



# ICFRE NEWSLETTER

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## INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Regeneration in *Rhizophora acuminata*, a mangrove species at Goa

Photo : V.K. Dhawan, FRI, Dehradun

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## Outbreak of Cicada (*Platypleura octoguttata*) in Nainpur, Mandla (MP)



Above : Cicada on *Butea monosperma*, Below : Adult *Platypleura octoguttata*

Entomologists from Tropical Forest Research Institute (TFRI), Jabalpur, have recorded a huge population of cicada bugs swarming in thousands on forest trees in Nainpur range of Mandla Forest Division (Madhya Pradesh). The cicada was identified as *Platypleura octoguttata* Fabricius (Homoptera : Cicadidae : Cicadinae). The young one is known to suck the juice from the roots. This species has annual life cycle. The last instar nymphs move widely in the trees and found attached on leaves and trees at various heights. The imago sucks the sap of trees having fresh foliage and eject liquid excrement. They become active during morning hours, as the temperature rises they become sluggish and rest on the shade of stems and branches. They are best known for the extremely shrill sustained sound produced by the males during day hours. There are about 2500 species of cicada around the globe, out of which 148 species of cicada are known to exist in India. They also have been recorded on trees of *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Butea monosperma*, *Cassia fistula*, *Diospyros melanoxylon*, *Ficus* spp., *Mangifera indica*, *Pterocarpus marsupium* and *Ziziphus xylopyra*.

## Biodiversity Conservation

### *Podophyllum hexandrum* Royle - an endangered plant species in Himachal Pradesh

*Podophyllum hexandrum* Royle belongs to the family Podophyllaceae and is commonly known as Bankakri. The plant is a herb with erect stem, unbranched bearing two large terminal lobed leaves encircling the single large white or pale pink flower. It is generally distributed from Afghanistan to South-West China in places at heights between 2400-4500 metre. During the floristic survey conducted by Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla in Rakchham-Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary of Kinnaur District in Himachal Pradesh, the plant was found growing in moist open slopes in Shingan and Rasrang valleys of Batseri beat at an elevation ranging from 3100 to 4000 m above mean sea level (msl).



Its rhizomes and *Podophyllum hexandrum* Royle roots are considered to be stimulant, cholagogue, purgative, alterative and bitter tonic. The resin or Podophyllin extracted from

the plant is a drastic purgative and produces copious watery stools. It is thus given with *Belladonna* and *Hyscyamus* to avoid gripping. Podophyllin, its active principle, has been tried on various diseases like warty lesions of the skin and neoplasms of the body parts accessible to the tropical therapy and is considered the drug of choice in '*Condyloma acuminatum*'. The plant is an endangered species in Himachal Pradesh.

## New plant host record

Scientist of HFRI, Shimla recorded *Plusia orichalcea* Fab. (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) as the most serious defoliator of *Saussurea costus* (Falc) Lisch, *Picrorhiza kurroa* Royle ex Benth., *Arctium lappa* Linn, *Heracleum candicans* Wall.ex DC., *Angelica glauca* Edgew., *Mellisa officinalis* and *Valeriana jatamansi* Jones. This is the first find report of the insects on above plants as host.

## ICFRE Prepares Roadmap for E-governance

The ICFRE had made a head start on E-governance in the beginning of 2007 and as an addition to its E-governance resolve, it recently came up with more user-friendly new website. The site that has content-based management systems, does away with the hassles of regular updating.

The ICFRE has already taken a lead in putting up the E-governance into use and to

## International Workshop on “Developing Methodology for Assessment of Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks due to Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests and Increase in Forest Cover”

ICFRE organized an international workshop on “Developing Methodology for Assessment of Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stocks due to Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forests, and Increase in Forest Cover” on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at New Delhi under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Namo Narain Meena, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India. Sixty eight delegates and representatives from countries such as China, UK, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Malaysia alongwith Indian delegates participated in the workshop. Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General of ICFRE welcomed the participants, Shri J.C. Kala, Former Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, was the Guest of Honour.

The workshop focused on the possible methodological approaches, modalities and procedures for assessing positive increment in forest carbon stocks due to i) increase in forest cover and ii) sustainable management of forests/conservation.

During the workshop, presentations were made on technology and methodologies for assessment of enhanced carbon stocks due to conservation, sustainable management of forests, and increment in forest cover. Representatives from eight countries gave country presentations.



