

Agroforestry Newsletter

National Research Centre For Agroforestry, Jhansi-284 003

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FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK

During the quarter, Annual Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry (AICRPAF) was held at Dr. Y. S. P. University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan. Participants from 24 SAUs and 3 ICAR institutes presented their reports. Special attention on Farming System research was drawn of the participants. It was agreed that farming system approach should be adopted at all the centers with agroforestry as core issue to meet the requirements of farm families and enhance remuneration from the system, provide year round employment and cover risk of crop failures arising due to weather vagaries. Due emphasis was given to develop index for monitoring climate change in different agroecological regions. Quantification of climate change and its impact on vegetation particularly on its diversity, plant growth and productivity need to be monitored periodically. The highlight of the workshop was a special session on biofuel in which the current status of R & D in on Jatropha and other TBOs was discussed.

The weather parameters in past quarter showed steep rise in temperature which resulted in bumper harvest of mangoes and wheat but showed adverse effect on new flesh, flowering and fruit set of aonla due to extreme moisture stress. The forecast for the forthcoming monsoon are very optimistic, however, its distribution has to be watched very carefully.

KISAN GOSHTI

The Centre organised Kisan Goshti at Garh Kundar, District Tikamgarh (MP) on 13th April, 2007 and about 275 farmers, farm woman, members of NGOs participated in the programme. During the goshti major emphasis was given on watershed development programme conducted by the NRCAF in participatory mode at Garh Kundar- Dabar watershed located near Niwari in Tikamgarh district of M.P. The programme was widely covered by print media.

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CENTRES OF AICRPAF- PARTNERS IN AGROFORESTRY R & D

The All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry (AICRPAF) was initiated in 1983 at 20 centres with coordinating unit at the ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. Later on more coordinating centres were added and presently there are 36 centres with 11 centres in ICAR Institutes and 25 centres located in SAUs, covering all the major agro-ecological zones of the country. The Coordinating unit of AICRPAF was shifted from New Delhi to National Research Centre for Agroforestry, Jhansi w.e.f. 1st April, 1997 under the administrative control of Director, NRCAF who is also the project coordinator. The list of Coordinating Centres is as below:

Centres located at SAUs

HIMALAYAN ZONE

1. S K University of Agricultural Science & Technology (SKUAS&T), Srinagar
2. Dr. Y S Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry (YSPHU&F), Nauni, Solan
3. Assam Agricultural University (AAU), HRS, Kahikuchi, Jorhat

4. CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (HPKV), Palampur

INDO-GANGETIC ZONE

5. Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana
6. G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (GBPUA&T), Pantnagar
7. Rajendra Agricultural University (RAU), Pusa, Samastipur
8. Narendra Dev University of Agriculture & Technology (NDUA&T), Faizabad
Kumarganj

HUMID AND SUB-HUMID ZONE

9. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (BCKVV), RRS, Kalyani, Jhargram,
W. Bengal
10. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (IGKVV), Raipur
11. Birsa Agricultural University (BAU), Ranchi
12. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology (OUA&T), Bhubaneswar

ARID AND SEMI-ARID ZONE

13. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur
14. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth (MPKV), Rahuri
15. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth (PDKV), COA, Nagpur
16. Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCSHAU), Hissar
17. Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU), Sardar
Krushinagar
18. Rajasthan Agricultural University (RAU), ARS, Fatehpur-Shekhawati
19. Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU), Hyderabad

TROPICAL ZONE

20. University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad
21. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Mettupalayam, Coimbatore
22. Kerala Agricultural University, LRS (KAU), Vellanikara, Thrissur
23. Dr. Bala Saheb Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth (BSKKV), Dapoli
24. Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Science University (TNVASU), Kattaupakkam
25. University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore

Centres located at ICAR Institutes

26. Central Soil and Water Conservation Research & Training Institute,
(CSWCR&TI), Dehradun
27. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani (Meghalaya)
28. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Imphal (Manipur)
29. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Gangtok, (Sikkim)
30. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal
31. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Agartala (Tripura)
32. ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Plandu, Ranchi
33. Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur
34. Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi
35. Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad
36. Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI), Port Blair

From next issue of the News Letter, we will publish a brief profile of one of the coordinating centres in each issue beginning with the coordinating centre located at Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar.

