



Indian Council of Forestry
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MAY NEWS LETTER

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Inauguration of Technology Demonstration Centre



Technology Demonstration Centre(TDC) was inaugurated by Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, DG, ICFRE at ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore on 12th May 2026

International Biodiversity Day

• International Biodiversity Day was celebrated on 22nd May 2026 by ICFRE institutes and centres

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Significant /Research/Finding

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- Dried biomass residues (leaves, nodes, and skin) of *Bambusa balcooa* were milled and subjected to thermogravimetric (TG) analysis to assess their thermal degradation behaviour and suitability for silica recovery. The node sample exhibited rapid thermal degradation with only ~2.4% final residue, indicating predominance of combustible lignocellulosic matter and low ash-forming potential. The skin sample showed major decomposition with ~3.44% residue, suggesting comparatively lower inorganic content. In contrast, the leaf sample exhibited significantly higher final residue (~20–22%), indicating a higher inorganic fraction consistent with biogenic silica accumulation. Based on TG results, bamboo leaves were identified as the most promising feedstock for silica recovery. Accordingly, a suitable muffle furnace ashing programme for these biomass residues has been worked out.
- The anti-inflammatory potential of *Skimmia laureola* essential oil (SLEO) was evaluated using the carrageenan-induced paw edema model in rats. The essential oil demonstrated significant time-dependent inhibition of inflammation, with the high-dose treated group (800 mg/kg body weight) exhibiting a maximum paw edema inhibition of 39.57% at 4 h, compared to 57.08% inhibition produced by the standard drug Diclofenac (10 mg/kg body weight). The findings indicate notable anti-inflammatory activity of SLEO against acute inflammation.

- A comparative study of the leaf essential oil of *Skimmia laureola* obtained through hydrodistillation (HD) and steam distillation (SD) demonstrated significant differences in both yield and chemical composition. HD produced a higher oil yield (0.94% v/w) compared to SD (0.45% v/w). GC–MS and GC–FID analyses identified 27 compounds, accounting for more than 95% of the total oil composition in both methods. The HD oil was characterized by higher contents of geijerene (24.80%), linalool (18.21%), linalyl acetate (13.82%), and was rich in monoterpene hydrocarbons (45.86%), whereas the SD oil contained a markedly higher proportion of linalyl acetate (37.71%), followed by geijerene (17.66%) and linalool (12.19%), and was rich in oxygenated monoterpenes (58.15%). These findings indicate that HD is more suitable for higher oil recovery, while SD yields a compositionally enriched oxygenated essential oil.

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- Development of Urea free resins was completed on pilot scale. Demonstration on urea free resins for plywood was successfully taken up at M/s. Duroply Industreis Ltd., Rajkot and M/s. Greenply Industries, Kolkata. The samples made were initially tested for water resistance grade at factory. Soya melamine formaldehyde resin synthesis with internal addition, Soya extended Melamine formaldehyde resin and phenol soya formaldehyde resins formulations were optimized for moisture resistance (MR), boiling water resistance (BWR) grade plywood and BWP grade plywood.

Workshops/Seminars/Meetings

Indian Council of Forestry Research Education

01	Interaction meeting between ICFRE and US Faculty Delegation	15 th May 2026	23 participants from US Faculty Delegation and ICFRE
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Interaction meeting between ICFRE and US Faculty Delegation at ICFRE(HQ)

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

02 Seminar on " Medicinal Plants Authentication through DNA barcoding supporting India's Vision of Viksit Bharat" 25th May 2026 32 participants including Scientists, Officers & Research Fellows of institute

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

03 ICICI-CSR Funding meeting 19th May 2026 All official from ICFRE-IFB, Hyderabad

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

04 The First Annual Tree Breeders Workshop 2026 11th to 13th May 2026 44 participants including Scientists from different forestry research institutes

05 Advanced Genome Engineering Approaches: from Speed Breeding to Transgene-Free Editing 22nd May 2026 25 official from ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore



The First Annual Tree Breeders Workshop 2026 at ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore



Seminar on Advanced Genome Engineering Approaches: from Speed Breeding to Transgene-Free Editing at ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

Training Programmes

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- 01 Seasoning and Preservation of Wood & Bamboo 18th to 22nd 21 industry personnel from Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan. May 2026



