

TRAINING ON CULTIVATION OF WILD EDIBLE MUSHROOMS

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat conducted a five day's training programme on '**Cultivation of Wild Mushrooms**' from 26th to 30th September, 2016. The training programme was sponsored by North-East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR). A group of ten women entrepreneurs representing different Self-Help Groups of Nagaland participated in this programme. The programme was inaugurated by Shri S. K. Pande, IFS(Retd.) Advisor, NECTAR.

The primary objective of the training programme was to encourage the women for self-employment and to improve their economy through the cultivation of wild mushroom species. The training programme covered many important aspects of mushroom cultivation including selection of cultivable species, differentiation between edible and non-edible mushrooms, pure culture preparation, substrate preparation, raising mother spawn, raising commercial spawn, commercial cultivation, precautions during cultivation and harvesting technology, through lectures and hands on training. There were practical sessions, where various methods such as pure culture preparation, spawn preparation, partial sterilization of substrate, collection of edible mushroom from natural forests etc were demonstrated. The participants were exposed to different scientific equipments/machineries, viz, autoclave, laminar air flow system, incubator etc, which are required in the commercial cultivation of mushrooms. Session on post-harvest management, marketing of mushrooms and value-added products of edible mushrooms were held.

Valedictory Session was held on 30th September, 2016 where Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director of the Institute was present. He congratulated the trainees for successfully completing the training programme. Certificates were distributed to the participants by Director of the Institute.

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