Shri Namo Narain Meena, Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India and other dignitaries on dias during international workshop.

check plagiarism linked to researches in forestry sector. It would also help to put an end to the problem of overlapping in researches.

### ICFRE-IX Research Policy Committee Meeting

The Research Planning division of the Directorate of Research, ICFRE convened IX Research Policy Committee (RPC) Meeting during 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008 under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE to give final approval to the new



Research Policy Committee Meeting at ICFRE, Dehradun held under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE

research proposals submitted by its eight research institutes.

During the meeting, 100 new research projects were discussed in detail for economical, scientific, technological and sustainable utility. Eighty four new projects were approved after detail deliberations. Besides this, 12 coordinated projects at national level were also discussed and were approved in principle.

### Grant-in-aid to the Universities

Directorate of Education of ICFRE provides financial support to the Universities to strengthen the infrastructural facilities such as purchase of scientific equipments, books/journals, establishment of mist chambers and other similar facilities including, sports/games interpretation centre-cum-museum, preparation of teaching manuals, organization of workshop/seminars and



## National Workshop on “Forestry Projects for Climate Change Mitigation in India : Stakeholders Dialogue and Capacity Building”

ICFRE organized a two days national workshop on “Forestry Projects for Climate Change Mitigation in India: Stakeholders Dialogue and Capacity Building” at SCOPE Complex, New Delhi on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, TERI and Former Secretary to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. Shri P.R. Mohanty, Director General Forests and Special Secretary to the MoEF, Government of India was the Guest of Honour. Eighty eight delegates from all over the nation participated in the workshop.

The workshop provided an opportunity to know the existing CDM regulations, their applicability to forestry projects, available markets, and networking of various stakeholders for meaningful participation for developing projects for host country approval and for CDM project registration.



National workshop on “Forestry Projects for Climate Change Mitigation in India: Stakeholders Dialogue and Capacity Building” at SCOPE Complex, New Delhi

participation of teachers in workshop/seminar etc. and students' educational tours. Overall Rs. 500.50 lakhs as Grant-in-aid was released to 12 universities during the financial year 2007-2008.

### Accreditation of Forestry College/ Course Curriculum

To validate the course curriculum and the college imparting the course, a process of accreditation on the pattern of AICTE has been initiated by formulating necessary guidelines. ICFRE has adopted a five year Human Resource Development (HRD) programme for capacity building of the managerial cadre, scientific cadre and the technical cadre. HRD programme aims at increasing the management skills of the manager and senior researcher and to keep them abreast with current trends in forestry research to enhance their core competence in their area of specialization through training, workshops, seminars etc.

As part of this programme, trainings have been organised on ‘Research Methodology’ from 7<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at IASRI, New Delhi, ‘Research Management and Administration’ from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at ASCI, Hyderabad and ‘Basic Forestry’ from 11<sup>th</sup> February to 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at SFSC, Dehradun for various levels of managers and researchers.

### Workshops Organized

The **Division of Statistics, ICFRE** organized a two days National Seminar – cum – Workshop on “Current Status of Forestry Statistics and Measures for their Improvement” on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008. The workshop was jointly funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization under its project being implemented by the division and the Central Statistical Organization, New Delhi. The Director General, ICFRE, Mr. Jagdish Kishwan was the chief guest and Mr. Ramesh Kolli, Additional Director General, National Accounts Division, Central Statistical Organization (CSO) was the guest of honour. The workshop was attended by delegates from CSO, Forest Survey of India, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Forestry Experts and all the Institutes of ICFRE. Deliberations focused on the issue of collection, processing and dissemination of statistics pertaining to the forestry sector of India. A need was felt to sensitize the state forest departments to furnish the data to ICFRE for timely dissemination.

**Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST)**, Bangalore organized a national workshop on “Mangroves in India: Biodiversity, Protection and Environmental Services” during 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2008.



The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. P.J. Dilip Kumar, IFS, Managing Director, Karnataka State Forest Industrial Corporation (KSFIC).

**Forest Research Centre (FRC), Hyderabad**, a regional research centre under IWST, Bangalore, in collaboration with Andhra Pradesh Forest Department organised workshops on “Integrated Pest Management, Eucalyptus Gal problem and mitigation measure, Tree improvement etc.” during 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Hyderabad, Tirupati, Warangal and Rajahmundry.



