



Proceedings of the inception Workshop of Forest Seed Management through Identification and Development of High-Quality SPA and Plus Trees of Important Plantation Species in Himachal Pradesh

Date: 3rd December, 2024

Organized

by

**ICFRE-Himalayan Forest Research Institute
Shimla (HP)- 171013**

In Collaboration with

**Integrated Development Project (HP-IDP)
Solan, Himachal Pradesh**

Proceedings of the inception Workshop of Forest Seed Management through Identification and Development of High-Quality SPA and Plus Trees of Important Plantation Species in HP, held on 03.12.2024 at Talland, Shimla

The inception workshop of newly approved project titled “**Forest Seed Management through Identification and Development of High-Quality SPA and Plus Trees of Important Plantation Species in HP**” was held on 03.12.2024 at Talland, Shimla chaired by **Dr. Pawnesh Kumar Sharma, PCCF & HoFF-cum CPD, IDP**, Himachal Pradesh. The workshop was attended by the senior officers of Forest Department, officials from Integrated Development Project, Solan, Scientists and Staff of ICFRE-HFRI as detailed in Annexure-1.

At an outset Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Director, ICFRE-HFRI Shimla formally welcomed chairman of the workshop Dr. Pawanesh Kumar, PCCF & HoFF, HP and delivered his welcome address. During his welcome speech he highlighted the past achievement of ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla regarding Tree Improvement and establishment of Seed Production Areas (SPAs) and selection of Plus trees of *Cedrus deodara*, *Pinus roxburghii* and *Dalbergia sisoo* in Himachal Pradesh and J&K. He also highlighted the importance of quality planting stock in productivity enhancement and stressed upon the need of such projects in present scenario along with organizing training programme for the field functionaries of HP-FD, which is included in the approved project. His remarks were followed by a presentation made by Dr. Md. Ibrahim, Project Investigator and Head Genetics and Tree Improvement Division, ICFRE-HFRI, Shimla. In his presentation he elaborated upon the project rationale, methodology, road map to achieve the project target and project outcome. He also highlighted the importance of targeted species viz., *Acacia catechu*, *Quercus leucotrichophora*, *Bauhinia variegata*, *Morus alba* etc. During the presentation the Chairman, Dr. Pawnesh Kumar raised query regarding selection criteria for the plus trees and delineation of seed stands. He suggested that the quality seed production should be one of the main objectives of selection of plus trees and SPAs thus, the seed/fruit production should be given more weightage along with plant height and dbh, morphological variation, and canopy length and width. He also suggested to include the plus trees growing on private land and aware farmer/owner regarding genetic values of those trees. Dr Pawnesh also suggested to liaison with forest field staff and officers of HPSFD and the tree

owner, share information (GPS coordinates) of selected plus trees with them and instruct them not to cut those trees and collect seed from these selected plus trees.

Dr. Sanjay Sood, APCCF, FCA, informed that the tree improvement and selection in *Acacia catechu*, *Bauhinia variegata* and *Morus alba* was also conducted in the past. He suggested that the already selected stands and plus trees should be included in this programme. He also suggested that zone wise recommendations of seed source/plus trees should be made at the end of this project and share this information with the SFD.

Sh. Girish Hosur APCCF cum CEO CAMPA requested to PCCF & HoFF, to circulate the information regarding ongoing project to the concerned DFOs and support ICFRE-HFRI team during field visits and delineation of SPAs and plus trees selection.

Shri D. R. Kaushal APCCF-IT, Project & M&E suggested that the concern field guards/plus trees regarding already selected stands/plus trees and their locations near their nurseries and forest beats. He also added that the SOPs should be developed at the end of this project to maintain the identified stands/ sources and plus trees in near future.

At the end of this workshop Dr. Md. Ibrahim, thanked all the dignitaries and officers for attending this workshop and their valuable suggestions provided during the discussion.

Annexure 1: List of Participants:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Pawnesh Kumar Sharma	PCCCF(HoFF) cum CPD IDP
2.	Dr. Sanjay Sood	APCCF, (FCA / ET)
3.	Sh. Girish Hosur	APCCF cum CEO CAMPA
4.	Sh. D. R. Kaushal	APCCF IT, Projects and M&E
5.	Dr. Sandeep Sharma	Director, ICFRE-HFRI
6.	Sh. Dharamveer Meena	Ex. Dir, IDP Solan
7.	Sh. Anil Kumar Sharma	CCF (Admin & HRD)
8.	Sh. T. Vankateshan	Dy Director , IDP Solan
9.	Sh. Hitender Sharma	Dy Dir (Admin), IDP Solan
10.	Sh. Praveen Sharma	DFO Legal Cell
11.	Sh. Raman Sharma	DCF CAMPA
12.	Dr. Renu Saizal	DFO (FU and Projects)
13.	Dr. Richa Banchta	DFO FCA
14.	Sh. Dinesh Paul	DFO (HQ)
15.	Dr. Mohd Ibrahim	Scientist-E, ICFRE-HFRI
16.	Dr. Balkrishna Tiwari	Scientist-C, ICFRE-HFRI
17.	Dr. Pravin Rawat	Scientist-C, ICFRE-HFRI
18.	Sh. Tej Prakash Sharma	Astt. Dir, IDP Solan
19.	Dr. Shalini Chauhan	SMS, Forestry, IDP Solan
20.	Smt. Sonika Sharma	Tech. Assistant, ICFRE-HFRI
21.	Sh. Manjeet Kumar	Sr. Technician, ICFRE-HFRI

Photographs of the inception workshop