FARMERS RAISE MASSIVE JATROPHA PLANTATION

Farmers of five villages of Parmer Taluka, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra viz. Dholki, Vankute, Dhawalpuri, Dhotre and Gajdhipur developed Conservation Contour Terraces (CCTs) on their own barren wasteland on 1092 ha and planted about 20 lakh seedlings of *Jatropha* during last three years. The plantations were raised by the farmers in participatory mode with the help of a NGO – Govind Gramin Vikas Pratisthan (GGVP) under the DPAP. Recently, the Project Coordinator, AICRPAF alongwith a team of scientists of NRCAF and AICRPAF Centre, MPKV, Rahuri visited the plantation. It was observed that the CCTs helped in conservation of water which resulted in improved plantation establishment as well as soil conservation. It is noteworthy that the plantation has recorded more than 70% survival as well as satisfactory growth in height and diameter in the barren wastelands. Flowering and fruiting was also observed in many plants during the visit. Though the overall productivity may be low due to poor site conditions, absence of management techniques and seedlings origin of the planting material, but the income generation and rehabilitation of site will definitely go a long way for confidence building of the farmers as well as researchers.

**Project Coordinator, AICRPAF, Jhansi &
Team of Scientists from NRCAF & MPKV, Rahuri
Visit *Jatropha* plantation**

INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGROFORESTRY (ISAF) CONSTITUTES DR K.G. TEJWANI AWARD

The Indian Society of Agroforestry (ISAF), announces the constitution of an annual award “Dr. K.G. Tejwani Award for Agroforestry Research and Development” in the field of management and development of Natural Resources and Human Resources Development and Environment Upgradation in India. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the said award was signed between Indian Society of Agroforestry (ISAF), Jhansi and Tejwani Charitable Trust (TCT), New Delhi. The MoU was signed by Dr. S.K. Dhyani, President and Dr. A.K. Handa, Secretary on behalf of ISAF and Dr. K.G. Tejwani, Chairman on behalf of TCT on 12th April, 2007 at New Delhi in the presence of Dr. P.D. Sharma, ADG (Soil), NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi and Er. D.C. Das from TCT, New Delhi. The award carries a prize value of Rs 10,000 in cash and a citation. The award is open to all citizens of India above 35 years of age. The first award will be given in 2008. The other details and format of application will be circulated shortly.

**Signing of MoU between ISAF and TCT in presence of
Dr. P. D. Sharma, ADG (Soils), ICAR, New Delhi
WORKSHOP OF AICRP ON AGROFORESTRY**

The Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry was organised by Project Coordinator, AICRPAF at Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan from 19th – 21st May, 2007 in which about 100 delegates including officer in charge's of 28 coordinating centres and Principal Investigators of adhoc research schemes under AP Cess Fund (Agroforestry) participated. Dr. S. K. Dhyani, Project Coordinator presented the coordinator report. Dr. Dhyani expressed happiness that agroforestry scientists are now working in close association with farmers. All the AICRPAF centres now initiated

transfer of technologies in farmer's field and the feed back is now being utilized for refinement of technologies. However, an area which has not been fully exploited by the scientists is the immense wealth of knowledge with the farmers. There are enumerable number of practices and systems of agroforestry developed by the farmers in their innovative ways. These are not only remunerative but sustainable as well. But these practices / systems need to be documented and analysed in scientific terms. The agroforestry systems developed by the various centres, particularly for arid and semi-arid areas may supplement the Government of India's initiatives "more income" and "crop per drop of water" initiated this year all over the country. Dr. Dhyani urged all the coordinating centres to celebrate the silver jubilee of AICRP on AF next year by documenting their achievements. Dr. K.R. Solanki, Ex – ADG (Agroforestry) informed that TBO's and quality planting material are the most important areas to be researched upon. Dr. Jagmohan Singh, Vice Chancellor, YSPUH&F, Solan emphasized for commercialization of agroforestry technologies, industrial application and to address environmental concerns. He emphasized on the need for independent agroforestry policy at National level. Dr. A.K. Gogoi, ADG (Agro.) asked the scientists to quantify the values and benefits from the agroforestry and to document the success stories and viable technologies developed for each state. He informed that role of agroforestry in climate change is an important area to be researched upon and there is a need to conduct 2-3 days training programme each year by PC Unit on methodologies related to agroforestry research. Dr. M.S. Gill, Project Director, Project Directorate of Cropping System Research, Modipuram invited all the centres to submit their proposals for participation in net work project on Farming Systems Research. There were ten technical sessions in the workshop including inaugural and plenary sessions. A special session on biofuels to discuss the current status of R & D on Jatropha cultivation in India was also organized. In technical sessions the Officer Incharge of the coordinating centres presented the progress report and technical programme for the next year. In AP Cess Fund session, the PIs of AP Cess Fund adhoc schemes presented the highlights of their research schemes. In the end, Dr. S.K. Dhyani and Dr.K.S. Verma, Officer In Charge of host University proposed vote of thanks.

