



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
**ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION**  
2021-2030



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# NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

## Frontiers in Agroforestry and Horticultural Sciences: Integrating Innovation, Resilience & Sustainability

May, 7-8, 2026



Organized by



**MODE : HYBRID**  
(OFFLINE & ONLINE)

**VENUE:**

**ICAR-CENTRAL AGROFORESTRY  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
JHANSI 284003, UTTAR PRADESH

**CONTACTS** ▶

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## BACKGROUND

Agroforestry and horticultural sciences are increasingly recognized as vital components of sustainable land-use systems, particularly in the context of climate change, land degradation, and growing demands for food, nutrition, and livelihood security. Traditional mono-cropping systems are proving insufficient to address ecological imbalances and economic vulnerabilities faced by farmers, especially in semi-arid and resource-constrained regions. Integrating trees with crops and horticultural components offers a multifunctional approach that enhances biodiversity, improves soil health, optimizes resource use efficiency, and diversifies farm income. Recent advances in biotechnology, precision agriculture, climate-resilient varieties, and ecosystem-based management practices are opening new frontiers in these disciplines. Therefore, there is a pressing need to bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders to exchange knowledge, showcase innovations, and develop collaborative strategies for sustainable agricultural.

## OBJECTIVE

The conference "Frontiers in Agroforestry and Horticultural Sciences: Integrating Innovation, Resilience and Sustainability" aims to provide a dynamic platform for deliberation on emerging trends, scientific advancements and practical applications in agroforestry and horticulture. It seeks to promote the integration of innovative technologies, climate-resilient practices, and sustainable resource management approaches to enhance productivity, profitability, and ecological stability. The conference also intends to facilitate interdisciplinary dialogue, strengthen research-extension-farmer linkages, and identify policy interventions that support the adoption of diversified and resilient farming systems. Ultimately, it aspires to contribute toward achieving long-term sustainability, nutritional security, and improved livelihoods through the effective integration of agroforestry and horticultural sciences.

## ABOUT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National Conference on "Frontiers in Agroforestry and Horticultural Sciences: Integrating Innovation, Resilience and Sustainability" is being organized at ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute (CAFRI), Jhansi, in collaboration with Indian Society of Agroforestry (ISAF), Jhansi, and the Agriculture, Entrepreneur, Environment & Technology Development Society (AEETDS), Lucknow.

The conference aims to bring together leading scientists, academicians, researchers, policymakers, industry experts, students and progressive farmers on a common platform to deliberate on cutting-edge advancements in agroforestry and horticulture. In the face of emerging challenges such as climate change, resource degradation, and declining agricultural sustainability, the integration of horticultural sciences with agroforestry systems offers a transformative and climate-resilient pathway.

The conference will focus on innovative approaches including horticulture-based agroforestry models, tree-crop interactions, carbon sequestration, ecosystem services, and sustainable land-use systems. With its strong scientific foundation and national relevance, the event will foster interdisciplinary dialogue, promote technology transfer, and create opportunities for collaboration and innovation. Delegates will benefit from expert interactions, knowledge sharing, and exposure to advanced research contributing towards sustainable food, nutritional, and ecological security in India.



## About the ICAR-CAFRI

The ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi, established on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1988 as the National Research Centre for Agroforestry and upgraded in 2014, is India's premier multidisciplinary institute dedicated to agroforestry research. As the only national institute focusing exclusively on the integration of trees, crops, and livestock, CAFRI plays a pivotal role in developing sustainable land-use systems for enhanced productivity, ecological stability, and livelihood security.

The institute is committed to improving rural livelihoods through agroforestry interventions that promote soil conservation, climate resilience, natural resource management, and carbon sequestration. With its well-developed research infrastructure, including specialized laboratories and experimental farms, CAFRI has generated region-specific agroforestry models across diverse agro-climatic zones. Its contributions in watershed management, biodiversity conservation, and climate-smart farming systems have significantly strengthened sustainable agriculture.

Through its vision of restoring ecological balance and enhancing socio-economic well-being, CAFRI continues to serve as a national leader in advancing agroforestry science, making it an ideal venue and collaborative partner for this conference.

## About Indian Society of Agroforestry (ISAF)

The Indian Society of Agroforestry (ISAF), established in 1998 and headquartered in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, aims to promote and disseminate knowledge, research, and practices related to agroforestry science and technology while fostering the exchange of ideas among diverse professionals, including agronomists, horticulturists, ecologists, engineers, foresters, soil scientists, social scientists, and livestock experts. The society is committed to encouraging sustainable land-use planning and advancing agroforestry through basic, applied, and strategic research. It actively disseminates agroforestry technologies, organizes seminars, conferences, lectures, and training programmes for scientists, researchers, environmentalists, and farmers, and publishes relevant literature. Additionally, ISAF strives to strengthen collaboration among institutions and stakeholders engaged in agroforestry to support its holistic development.

