

CHAPTER-XV

FORESTRY EXTENSION

Forestry Extension

The users of ICFRE extension services comprise the State Forest Departments, Forest Corporations, Forest Industries, Farmers, Non-Govt. Organisations and others agencies. The activities under forestry extension are aimed at motivating and educating the people on conservation, development and management of community land; conservation of public forest; increasing the forest productivity to minimise pressure on forests; and scientific use of forest products. Extension directorate has three important wings.

Media wing extends technologies to the identified users through paper and electronic media and demonstrations..

National Forest Library & Information Centre and Institute Libraries make available books and journals on forestry and related subjects. Recent emphasis has been to modernise and make them up to date, user friendly and connected to other libraries through a network. Collection in different libraries have been enriched by acquiring large number of books during the year.

The third wing is publication, which is responsible for publishing all the research findings and reports including monograph, brochures, pamphlets and books.

Identified and prioritised technologies for extension

At present, there is a wide gap between the available forestry knowledge and its dissemination to user groups. Development of a suitable mechanism for extension and transfer of technology will narrow this gap. In the recent past, ICFRE has identified 40 tested technologies out of which 17 technologies were prioritised on the basis of clients demand for extension.

Extension methodology

A number of extension methods are being presently adopted for disseminating the research results to the end users. The choice of methodology depends upon entrepreneurs of technology and the client groups. The important methods are:

- i) Demonstration in the field
- ii) Preparation of extension materials likes films, videos, brochures, and handouts and their exhibitions.
- iii) Workshop, seminars and conferences.
- iv) Personal contacts.

Extension Support Fund (ESF):

The World Bank, Forestry Research Education and Extension have a component, which provide support for the improvements of research/extension linkages. Twenty-three extension proposals worth Rs. 17.2 million have been sanctioned by the Directorate of Extension to demonstrate different technologies in the field through State Forest Departments, Industries, Non-Govt. Organisations and other Research Organisations and are being monitored regularly. Well-reputed and organised research institutes like SIRDO

of Bhimtal; BISRA, Ranchi, Kerala; reputed NGOs based at Yavatmal,; Tamil Nadu Forest Department; Karnataka Forest Dept. and Punjab Forest Department alongwith Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd. have been given financial support for developing satellite technology demonstration extension centres.

Industrial Technology Demonstration (ITD) at different sites through seminars/workshops and conferences:

During the year 1998-99 the following demonstrations, seminars, conferences and workshops were organised by the ICFRE and its institutes.

1. Workshop on "Forestry, forest products and coastal population" at Chennai on 10-11 February 1999.
2. Institute-level sandal workshop at IWST, Bangalore on 18 Jan' 99
3. Demonstration of portable distillation unit and wood utilisation at Narasipatnam on 21 Nov' 1998.
4. Demonstration and distribution of treated Catamarans at Kovalam, Chennai on 10 Feb'99.
5. National seminar on Biodiversity conservation – Challenges & Opportunities on 9-10 Oct' 1998, F.R.I., Dehra Dun.
6. World Bank sponsored National Workshop on Marketing of Forest Products in India on 30-31 Oct. 1998.
7. INBAR sponsored International workshop on Engineered Bamboo Housing in Earthquake Prone Areas 23-26 Nov. 1998.
8. An exhibition cum awareness programme on forestry was held at F.R.I. on 21 March, 99.
9. Clonal technology consultancy to Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation completed by IFGTB, Coimbatore.
10. Training programs on nursery techniques imparted to Mahila Mandal, youth club and farmers by all ICFRE institutes.
11. Establishment of demonstration plots to show superiority of seed from clonal orchards for Casuarina – completed by IFGTB, Coimbatore.

Exhibition

The following exhibitions were conducted during the year:

1. Exhibition of IWST activities during the workshop on setting research priorities for IWST during 28-29 January 1999 at Bangalore.
2. Exhibition of IWST activities during the workshop on forestry, forest products and coastal population held at Chennai during 10-11 February, 1999.
3. Exhibition of IWST activities during inauguration of marine lab of IWST at Vishakhapatnam.
4. Demonstrated of technologies in the World Forestry Day Celebrations at FRI, Dehra Dun on 21 March, 1999.

Production of extension materials

Film

Film is one of the strongest medium for disseminating the use and importance of the newly developed technologies. The following films have been prepared by the Media Division during the year:

1. Bamboo – a gift of Nature (Hindi & Eng.) of 17 minutes duration
2. Bamboo – Promising gains – Sec I (Hindi & Eng.) of 25 minutes duration
3. Bamboo – Promising gains – Sec II (Hindi & Eng.) of 16 minutes duration. One TV spot film of (1 min – 35 sec.) duration was prepared in English only.
4. Storage and Sawing of timber with special reference to Eucalyptus.
5. Seasoning of timber with special reference to Eucalyptus.
6. Preservative treatment of timber with special reference to Eucalyptus.

