Seed Technology of *Juniperus polycarpos* (Himalayan Pencil Cedar)

A. Nature of technology: Seed technology.

B. Process in Brief:

Juniperus polycarpos C. Koch is an important indigenous conifer of North-Western Himalayan Region, commonly known as "Himalayan Pencil Cedar". The seeds of this species have dormancy which affects its germination. Technology for breaking seed dormancy has been developed at HFRI during last 5 years.

C. Beneficiaries of technology

1. **Prominent Beneficiaries/User groups**
   State Forest Departments and other agencies including NGO's working in arid and cold desert areas of H.P. and J. & K will be the major user groups.

2. **Number of clients to whom technology has been transferred / sold**
   The technology has been recently published in the form of a small booklet and being transferred to state forest department and other stakeholders through training and demonstration programmes.

3. **Potential for future dissemination (As the case may be)**
   The seed technology will help in propagation of this important tree species in arid and cold desert regions of north-west Himalayas.

D. Economic significance

1. **Potential to address livelihood issues and generated additional income**
   The technology developed has great potential in harsh terrain of the cold desert areas not only to stabilize the ecologically fragile areas but also to provide fuel wood and small timber through large scale plantation in the region. It is also a sacred species and has potential to generate additional income for local communities.

2. **Productivity enhance and Economic Benefits over replaced technology**
   This is new technology and possesses great potential in enhancing productivity of arid and cold desert regions of Himalayas by establishing plantations of this important species.

3. Impact of Technology (As the case may be)

It is an important tree species recommended for arid and cold desert areas of Himalayas. Therefore, this technology will be very handy for the success of future afforestation programme of this species in the arid cold desert areas.

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