

Workshop on Extraction of genomic DNA from challenging dicot plants

A One day workshop on “Extraction of Genomic DNA from challenging dicot plants” was held on 19 February 2016 at Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore. The workshop was co-hosted by Sai Genomics Solutions, Coimbatore. The workshop was organized to provide a hands-on-experience to researchers on isolation of DNA from difficult samples using the protocol licensed to Sai Genomics Solutions by IFGTB and facilitated by Biotech Consortium India Ltd, New Delhi.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. S. Murugesan, Director, IFGTB and was attended by Shri. S.K. Viswanath, Chief Operating Officer, Sai Genomics Solution, Dr. Modhumita Dasgupta, Course Co-ordinator, Head of Divisions and Participants. Seventeen participants registered for the workshop and were affiliated to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Bharathiar University, Tamil Nadu Newsprints and Paper Ltd, Rasi Seeds and Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bangalore.



The workshop was initiated with a lecture by Dr. Karapaga Raja Sundari, Bharathiar University on challenges encountered during DNA isolation and methods to alleviate the presence of co-contaminants. This was followed by hands-on-training on DNA isolation. The participants were encouraged to bring their own plant samples and hence all participants individually isolated DNA.



Tips on handling DNA and other solutions during the isolation process were provided by Dr. Modhumita. During the workshop, an interaction was held with

the participants to understand their needs and challenges faced during DNA isolation and troubleshooting methods were suggested.

Additionally, Dr. Fathima Benazir, Co-Founder & CEO and Alex D Paul, Co-Founder & President, Azooka Life Sciences LLP, Bangalore demonstrated the use of *tinto rang*TM, a patent pending nucleic acid gel stain developed from plant source as a replacement to ethidium bromide.

The participants were also provided with feedback form to obtain their experience in the workshop and also evaluate the protocol. The participants expressed their satisfaction in using the protocol and provided valuable suggestions to improve the protocol. The workshop ended with distribution of certificate.

