

**A Report on Two days Training Programme on
"Conservation, Utilization and Cultivation of Important temperate medicinal Plants"
held at KVK Saru, Chamba from 25-26 November, 2013.**

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla under VVK (H.P.) organized two days training programme on **"Conservation, Utilization and Cultivation of Important Temperate Medicinal Plants"** at KVK, Saru Chamba, for progressive farmers of Churah and adjoining villages of Chamba district from dated 25-26 November, 2013. About 40 progressive farmers took active participation in the training programme.

Dr. V.R.R Singh, IFS Director HFRI, Shimla, inaugurated the training programme. In his inaugural address he welcomed all the participants and told that Chamba district has been bestowed with rich high valued medicinal plants, however due to heavy biotic pressure and unsustainable extraction these high valued important medicinal plants are under verge of extinction. One of the ways to save these medicinal plants is *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation of these medicinal plants. He further said that the Institute is committed towards the development of medicinal plants sector in the region and in that endeavor had developed agro-techniques of important temperate medicinal plants. Hence the farmers can resort to cultivation of these important medicinal plants which will help in augmenting of rural income besides conservation of these medicinal plants.

Dr. Rajeev Raina, Officer-in- Charge KVK, Saru, Chamba was the guest of honour during this programme and appreciated HFRI's effort for organizing such training programmes for the benefit of farmers. He further urged that in future too specific training on cultivation of medicinal plants may be imparted to farming communities so that they may earn extra income besides conservation of high valued medicinal plants.

Mr. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-E briefed about the two days training programme and subsequently made a presentation, highlighting the Institutional activities. He also delivered lectures on Identification and utilization of important temperate medicinal plants, Intercropping of Medicinal Plants for Augmenting Income of Rural People, Cultivation of Aromatic plants; harvesting and processing of medicinal plants etc during this two days programme.

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F, delivered lectures on Modern Trends in Nursery Management, Prospects of Commercial Cultivation of Medicinal Plants in Himalayan Region, Marketing of medicinal plants in Himalayan states, composting and vermin-composting techniques etc.

Dr. Ajay Baniyal, KVK Chamba talked about the Medicinal Plants as "Cover Crop in Apple Orchards". Dr R. Raina, KVK, Chamba delivered a lecture on "Medicinal uses of Mushroom"

During the plenary session of the training on 26th November, 2013, all the experts freely interacted with the participants. The relevant queries of the participants were duly addressed through expert opinion.

In the end, a special Vote of Thanks was extended by Dr. Sandeep Sharma, HFRI, Shimla.



