

RFRI Conducts Short Term Training of Students of Mewar University, Rajasthan

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) conducted a month long Short Term Training on Forestry for 12 (twelve) students of B. Sc. Agriculture and Forestry from Mewar University, Rajasthan from 3rd to 29th June, 2019.

Dr. R. K. Borah, Group Coordinator (Research), RFRI, Jorhat welcomed the students and advised the students to take advantage of the opportunities provided to them during their stay at this Institute. Shri, R. K. Kalita, Course Director, briefed about the Training Course.

During the training, Scientists and other Supporting Staff conducted around 32 theory classes on wide range of subjects that included Bamboo, Agarwood, Ecology, Plant Taxonomy, Orchids, Genetics and Plus Tree Selection, Forest Pathology, Entomology, Vermicomposting, NTFP, Biofertilizer, Role of Microorganisms in Agriculture and Forestry, Biological Control, Mushroom and its diversity and Cultivation, Tissue Culture, Agroforestry, GIS, Forest Soil, Elementary Statistics and its applications in Forestry, Plant Physiology etc.

Equal emphasis was given on the practical sessions also. The students were taken to various laboratories, nurseries and fields. Practicals on mushroom cultivation, nursery practices, propagation methods, vermicomposting techniques, bamboo propagation techniques, bamboo preservation methods, plus tree selections procedure, seed technology, soil sampling and analysis, statistics, isolation, purification, identification, preservation and handling of soil beneficial microbes etc.

Three field visits were conducted during the training programme. The students were taken to Hollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary to study the vegetation and other ecosystems of the Sanctuary.

The students visited Garopaban Joint Forest Management (JFM) site at Aathkhel, Geleki, Sivasagar (Assam) and witnessed its manifold activities. They saw plantations of *Magnolia champaca*, Bamboos, Citrus, Broom grass, Som and Suwalu (food plants of Muga insects). Mr. Niran Gogoi, President of Garopaban, JFM explained different conservation, ecotourism and livelihood generation activities of the JFMC. The students visited Assam Agricultural University and saw different R & D activities of the University.

An assessment examination was conducted on the last day of the training on 29th June, 2019. Shri R. K. Kalita, Course Director and Dr. Krishna Giri, Scientist C attended the Valedictory Session hold on 29th June, 2019. The student gave their feedback and expressed satisfaction on the training period. Certificates were distributed to the students at the Valedictory Session.

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