Dr. Jagmohan Singh, Vice Chancellor of YSPUH&F, Solan, releasing a bulletin published by UAS, Bangalore centre.

TRAINING ON BER PRUNING

Training programme on ber pruning was organized on 26th May, 2007 at village Garh Kunder in Distt. Tikamgarh M.P. and 45 farmers participated. Dr. R P Dewidi, Sr. Scientist (Extension) organized the training programme.

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VISIT OF QUINQUENNIAL REVIEW TEAM & PROJECT COORDINATOR AT AICRPAF CENTERS

Third Quinquennial Review Team (QRT) team under the chairmanship of Dr. R. P. Awasthi, Former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Y. S. P. U. H. & F, Solan (H. P.) along with Project Coordinator, AICRPAF visited the following AICRPAF centers to review the work under the project:

- B.A.U., Ranchi; R.A.U., Pusa; N.D.U.A.&T., Faizabad; I.G.K.V., Raipur; S.D.A.U., S.K. Nagar and R.A.U., Faithehpur Shekhavati from 03 to 16 April, 2007 .
- Dr. Y.S.P.U.H. & F., Solan; C.S.K.H.P.K.V., Palampur; S.K.U.A. S.&T., Srinagar and GBPUAT, Pantnagar from 11 to 23 June, 2007.

TAMIL NADU YOUNG WOMEN SCIENTIST AWARD 2006 (AGRICULTURE SCIENCES)

Dr. M.P. Divya, Assoc. Prof. (Forestry), Department of Agroforestry, Forest College and Research Institute, TNAU, Mettupalayam received T. N. Women Scientist award 2006 (Agril. Sci) awarded. by the Science City, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai. She received this award for her contribution in the field of Agroforestry during the last 10 years.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Sh. Munna Ram, Dr. O.P. Chaturvedi, Pr. Scientists, Dr. Anil Kumar, Dr. R. K. Tewari, Dr. Ram Newaj, Dr. K. Kareemulla, Dr. S P Ahlawat, Dr. R P Dewedi, Dr. A K Handa, Dr. R V Kumar, Sr. Scientists, Dr. A. Venkatesh, Sr. Scientist, Dr. C.K. Bajpai, Sr. Tech. Officer and Sh. C. Shivdasan, SPA of the Centre participated in the Annual Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agroforestry (AICRPAF) during May 19-21, 2007 at Dr. Y.S.P.U.H. & F., Solan .

SEMINARS DELIVERED

Dr. V. K. Gupta, Pr. Scientist of the Centre delivered Seminar on their topic as given below:

S. No.	Seminar Topics	Name of the Speaker	Date
1	IPR Issues related to Biotechnology	Dr. V. K. Gupta, Pr. Scientist	13 th June, 2007

WEBSITE VISIT

NRCAF website is visited 6950 times since its hosting by the users.

NEW SCIENTIST

- Dr. Ratha Krishna, Scientist (Forestry) joined the Centre on 17 May, 2007.

TRANFER

Dr. K Kareemulla, Sr. Scientist (Agriculture Economics) has been transferred to CRIDA, Hyderabad.

VISITORS

- Dr. P. S. Pathak, Ex-ADG (AF), Aashiyana Colony, Lucknow (U.P.)
- Dr. V. N. Sharda, Director, CSWCR&TI, Dehradun (Uttranchal)
- Dr. K. A. Singh, Director, IGFRI, Jhansi (U.P.)
- Dr. V. S. Katiyar, Head, CSWCR&TI, Research Centre, Datia (M.P.).