetation and soil, their impact on regeneration of forest seedling etc. The members of JFMC conveyed that the invasive weed may have high potentiality to use in vermicomposting and composting.





