

Training under VVK

“Agroforestry and wood technology for livelihood improvement”

[9th to 11th December, 2019]

Extension of forestry to farmland under the concept of Trees Outside Forest is a dire need of today. This may be done in different forms of agroforestry but value addition is also a requirement to enhance the income of farmers so that farmers adopt forestry species on their farmland. Frontline staff of State Forest Departments plays an important role in extension of forestry in the form of agroforestry by motivating farmers, Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs). To make them aware about agroforestry, training on the current approach of agroforestry in the climate change scenario is also a need of hour.

Keeping above in consideration, Extension Division of Forest Research Institute, Dehradun conducted a three days training programme on "Agroforestry and Wood Technology for livelihood improvement" from 9 to 11 December, 2019 for frontline staff of Punjab Forest Department, farmers, NGOs, and other stakeholders at State Forest Research Institute, Ladowal, Ludhiana (Punjab).

The training inaugurated by Dr. A.K. Pandey, Head, Extension Division, FRI Dehradun with guest speaker Dr. S.K. Chauhan, Head, Forestry Department, PAU, Ludhiana. Dr. A.K. Pandey welcomed all the participants and guests and gave a brief account of the training programme. He said that objective of this training is to create awareness among frontline staff and farmers about emerging issues in agroforestry specially value addition and marketing linkages. He said that the training will certainly be useful to solve problems of Farmers, Government and Non-Government Organizations, Forest Department, Self Help Groups, wood industries and other beneficiaries associated with agro-forestry and wood technology.

Dr. S. K. Chauhan, Head, Dept of Forestry, Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana expressed his views and shared knowledge with participants on agroforestry practices in Punjab. He mentioned that plantation on farmland is a need of time and keeping ecological and economical aspects in mind everybody should realize it. He said that advanced agroforestry will play an important role in improvement of plywood and paper industries in Punjab. Sh. Rambir Singh, Scientist-D, FRI, Dehradun anchored the overall training programme. Dr. Charan Singh, Scientist-E, FRI, Dehradun proposed vote of thanks. About 40 participants including farmers and officials of Forest department of Punjab were participated in the training programme.

During technical session of the training, a scientific knowledge was given by subject experts on following aspects:

- Agroforestry – An important livelihood option in Punjab
- Agroforestry practices in Punjab with special reference to medicinal and aromatic plants
- *Melia dubia* based agroforestry for livelihood improvement in Punjab
- Integrated nutrient management and soil improvement through agroforestry
- Improved nursery and planting techniques of agroforestry species with special reference to *Melia dubia* and *Populus deltoides*
- Wood seasoning, preservation and wood products for livelihood improvement
- Techniques of Trichoderma multiplication on agroforestry wastes.
- Insect pest agroforestry species and their management
- Disease of agroforestry species of *P. deltoides*, *Eucalyptus* spp. and *Melia dubia*
- Varieties of *Melia dubia* developed by the institute
- Marketing of agroforestry produces

A brief account of planting and harvesting rotation of Poplar and Eucalyptus with their productivity in different models was given by Dr. Avatar Singh, Professor, Department of Forestry, Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana. He also mentioned some marketing issues of Poplar and Eucalyptus and suggested their remedies.

A field visit for all participants was also arranged, where participants visited agriculture and horticulture farm and nursery and came to know Guava and Poplar based agroforestry models. A vast knowledge on nursery preparation and planting techniques was given to participants.

In valedictory session, Mrs. Pratima Srivastava, Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, State Forest Research Institute, Ladowal expressed her views. She mentioned that this is an era to work with people participation and our Frontline staff is ultimately near to people and hence play an important role to join the people with forestry practices outside forests. She said that the training provided by the Forest Research Institute will certainly make our Range Officers, Foresters and Forest Guards more efficient in the field of agroforestry and its extension to farmland in a better way. Total 40 participants participated in the said training and they were given.

The team of subject experts from FRI, Dehradun comprised of Dr. A. K. Pandey Head, Extension Division, Dr. Mohd. Yousuf, Head, Forest Protection Division, Shri D. P. Khali Scientist-F, Forest Product Division, Dr. Charan Singh Scientist-E, Shri Rambir Singh Scientist-D, Dr. Shailesh Pandey Scientist-D, and Dr. R. K. Meena Scientist-D, Genetics & Tree Improvement Division interacted with participants and imparted a valuable knowledge to stakeholders on different aspects of agroforestry. Other members including Shri Ajay Gulati Assistant Chief Technical Officer and Shri Vijay Kumar Assistant Conservator of Forests also did a commendable job in management and to make the training successful.

Glimpses of Training programme



Inauguration of training



Subject Experts interacting with participants



Visit of Horti-pasture Agroforestry system and nursery by participant



Certificate distribution and views of participants and Director, SFRI, Ludhiana



Faculty Members and Participants altogether