

A REPORT ON THE SECOND MEETING OF TASK FORCE ON DUS TESTING GUIDELINES FOR CASUARINA AND EUCALYPTUS HELD AT IFGTB ON 29th AND 30th, JANUARY, 2013

The second meeting of the Task Force (1/2012) constituted by the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority PPV&FRA was held at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore on 29th and 30th, January, 2013. Dr. N. Krishna Kumar, Director, IFGTB welcomed the Task Force members and highlighted the work done by IFGTB in developing DUS test guidelines for two important tree species. Dr. V. Sivakumar and Dr A. Nicodemus presented the DUS testing guidelines for Eucalyptus and Casuarina respectively. The task force comprised of Dr J.P. Tiwari, Former Dean, College of Agriculture, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Lucknow as Chairman and Dr. N.B. Singh, Director (Ext.), Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan, Dr. H.S. Ginwal, Scientist F, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun Dr. Manoj Srivastava, Registrar, PPV&FRA, New Delhi, Dr. Ravi Prakash Registrar, PPV&FRA, New Delhi and Dr. B. Gurudev Singh, Scientist G, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore as Members.

The Chairman of the Task Force Dr. Tiwari appreciated the work done by IFGTB and stressed the importance of the registration of tree crops in the era of IP protection. The committee approved the DUS test guidelines of Eucalyptus and Casuarina and recommended for further follow up action for notification under PPVFR Act 2001.

The DUS descriptors and the DUS testing guidelines for Eucalyptus were prepared by a team of Scientists from IFGTB comprising of Dr V. Sivakumar, Dr R Anandalakshmi and Dr B. Gurudev Singh and for Casuarina by Dr A. Nicodemus, Dr Rekha Warriar and Dr B. Gurudev Singh with funding support from the PPVFRA. In the first phase of the project the DUS guidelines were prepared and were validated in the second phase with varieties of other Institutions. It is for the first time in the country such guidelines have been prepared for forestry crops. The notification of these crops will facilitate the registration of clonal varieties of these crops by the farmers, industries and research organizations in the country for IP protection.