National workshop on 'Mangroves in India : Biodiversity, Protection and Environmental Services' at IWST, Bangalore

**Institute of Forest Productivity (IFP), Ranchi** organized a workshop on 'Biodiversity Conservation through Community Based Natural Resource Management' under the UNDP- GOI CCF II Project inception on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat** organized a regional workshop on “Bamboo Flowering - Status and Management Strategies” on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008.

## Symposia/Conferences Organised

**AFRI, Jodhpur** organized a national symposium on “Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas” on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008. The symposium was inaugurated by Shri Gaj Singh, Ex-Ruler of Marwar. One hundred and two delegates from various reputed research institution of thirteen states of India, participated in the symposium.

**HFRI, Shimla** organized a symposium on “Forest Insect Pests and Disease Management in Himalaya” on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008. The symposium was inaugurated by Shri Ashok Thakur, IAS,

Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Himachal Pradesh.

**TFRI, Jabalpur** organised national conferences on “Sustainable management of NTFP” on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and “Bamboos: Management conservation, value addition and promotion” from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

## Trainings Organized

**ICFRE, Dehradun** conducted a one week refresher training course for Indian Forest Service Officers on “Climate Change and Relevance to Forestry Sector” from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008 sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. Sixteen IFS Officers from different states participated in this course .

**FRI, Dehradun** organized a five days training programme on “Bamboo Development for



One week refresher training course for Indian Forest Service Officers at ICFRE, Dehradun

field staff” from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008 and “Bamboo Development for farmers” from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008. The participants were nominated by the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department as a part of a special training package on Bamboo development.

**FRI, Dehradun** organized a two weeks training on “Plant Taxonomy” from 21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008. The training was sponsored by



Training on “Plant Taxonomy” at FRI, Dehradun



the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF). Participants from nine states of India took part in the course.

**IWST, Bangalore** conducted compulsory training course for IFS officers on "Biotechnology for Forest Conservation" from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

**IWST, Bangalore** conducted a short term training course on "Field Identification of Important Timbers" from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2008, "Extraction/Purification techniques and instrumental analysis" from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and "Sandal Nursery Technology" from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**RFRI, Jorhat** organized two on-site training programmes for extension of patchouli based agroforestry practices at Koliabor on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2008 and Biswanath Chariali on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008. The Scientists from RFRI, Jorhat imparted standardized cultivation practices for patchouli for agroforestry.

**RFRI, Jorhat** imparted training on "Bamboo" based on invitation of Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology at Gangtok, Sikkim from 29<sup>th</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2008.

**TFRI, Jabalpur** organized two training programmes on "Nursery, plantation techniques, utilization and marketing of Bamboo" from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2008, 28 January to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008 and 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008 for the field functionaries and farmers of Chhattisgarh state. Another training programme on "Improving forest productivity through technological interventions" from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008 for the field executives and officers of Maharashtra State Forest Departments was also conducted.

**HFRI, Shimla** organized a two days training programme for Skill Upgradation of Range Officers and Deputy Rangers of Himachal

Pradesh Forest Department from 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at HFRI, Shimla.

**HFRI, Shimla** organized a two day training programme on "Eco-restoration of Degraded Forests" from 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Forest Training Centre, Sundernagar.

**IFP, Ranchi** conducted a one day training programme on "Lac Cultivation" at Tatisringari, Jonha, Jharkhand on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008 and a five days training programme on "Modern nursery techniques" from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

## National Science Day Celebrated

**FRI, Dehradun** celebrated the "National Science Day" on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008. During this day the entries to all six museums was free for all the visitors and film shows were organized in the Convocation Hall for public.

## World Forestry Day Celebrated

**FRI, Dehradun** celebrated "World Forestry Day" on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008 at Shatabdi Van Vigyan Kendra (Rangers College) Dehradun. Dr. S.S. Negi, Director, FRI, Dehradun was the chief guest on this occasion.



World Forestry Day celebrations at FRI, Dehradun

## Van Vigyan Kendra inaugurated at Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh

Van Vigyan Kendra, Karnataka was inaugurated on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at Forest Technical and Administrative Training Institute, Kadugodi, Bangalore by Shri A.K. Verma, PCCF, Karnataka Forest



Training programme on 'Eco-restoration of Degraded Forests' at Forest Training Centre, Sunder Nagar by HFRI, Shimla



Inaugural Ceremony of Van Vigyan Kendra at Sunder Nagar, Himachal Pradesh

Department. A demonstration programme on Ammonia fumigation, Sandal plant technique (Sap), displacement and use of alternative timber techniques was held.

