

Extension activities under NMPB, New Delhi, sponsored project

Under 'National Medicinal Plants Board' funded project, the Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla conducted extension activities in Himachal Pradesh and Chenab valley of Jammu and Kashmir during 25th July to 10th August 2014.

In Himachal Pradesh participated as resource person in camp workshop organized by Medicinal Herbal grower-cum-collector society, Nichar distt. Kinnaur (H.P.) on 26th July 2014. It was started on 10.30 AM in the morning and Dr. Sandeep Sharma and Sh. Jagdish Singh scientists of HFRI, Shimla were the invited experts in that camp workshop-cum-meeting. Discussed in detail the cultivation of Atish, Ban Kakri and Chora in their farmland. The farmers interacted freely and their all queries were answered with expert advice. Visiting experts also helped them in formation of sub groups and assured them for all technical help while initiating cultivation of medicinal plants in that region. To begin with, Atish plants (3000no.) were provided to the society for cultivation in their farmlands.

Glimpses of Nichar (HP) Camp Workshop-cum-Meeting



In Bhandarwah (J&K), Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F and Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-E, HFRI, Shimla participated in 5 days 'Aroma Festival' of J&K organized by Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu on 4th and 5th August 2014 as per the suggestion of NMPB, New Delhi to interact with the farming community of Chenab valley region for implementing activities of NMPB funded project in that region. As a part of Aroma festival delivered invited lecture on 'Selected High Altitude Medicinal Plants: Nursery and Cultivation Techniques' and 'Intercropping of high valued temperate medicinal plants with horticultural plantations: An option for diversification and income generation' in Awareness Seminar on 'Development of Medicinal & Aromatic plant based enterprises' on 4th August 2014 evening. The HFRI, scientists interacted actively with progressive farmers of Chenab valley region on 4th and 5th August 2014 in the Aroma festival and provided Atish and Chora seedlings to really interested farmers on the spot. Besides this discussed in detail with Dr. R. S. Bandral, Project Coordinator, KVK, Doda of SKUAST, Jammu (J&K) about initiation of medicinal plants activities in farmers field in Bhandarwah region. He accompanied us to the farm of Mr. Tahir Mahmood Sheikh, progressive farmer of Bhandarwah and enquired about the possibilities of medicinal plants cultivation in his land. The farmer was provided with saplings of Chora and Atish and answered all his queries regarding initiation of medicinal plants cultivation during field visit. He was also pursued for the formation of group/cooperative/ society of medicinal plants growers of the region so that the NMPB can help the group in this venture.

In Kishtwar discussed in detail medicinal plants raising with forest officials of Kishtwar Forest Division on 6th August 2014 and supplied some saplings of Atish and Chora for raising the same in their nursery. With the active cooperation of the officials of Kishtwar forest division (J&K) organized two meetings with local communities at Galhar Nagsni and Kaligarh. The village Galhar was situated on Kishatwar-Pangi (HP) road 35 KM away from Kishtwar town. The meeting was attended by 14 no. farmers and it was conducted in very informal way to involve farmers for medicinal plants cultivation. In the end of the meeting distributed medicinal plants (Patish and Chora) to the progressive farmers. Another meeting was organized at Kaligarh village 15 Km away from Kishtwar town on same day i. e. 6th August 2014. It was attended by 21 no. farmers of that locality. After fruitful discussion on medicinal plants cultivation, farmers of that region agreed to cultivate medicinal plants in their field. Supplied Atish and Chora saplings for initiating medicinal plants activity in that area. On 7th August 2014 visited the farm of Sh. Kapil Sharma, progressive farmer of Batote area. Replied all the queries raised by the farmer and his family members during on farm visit and instructed them about Patish and Chora cultivation as the saplings of the same already provided during 'Aroma Festival' at Bhandarwah. Also briefed about the certain refinement in vermi-composting technique followed presently by the farmer so as to improve the outcome.

Glimpses of Extension Activities in Chenab Valley of Jammu Province (JK)



On farm visit by HFRI scientists facilitated by KVK, Doda at Bhaderwah (J&K)

Distribution of Atish and Chora saplings to various stakeholders under the project



**Field visit to the Farm of Sh. Sewa Ram, Award winning farmer of Kishtwar region by
HFRI Scientists and Meeting at Galhar Nagsni**



Glimpses of Kaligarh (Kishtwar) Meeting