## About the AEETDS

Agriculture, Entrepreneur, Environment & Technology Development Society (**AEETDS**) is a national-level NGO registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and established in 2024 at Lucknow. AEETDS works at the science-policy-practice interface to promote sustainable agriculture, agri-entrepreneurship, environmental resilience, and technology-driven innovation. Through interdisciplinary research, extension, capacity building, and startup incubation, the society facilitates precision agriculture, climate-resilient systems, and actionable technology adoption for inclusive rural transformation



# Frontiers in Agroforestry and Horticultural Sciences: Integrating Innovation Resilience, and Sustainability

## Major Themes

1. Agroforestry as nature-based solutions for environmental stewardship in food production systems
2. Transforming horticulture for a sustainable production and climate-resilience
3. Breeding and biotechnological approaches for high productivity, biotic and abiotic stress in Agroforestry and horticulture
4. Tree-crop-animal-soil dynamics in agriculture for better health of the ecosystem
5. Energy-efficient mechanization and digital transformation in post-harvest and food supply systems
6. Enhancing livelihoods of small and marginal farmers: socio-economic and policy perspectives
7. Artificial intelligence, machine learning, and digital tools in agroforestry, horticulture and allied sciences

## Sub-themes

### 1. Agroforestry as Nature-Based Solutions for Environmental Stewardship in Food Production Systems

- Nature-based solution for climate action, biodiversity conservation, and livelihood security
- Multifunctional agroforestry systems for climate resilience
- Carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation
- Soil health restoration and nutrient cycling
- Water conservation and watershed management
- Biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services
- Land degradation neutrality and ecological restoration
- Climate-resilient agroforestry models
- Role of agroforestry in sustainable intensification

### 2. Transforming Horticulture for Sustainable Production and Climate Resilience

- Genetic resources, diversity, evaluation, conservation & their use in crop improvement
- Conventional breeding approaches for genetic improvement of horticultural crops
- Innovations in horticultural crop production for enhanced productivity and sustainability
- Climate-smart horticultural practices
- Advances in protected cultivation and precision horticulture
- Resource-use efficiency (water, nutrients, energy)
- Diversification and high-value horticultural crops
- Urban and peri-urban horticulture
- Organic and natural farming approaches
- Climate-resilient fruit, vegetable, and floriculture systems

### 3. Breeding and Biotechnological Approaches for High Productivity and Stress Tolerance in Agroforestry and Horticulture

- Molecular breeding and genomics-assisted selection
- Crispr and gene editing technologies
- Development of stress-tolerant varieties (biotic/abiotic)
- Tissue culture and clonal propagation
- Functional genomics and gene expression studies
- Bioinformatics and omics approaches
- Seed systems and quality planting material

## **4. Soil-Tree-Crop-Animal Dynamics for Better Economic Returns and Ecosystem Health**

- Agroforestry based farming systems
- Nutrient cycling and soil-plant-animal interactions
- Soil microbiome and rhizosphere dynamics
- System productivity and sustainability assessment
- Carbon and water fluxes in integrated systems
- Livestock integration and fodder systems
- Ecosystem services and resilience of mixed systems
- Fisheries science, aquaculture technologies, and blue economy
- Integrated fish farming with agroforestry systems
- Land use diversification through integration of aquaculture systems

## **5. Energy-Efficient Mechanization and Digital Transformation in Post-Harvest and Food Supply Systems**

- Smart and precision farm mechanization
- Renewable energy use in agriculture
- Digital supply chains and traceability systems
- Post-harvest management, storage, and processing
- Cold chain and logistics optimization
- Automation, robotics, and IoT applications
- Reducing post-harvest losses and improving efficiency

## **6. Enhancing Livelihoods of Small and Marginal Farmers: Socio-economic and Policy Perspectives**

- Inclusive policies and institutional support
- Market access, value chains, and entrepreneurship
- Gender, equity, and social inclusion in farming systems
- Risk management and climate resilience
- Adoption of technologies and extension approaches
- Income diversification and livelihood security
- Role of cooperatives, FPOs, and community institutions

## **7. Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Digital Tools in Agroforestry, Horticulture, and Allied Sciences**

- AI-based crop and tree health monitoring
- Remote sensing and geospatial technologies
- Predictive analytics for yield and climate risks
- Decision support systems and smart advisories
- Big data and precision agriculture
- Robotics, drones, and automation
- Digital platforms for knowledge dissemination

## Abstract Format

Participants are requested to submit an abstract of 150–250 words, typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, single spacing, and normal text. The title should be in 14-point font and bold, while the author(s) name(s), affiliation(s), and corresponding email should be in 12-point font.

The abstract must include 4–6 keywords. Abstracts and full-length papers should be submitted by scanning the given QR Code on or before the notified deadline.

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## Awards

**Best Poster Presentation Awards:** Best Poster Presentation Awards will be presented for the best poster in each theme during the conference. The posters will be evaluated by a panel of subject specialists appointed by the organizers.

## Guidelines for Poster Presentation

The poster should include the title of the paper, name(s) of author(s), affiliation(s), complete address, email address of the corresponding author, and the main text. address in 10-point font, and main text in 10-point font. The name of the presenter must be underlined, and the corresponding author should be indicated with an asterisk (\*). The poster size should be appropriate to fit the poster panel of 90 cm × 120 cm (width x height).

