

REPORT ON 7th NETWORK PROJECT PARTNER'S WORKSHOP HELD AT HAPPRC, SRINAGAR, GARHWAL (U.K.) ON DATED 27.09.2012

Research is a dynamic process and end result of each of the efforts made through it must reach the end users for long term sustainability. Besides, in the present scenario where financial resource is a crunch which necessitates that the research organizations must converge at a single platform which certainly will provide multi-dimensional approach to the subject and will also use the strengths of each of the organization, specialization of the individual working thereby, making the outcome more realistic, more and more end-users friendly, less time consuming and at the same time economically viable too. With this objective in mind Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla conceived a project in collaboration with High Altitude Plant Physiology Research Centre (HAPPRC), Srinagar, Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource & Technology (IHBT), Palampur and Jaypee University of Information Technology (JAYPYEE), Wakanaghat where the potential of each of the organization, right from the field surveys, zone of the distribution, Chemistry and DNA finger printing was combined to give the proposal a holistic approach.

In the process a Network project was proposed to National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB), New Delhi who gladly funded the same specifically on the basis of utility of the proposal and the united efforts. To gauge the performance over a period of time, sharing of the information etc., HFRI, the LEAD INSTITUTE in collaboration with HAPPRC, Srinagar organized 7th Network Project Partner's Workshop at Srinagar, Garhwal (U.K.) on dated 27.09.2012 under the Chairmanship of Prof. AR Nautiyal of HAPPRC.

While inaugurating the meeting Prof. Nautiyal, welcomed all the network project partners and also highlighted the pertinent issues those require thrashing so as to achieve the objectives as envisaged under the project. He pointed out that this project is in final phase and the gaps if any, must be identified and resolved by December, 2012. To review the progress made till date he requested Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-E Principal Investigator of the project from HFRI, Shimla, to give

detailed account of work done so far under the project who informed that superior genetic stock of *Picorhiza kurroa* and *Valeriana jatamansi* have been identified by screening different geographical locations of Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand. PI also highlighted the specific progress made by the network project partners.

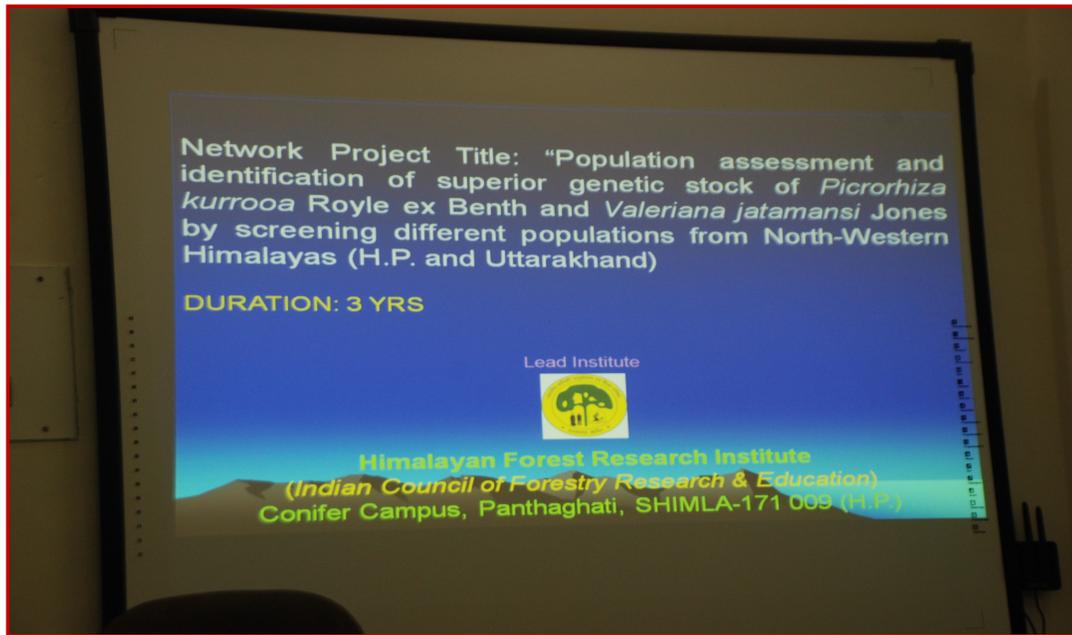
Followed by the presentations Dr. Bikram Singh from IHBT, Palampur informed that he has contacted with Indian Institute of Integrated Medicines (IIIM), Jammu as a third lab for carrying out active ingredient analysis to authenticate the results of two laboratories as per the suggestion of NMPB, New Delhi. Dr. KS. Kapoor was of the view that fresh samples of superior genetic stock of *P. kurroa* and *Valeriana jatamansi* must be collected and analyzed for confirming the earlier results. Dr. Sandeep Sharma informed that HFRI Shimla has maintained and multiplied the superior genetic stock in the HFRI nurseries for distribution amongst the various end users. Sh. Saurabh Pandit of JP University informed that they have finalized the methodology for DNA finger printing of these species and the project work will be completed by December 2012. Ms Neha, JRF HAPPRC informed that due to recent cloud burst in UK, sample of medicinal plants species from natural habitat could not be collected this year till now, however, those will be collected during the month of October and supplied accordingly.

The following important issues emerged in the workshop for immediate compliance:

1. Specific surveys of *P.kurroa* sources having total Picroside content more than 9% and *V. jatamansi* sources having valeopotriates content more than 3 to 3.5% must be taken up immediately preferably by October, 2012.
2. Molecular characterization of SGS of *P.kurroa* and *V. Jatamansi* must be completed by JUIT by the end of December, 2012.
3. Mass multiplication of the superior genetic stock and their distribution amongst different stakeholders.
4. Training and demonstration programmes need to be continued for reaching the end users in an effective way.

5. 8th Meeting of Network Partners to be organized in the first week of March, 2013 for finalization of the Final Technical Report and its submission to the funding agency at IHBT, Palampur.
6. As a sequel to the project a new research and extension proposal be formed in a network mode so as to test the superior genetic stock in the farmers field.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the participants.



GLIMPSES OF FIELD VISITS DURING WORKSHOP