The work on the following three films continued during the year 1998-99.

1. Film on 'Treated Catamarans for traditional fisherman'
2. Film on Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP)
3. Film on 'Economic Utilization of Casuarina'.

New film Projects

The following four new film proposals have been initiated during the year:

- (1) Rain water harvesting in Arid zones
- (2) Techniques for Afforestation of stress sites
- (3) Clonal multiplication and
- (4) Himalayan Ecosystem.

With the view to incorporate forestry and environmental related topics in school, actions has been initiated to appoint consultancy for preparation of syllabi.

Publication of Books, Brochures and Bulletin etc,

BROCHURES:

1. Barren Sodic Clothed Green.
2. Composite Wood.
3. Research in Chemistry of Forest Products.
4. Pulp and Paper Technology.
5. *Dipterocarpus retusus* Syn. *D. macrocarpus*.

6. Improved Planting Stock.
7. Pauwlownia.
8. IFGTB and Field guide to Panampally Research Station.
9. ICFRE brochure up dated.
10. 15 brochure for various species Manuscript prepared for reprinting.

BOOKS:

1. Forestry Statistics India – 1996.
2. Forestry Research Extension Strategy.
3. Indian Woods Vol. I.
4. Urban Forestry Manual prepared.

BULLETIN:

1. IFLIN Newsletter
2. ENVIS Newsletter
3. Timber/Bamboo Trade Bulletin

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

1. Proceedings of “National Workshop on Linkages between Forestry Research and Forestry Practices” held at ICFRE Headquarters, Dehra Dun .
2. Proceedings of National Seminar on “Popularising Theme Trees among People including Rural and Urban Forest Industries” held at ICFRE Headquarter, Dehra Dun.
3. List of the linkages established by IWST, Bangalore with various organisations.
4. Newspaper clipping related to marine work of IWST, Bangalore.
5. Proceedings of workshops organised by IWST.

NATIONAL FOREST LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

National Forest Library and Information Centre is a storehouse of information. It is being transformed into a dynamic information centre to provide customized information to the users.

NFLIC has introduced modern methods/practices of processing documents and offering information services to its clientele. Professional activities such as collection building, creation of machine readable catalogue to offer Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), barcoding of documents, improving retrospective search service, sharing of documents with ICFRE institutes, improving communication facilities, providing internet access, human resource development, etc. are some of the user oriented facilities in NFLIC.

During the year 1998-99, 2468 new books worth of Rs.55,78,192/- were added to NFLIC collection NFLIC is getting over 250 Gratis periodicals, besides subscribing to 258 foreign journals and 130 Indian journals.

About 1500 books in stock has been barcoded during the current year.

Training

International training under FREE Project was planned to keep abreast of latest trends in information technologies relevant to library and information science. In addition, similar trainings were planned for the library staff of ICFRE institutes and NFLIC at national level.

Network Services

Networking services are established at ICFRE/FRI campus. 100 nodes are currently up across the campus. The following network services are available :

1. Electronic mail
2. Access to CD-ROM bibliographic Database (Seven)
3. Access to Library Database On-line public access catalogue (OPAC)
4. Internet

The ICFRE has launched Web site, and it globally visible at <http://www.icfre.up.nic.in>

1. DOCUMENTATION

(i) Classification of Cataloguing

Classification of about 200 documents received under the category of conventional and non-conventional literature has been completed. 3200 authors, subjects and species cards, and 500 reference sheets have been prepared of the said documents. 14 new species and 8 new subject ledger files have been opened.

(ii) Education and Training

In order to generate awareness on conventional and non-conventional library materials present at NFLIC, a series of lectures on "Information Resources for Technical Writing" were delivered to the faculty members and research staff of ICFRE. Besides, a 100 Day Course Work on "Research Methodology" for research fellows at Forest Research Institute, Deemed University, was included in the Curriculum. Two week long theoretical and practical classes on the application of 'Information Science to Research Methodology' were arranged for the scholars.

(iii) ENVIS Centre on Forestry Information

ICFRE is the Centre on Forestry Information in the Environmental Information Systems (ENVIS) under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment & Forests. It is mandatory on the part of each ENVIS Centre to publish a Monograph highlighting the activities of its institute. ICFRE's monograph on the subject allotted to it will be released very soon.

2. GREYLITERATURE

Eighteen State Grey Literature Consultants have been appointed so far for collection of grey literature. Orientation Training Programmes for these consultants were conducted in three batches during the months of August, December and January (1998-1999).

Out of the 4,500 Grey literature documents received from the state consultants, 2,000 have been found suitable for the forestry Grey Literature Collection under this project. The documents are classified as per the Oxford Decimal System of Classification. Informative abstracts with complete bibliographic details for locating the publication are prepared for each and every document. Important concepts, plant species, methodologies and techniques highlighted in these articles, are denoted with appropriate keywords. This information is being computerised for facilitating speedy storage and retrieval.