



ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute Jhansi :: Uttar Pradesh

ICAR-CAFRI, the National Field Gene Bank on Neem

The ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute (CAFRI), Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh serves as a National Field Gene Bank of Neem Germplasm. Initially, 276 accessions were assembled at the Field Gene Bank of the Institute from Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Haryana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu through extensive exploration, collection and/or as gifts from some participating institutes/universities in the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Agroforestry. Mainly, these accessions were collected from farmer's field. To date, 170 accessions are in our field gene bank. Among these accessions 139 have been registered as indigenous collection (IC) with National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resource (NBPGR), New Delhi.

Neem germplasm conserved at CAFRI field gene bank has become an important source of diversity. These collection serves as a wide gene pool for various economic seed associated traits including oil and azadirachtin yield improvement. The conserved germplasm is being characterized for important morpho-agronomic traits of neem. These materials shall be made available to researchers in both public and private sectors across the world following extant germplasm exchange guidelines. The collections held at the field gene bank are also serving the purpose of restoration of germplasm to the source origin states when native collections are lost due to natural calamities, civil strife, etc. This field gene bank has promoted testing and release of accessions directly as superior varieties in different agro-ecological region in India.



Field Gene Bank for Neem at ICAR-CAFRI Research Farm