Training programme on Seasoning and Preservation of Wood & Bamboo

ICFRE-Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

- 02 ICFRE-TFRI, Jabalpur and ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore jointly organized training programme on “Teak plantation Management” at Nagpur and Pune (Two trainings) 04th & 06th 140 participants from both institutions May 2026

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 03 Plantation Management of High Value Trees 25th to 26th 62 officials of Tamil Nadu Forest Department May 2026

Awareness and Demonstration Programme

ICFRE-Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru

- 45 Beat Forester Trainees along with ACF, RFOs and DyRFO from Forest Training Centre, Naubad, Bidar visited Wood Museum, Xylarium, Nursery, Technology Demonstration Centre and Advanced Woodworking Training Centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 19th May 2026. A lecture on “Wood Identification, Utilization and Storage Techniques” was also delivered.



Beat Forester Trainees from Forest Training Centre, Naubad, Bidar visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

- 117 students along with faculty from Government First Grade College, Yelahanka, Vijaya College, R.V Road, K.L.E. Society's S. Nijalingappa College, Rajajinagar and Bishop Cottons Womens Christian College, Bengaluru visited Wood Museum, Xylarium, Nursery, Technology Demonstration Centre and Advanced Woodworking Training Centre of ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru on 04th, 07th and 21st May 2026.



Students from Government First Grade College, Bengaluru visited ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru

- Organized awareness programme on “Storm Water Drain and URSC / ISRO Wind Tunnel and Secret Garden Residential Development” on 26th and 27th May 2026. 28 participants from Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) – Engineer Wing, U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC/ISRO), Engineer Wing – GBA and Forest Department participated in the programme.
- Organized awareness programme on “Soya based adhesives for Plywood” from 19th to 23rd May 2026 and 26th to 29th May 2026. 04 Industry personnels participated in the programme.

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- 22 trainees along with faculty from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi visited DD Herbarium and Botanical Garden of ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun on 30th May 2026.

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi

- 29 students from Sai Nath University, Ranchi visited Bambusetum, Mangrove Germplasm Bank and Nursery of ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi on 08th May 2026.



Students from Sai Nath University, Ranchi visited ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 17 students from Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women and University of Madras visited Gass Forest Museum of ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore from 12th May to 18th June 2026.



Students from Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

Mission LiFE

ICFRE-Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

- Conducted an awareness programme on “*Mission LiFe*” on 15th May 2026. Around 15 participants attended the programme. Participants were sensitized to the importance of using public transport.



ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun conducted an awareness programme on “Mission LiFE”

- An awareness programme on 'Save Energy' theme of Mission LiFE was organized on 15th May 2026 at Bindal Basti, Dehradun. During the programme, participants were sensitized to the importance of sustainable energy use and energy conservation for environmental protection and sustainable development.



ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun conducted an awareness programme on “Save Energy” at Bindal Basti, Dehradun

ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla

- VVK Jagatsukh, Himachal Pradesh organized a Cleanliness Drive on 09th May 2026. All staff members of VVK Jagatsukh participated in the programme. During the programme, they were also sensitized about the importance of maintaining a clean and green environment.

ICFRE-Institute of Forest Biodiversity, Hyderabad

- Organized awareness programme on “Mission LiFE” on 18th may 2026 at near by area of Suraram, Hyderabad. Around 20 participants from Suraram, Hyderabad participated in the programme. They were made aware about Healthy Life Style, Single Use Plastic and E-Waste Reduction during the programme.



ICFRE-IFB, Heydrabad conducted an awareness programme on “Mission LiFe”

- ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized awareness programme on “Save Energy, Save Water and Reduce E-Waste” on 13th, 16th and 17th May 2026 at Rama Talkies, Siripuram and Pedda Waltair, Visakhapatnam.



ICFRE-CEC, Visakhapatnam organized awareness programme on “Save Energy, Save Water and Reduce E-Waste”

Prakriti Programme

ICFRE- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore

- 19 students along with teachers from Keartiman Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore visited Gass Museum of ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore on 25th May 2026. Lecture on “Effects of Pollution” were also delivered during the visit.



Students from Keartiman Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore visited ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore

ICFRE- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- Organized Nursery Establishment programme on 07th May 2026 at Mahatma Gandhi Government Higher Secondary School, Pabupura, Jodhpur. They were also briefed about weed removal and cleaning of nursery beds during the programme.



ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur organized Nursery Establishment programme at Mahatma Gandhi Government Higher Secondary School, Jodhpur

ICFRE- Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat

- Organized awareness programme on “Water Resource Conservation” on 02nd May 2026 at Cheniamguri High School, Jorhat. 200 students

participated in the programme. They were sensitized to the importance of rainwater harvesting, watershed protection, and responsible use of water in daily life.



ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized awareness programme on Water Resource Conservation at Cheniamguri High School, Jorhat

ICFRE- Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru

- Field station, Kolkata organized Mangrove Plantation, Medical Camp and Awareness programme on 26th May 2026 at Sandeshkhali, Sunderbans, West Bengal. 240 students from Sukher Swarga Foundation participated in the programme.



ICFRE-IWST, Bengaluru Field Station, Kolkata organized Mangrove Plantation, Medical Camp and Awareness Programme at Sandeshkhali, Sunderbans, West Bengal

Radio Talk

- ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat recorded a Radio Talk on “Axom Aru Uttarpurbanchalor Bonor Shreni Bivag Aru Songrakhanor Upai” and “Role of Azolla cultivation in the Upliftment of the Rural Economy” on 21st and 26th May 2026 at All India Radio, Jorhat.

ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat recorded Radio Talk on Axon Aru Uttarpurbanchalor Bonor Sherni Bivag Aru Songrakhanor Upai at All India Radio, Jorhat

Rajbhasha Activities

- ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi organized workshop on “Official Translation and the utility of Artificial Intelligence in official work” on 20th May 2026. 25 official staff of institute participated in the workshop.



Workshop on “Official Translation and the utility of Artificial Intelligence in official work” at ICFRE-IFP, Ranchi

- ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat organized Hindi Typing Training Programme from 18th to 20th May 2026. 17 participants including Officers, UDC, LDC and Contractual staff of Institute participated in the programme.



Hindi Typing Training Programme”at ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat

- ICFRE-IWST Field Station, Kolkata organized training workshop under the Town Official Language Implementation Committee, Kolkata (TOLIC-5) on 22nd May 2026.

Miscellaneous

- ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore, celebrated International Museum Day on 18th May 2026. The event highlighted the importance of museums in preserving cultural and scientific heritage, and showcased institute contributions to forestry research and education.



ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore celebrated International Museum Day

HRNEWS

Retirement

Dr. Mala Rathore,
Scientist-F,
ICFRE-FRI, Dehradun

Date

31.05.2026

Sh. S.Sankaranarayanan, Personal Secretary, ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore	31.05.2026
Smt. N. Usha, Section Officer, ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore	31.05.2026
Sh. P. Chandrasekaran, CTO, ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore	31.05.2026
Smt. K. Shanthi, CTO, ICFRE-IFGTB, Coimbatore	31.05.2026
Sh. Bibhuti Deka, CTO, ICFRE-RFRI, Jorhat	31.05.2026
Smt. S, Shashikala, CTO, ICFRE-IWST, Bengalur	31.05.2026

Research Paper:

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- Sharma N., Tapwal A. and Kumar A. (2026). Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal diversity in *Taxus contorta* Griff. assessed through morphology and amplicon sequencing. *Journal of Basic Microbiology*, 66:e70173.
- Priya D.B., Thakur N., Ganesamoorthy R., Kumari A., Tapwal A. and Thirugnana sambandham A. (2026). A review on the advancement in eco-friendly metal and metal oxide nanomaterials synthesis and their catalytic and photocatalytic applications. *Next Research*, 9: 101789.
- Negi P. S., Chauhan A. and Singh G. (2026). Effect of time of seed collection on seed germination and seedling vigour index of *Prunus*

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- Kumar P, Jaswal v, Thakur T. S. and Senthilkumar N.. 2026. A study on pesticidal potential of plant extract of a native species, *Boenninghausenia albiflora* (Hook) to restrain insect pests of forestry in northwest Himalayas. *International Journal of Farm Sciences* 16(1): 50-62, 2026
- Mishra K, Sharma R, Sethy AK, Dubey MK, Patil SN, and Verma D (2026) Radio-frequency vacuum drying of *Mangifera indica* wood: insights into drying kinetics, microstructural changes and physico-mechanical properties. *J Indian Acad Wood Sci.* 20(4):1-14
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Patron:

Smt. Kanchan Devi, IFS, Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun

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