## Best Oral Presentation Award

Best Oral Presentation Awards will be conferred for the best oral presentation in each theme during the conference. Projection facilities will be provided by the organizers exclusively for Microsoft™ PowerPoint presentations

## Guidelines for Oral Presentation

The duration of the oral presentation will be 10 minutes, followed by a 2-minute discussion. Presenters are advised to limit their presentation to 8–10 slides, including a conclusion or summary slide. The presentation must be prepared in Microsoft PowerPoint format only. The slide size should be in a 16:9 ratio (approximately 13.33 inches/33.85 cm × 7.5 inches / 19.05 cm) in landscape orientation. Presenters should avoid using dark-colored text on dark backgrounds and vice versa to ensure readability.

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PAYMENT



IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for abstract submission: 22 April. 2026

Last date for acceptance of abstract: 25 April. 2026

Last date for registration: 25 April. 2026

**Payment Details** Name: Agriculture, Entrepreneur, Environment and Technology Development Society (AEETDS), Lucknow  
Branch: Mohibullapur | Account No. -77300100025568 | IFSC -BARB0VJMOHI

## Registration Fee

Participants/Delegates	Registration Fee (Offline)	Registration Fee (Online)
Students/Research Scholars	Rs. 1500	Rs. 1000
Faculty/Scientists	Rs. 2000	Rs. 1500

Conference Registration fee includes, conference kit, lunch and dinner. Accommodation may be arranged on payment basis.

## Sponsorship Fee

Category	Fee
Platinum	75000/-
Diamond	50000/-
Gold	35000/-

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## AEETDS Society Awards and Honors

All interested delegates, researchers, academicians, students, and entrepreneurs are invited to submit a soft copy of their bio-data along with the duly completed award nomination form to the Secretary, AEETDS, via email at [secretaryaeetds@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryaeetds@gmail.com) on or before **25 April, 2026**. The award nomination/contribution fee is INR 5,000 for students and INR 6,000 for all other participants. The prescribed award nomination form will be provided upon request by contacting AEETDS. Conference registration is mandatory for all award nominations. The award contribution fee must be paid only after receiving official confirmation of the award through email. Upon confirmation, nominees may proceed with the payment as instructed. The list of awards can be viewed on website of AEETDS (<https://www.aeetds.com/awards/society>).

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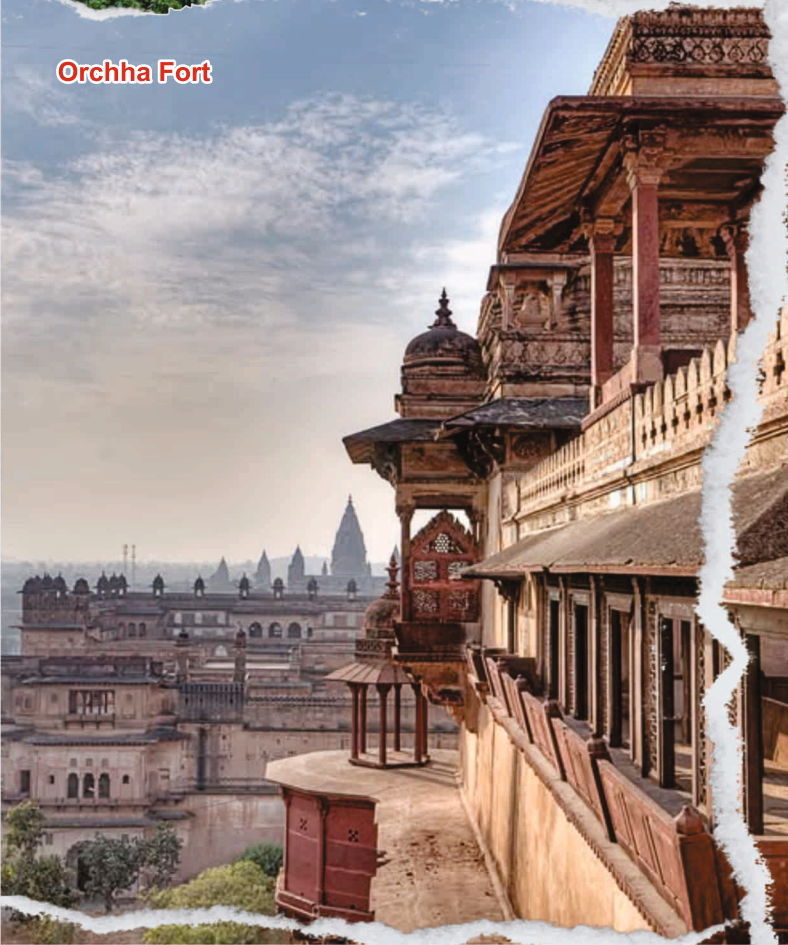
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Rani Laxmibai Fort, Jhansi



Sonagiri Jain Temple



Orchha Fort



Datia Fort



Museum, Jhansi



Shri Ram Raja Mandir, Orchha