

Workshop on Tree Cultivation Technologies

Workshop on Tree Cultivation Technologies was conducted for transfer of technologies developed by Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry on 21st March 2014. Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB and Dr. T. Manoharan, Professor, e-Extension centre, TNAU delivered the introductory remarks. Participants from 26 KVKs from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry attended the program. The meeting was conducted in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU) and Tamil Nadu Forest Department (TNFD). Shri.M. Kalai Rajan, Forest Extension Officer, Karur as representative from TNFD attended the meeting.

Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director IFGTB gave introductory remarks on the importance forest extension through KVKs for increasing the area of forest cover outside the forest areas. Dr. T. Manoharan, Professor, e-Extension centre, TNAU explained that KVKs must concentrate on establishment of Tree Demo plots with improved planting materials.

The program was started with welcome address by Shri. T.P. Raghunath, IFS, Group Coordinator, IFGTB. Dr. B. Gurudev Singh, Head, Genetics and Tree Breeding Division made a presentation on the research and extension efforts of IFGTB. Dr. T. Manoharan, Professor, TNAU made a presentation on the formation, functions and importance of KVKs in transfer of agriculture technologies to farmers.

Presentation on package of practices for eight different species was made by species coordinators. Package of practices of Teak, Casuarina, Eucalyptus, Melia, Ailanthus, *Gmelina arborea*, *Neolamarckia cadamba* and *Calophyllum inophyllum* were presented. Followed by presentation on the products developed by IFGTB viz., N-fixer, Hy-Act, Tree Rich Biobooster, Tree PAL, Windbreak Agroforestry systems, Bio-Inoculants for Native Tree Species, Casuarina based 'Alley cropping' system, Red and Sweet Tamarind, Tree Pest Management and Clonal propagation of Eucalyptus and Casuarina were presented.

Opinion was expressed by all the participants for strengthening VVK-KVK tie-up in Tamil Nadu and Kerala during the concluding session. Dr. V. Sivakumar, Scientist proposed vote of thanks.

