

National Seminar on “Hill Bamboos – An Important Resource for Improving the Rural Livelihoods”

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla organized two days Seminar on “Hill Bamboos – An Important Resource for Improving the Rural Livelihoods” on 17th & 18th October 2014 at Manali, District Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, which was supported by BTSG-ICFRE. The seminar was aimed to bring together Scientists, Foresters and other stakeholders to evaluate the status, socioeconomic, propagation and management techniques of Hill Bamboos and its contribution in rural livelihood. About 20 eminent Scientists from Hill states of the Country, who have worked on Hill Bamboos participated in this Seminar and presented their research papers.



Dr. G.S. Goraya, IFS, Deputy Director General, *ICFRE*, Dehra Dun had given detailed presentation on the Hill Bamboos, its distribution, uses, and management strategies, etc. Dr. Goraya has explained every aspect of Hill Bamboos in a very scientific, systematic and interesting way.



A film on Hill Bamboos, which is prepared by BTSG-ICFRE has also been shown, which was appreciated by one and all present during the Seminar. A Bamboo Craft Mela was also organized at Wildlife Information & Interpretation Centre, Near M.C. Office, Manali from 17 to 21 October 2014.



Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director, Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla welcomed the Chief Guest, Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, IFS, Director, Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun; Dr. G.S. Goraya, IFS, DDG (Research), ICFRE, Shri Arvind Kumar Alipura, APCCF (Research & Training), Himachal Pradesh and all the Senior Scientists and Forest Officers present in the Seminar.

On this occasion a Souvenir-cum-Abstracts of the research papers to be presented in this Seminar was also released by the Chief Guest, Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid.



During the Seminar, Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla presented his paper on "Product and Applications of Hill Bamboos in Himachal"; Dr. Anil Sood, Principal Scientist, Institute of Himalayan Biotechnology, Palampur presented his paper on "Effect of Different Growth Hormones on *In-Vitro* Propagation of *Thamnocalamus fakciberi* Hook. f. Ex Munro (Dev Ringal); Shri P.S. Negi, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla made his presentation on "Effect of Pre-Sowing Treatments on Germination of *Sinarundinaria falcata* (Nees) C.S. Chao & Renvoize; Dr. H.B. Naithani presented his paper on "Distribution and Uses of Himalayan Bamboos" and Dr. H.B. Vasistha made a presentation of his research work titled, "*Arundinaria falcata* – A Potential Species for Restoration of Degraded Temperate Forest – Study on Kunjapuri

Hills, Garhwal Himalayas; Dr. S.S. Samant, Scientist-in-Charge, G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Mohal, Kullu presented his paper on “Diversity, Distribution and Economic Importance of Bamboo Species in North-western and Western Himalayas”; Shri. B.S. Rana, Director, Great Himalayan National Park, Shamshi, Kullu has delivered his talk on “Critical Role of Nirgal Group of Bamboos as Wildlife Habitat”; Dr. R.N. Pandey presented his paper on Bamboo Development in Tripura – Leads for Rapid Commercialization of Hill Bamboos, Dr. Rajeev Pandey presented his paper on “Bamboo in the Courtyard – A Case of Versatile NTFP Overcoming Social Resistance in Kedarnath Valley of Uttarakhand Shri S.N. Misra of IFP, Ranchi presented his paper on “Species Distribution Modelling in Hill Bamboos in Himachal Pradesh.

On 18th October 2014, valedictory session of the Seminar was chaired by Dr. Ashwani Kumar, IFS, Director General, *Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education*, Dehra Dun. Dr. V.P. Tewari, Director, HFRI, Shimla formally welcomed the Director General, ICFRE, Dehra Dun.



Dr. G.S. Goraya, IFS, Dy. Director General (Research) made a detailed presentation on the draft recommendations. Dr. Goraya has informed that these are the draft recommendations and will be finalized in due course and will be incorporated in the proceedings

During his address, Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Director General, ICFRE, welcomed and thanked all the participants of the Seminar for attending this Seminar and making it a grand success. He has appreciated the efforts put in by the Scientists during these two days deliberations. He further informed that there are different kinds of policies for Bamboos in different states. In some states, it is considered as NTFP whereas in some states is being considered in other forms and advocated that there should be a similar policy throughout the country. In his address, the Director General shared that it is very difficult to get the seeds of Bamboos as it is a long process. He has therefore, stressed the need of ex-situ and in-situ conservation of this species and also advocated the need of raising quality planting material through the above mechanisms.