Van Vigyan Kendra (VVK), Himachal Pradesh was inaugurated by Shri Mohinder Pal, IFS, Director, HFRI on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Forest Training Centre, Sunder Nagar, Himachal Pradesh.

**RFRI, Jorhat** selected 'Koliapani Adarsha Gaon' Teok, Jorhat as model village for forestry activities. The activities of the model village were started with a plantation programme at Shri Shri Auniati Satra Campus in a large gathering on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2008.



Deka Satradhikar Shri Debananda Dev Gowswami planted a seedling at site

## Consultancy

HFRI, Shimla awarded a consultancy to conduct Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Studies and Formation of Environment

Management Plan (EMP) for Integrated Kashang Hydroelectric Project (243 MW) in District Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh by Kinner Kailash Power Corporation Limited (A Corporation promoted by Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board).

## Inauguration

A new building of Biotechnology laboratory at RFRI, Jorhat was inaugurated by Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Hon'ble Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008.



Biotechnology laboratory at RFRI, Jorhat was inaugurated by Shri Jagdish Kishwan, Director General, ICFRE

## Visit of dignitaries

Shri Tarun Gogoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, visited RFRI, Jorhat on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2008.



Shri Tarun Gogoi at Orchidarium of RFRI, Jorhat

Dr. D.N. Tiwari, Vice Chairman, State Planning Board, Raipur, Chhattisgarh visited TFRI, Jabalpur and interacted with the scientists and officers of this institutes.



## Staff News

### Promotions :

Smt. Prabha Bisht, Scientist-B, FRI, Dehradun 27.03.2008  
Smt. S.L. Chauhan, E&AO, ICFRE, Dehradun 27.03.2008  
Smt. Rashema Diwan, E&AO, FRI, Dehradun 27.03.2008

### Deputation :

Shri D. Chattopadhyay, FA&CAO, 31.03.2008  
ICFRE, Dehradun  
Shri Gautam Banerjee, DCF, RFRI, Jorhat 09.01.2008

### Joining :

Ms. Santosh Chhajta, Assistant Librarian  
(Grade-II), HFRI, Shimla 22.01.2008  
Dr. N. Senthil Kumar, Scientist-B, FRC,  
Hyderabad 22.01.2008  
Shri Muthu Kumar Arunachalam, Scientist-B,  
IWST, Bangalore 29.01.2008  
Shri Patanga Ram, FRO, HFRI, Shimla 31.01.2008  
Shri V. Durai, R.O., IFP, Ranchi 20.03.2008

### Retirements :

Shri R.C. Pant, R.A.I, FRI, Dehradun 31.01.2008  
Shri Hari Om Nautiyal, FRI, Dehradun 31.01.2008  
Shri H.S. Sharma, Head Clerk, FRI, Dehradun 29.02.2008  
Shri A.S. Kamboo, Scientist-C, FRI, Dehradun 31.03.2008

### Repatriations :

Shri Deepak Khanna, IFS (J&K:85) Head,  
Extension Division, FRI, Dehradun 02.03.2008  
Dr. A.K. Srivastava, IFS (MP:84), ADG (Admin)  
ICFRE, Dehradun 31.03.2008  
Shri A.K. Lal, IFS (MP:87), CF, FRI, Dehradun 07.02.2008  
Shri R.K. Singh, IFS (AGMUT:86), CF, TFRI,  
Jabalpur 09.01.2008  
Shri K.D. Sharma, IFS (HP:94), DCF,  
HFRI, Shimla 31.03.2008

### Special VRS :

Smt. Taksara Devi, Khalasi, FRI, Dehradun 31.01.2008  
Shri Rajendra, Safaiwala, FRI, Dehradun 31.01.2008

### Resignation :

Shri Binay Kumar Singh, Scientist-B,  
IFP, Ranchi 26.02.2008  
Dr. S. Jayakumar, Scientist-B,  
IFGTB, Coimbatore 28.02.2008

## OBITUARY

ICFRE family deeply condoles the sudden and sad demise of Shri Dhani Ram, R.A. II, FRI, Dehradun on 28.01.2008, Shri Mukul Kumar Pant, Khalasi, FRI, Dehradun on 19.02.2008 and Shri M.S. Bisht, RA-I, FRI, Dehradun on 09.03.2008 and prays for the peace of the departed souls.

### Patron :

Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE

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