

**REPORT ON TRAINING CUM DEMONSTRATION ON “BIO-FERTILIZER
PRODUCTION AND APPLICATION IN NURSERY AND FIELD”
(CONDUCTED UNDER HILL AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (HADP),
GOVT. OF TAMIL NADU)**

Bio-fertilizers are ready-to-use carrier based formulations of beneficial microorganisms which are applied to seed, root or soil. They mobilize the essential nutrients by their biological activity and help to build up the micro-flora which in turn improves the soil health. Major focus should be on the production of efficient and sustainable bio-fertilizers for crop plants wherein inorganic fertilizer application can be reduced significantly to avoid further pollution.

The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) has identified different beneficial microbes from various “Shola” forests in the Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu under the project funded by Hill Area Development Programme (HADP), Govt. of Tamil Nadu. These beneficial microbes were mass produced and applied to various “Shola” tree species and found enhanced growth and biomass in nursery. To utilize these beneficial microbes, particularly the Arbuscular Mycorrhizal (AM) fungi as bio-fertilizers for application to different agricultural, horticultural and forestry crops for enhanced productivity.

IFGTB has taken up a Programme on Training cum Demonstration on “Bio-fertilizer Production and Application Methods in Nursery and Field” for different stake holders like SFD Officials, HADP Watershed Cluster Farmers, Tree Growers and NGOs of Nilgiris District. This programme is funded by HADP, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

The present training was conducted in the Council Meeting Hall, Panchayat Union Office, Gudalur, Nilgiris District, Tamil Nadu on 10-03-2015. Total of 120 participants consisting of SFD officials, Tree Growers, Watershed Cluster Farmers and NGOs attended this training. A training manual in Tamil was also supplied to all the participants.

Dr. V. Mohan, Scientist – F and Course Co-ordinator welcomed the gathering and gave an overview of the training programme. Shri. S.N. Thejasvi, I.F.S., District Forest Officer, Gudalur Division presided over the function and delivered presidential address. He emphasized the need to use bio-fertilizers in agriculture, horticulture and forestry. He requested the participants to learn the techniques for mass production and use of bio-

fertilizers in their nursery and field. Shri. R.S. Prashanth, I.F.S., Director, I.F.G.T.B. was the Chief Guest and he inaugurated the training programme and addressed the participants. He cautioned against the overuse of chemical fertilizers in agriculture as they pose environmental hazards and ill health to human kind. He pointed out that use of organic manures and bio-fertilizers in agriculture and forestry will not only improve the yield but also help in environmental protection.

Dr. V. Mohan, Training Co-ordinator explained in detail about different kinds of bio-fertilizers, their importance, methods of production, Hands on training on production and application of bio-fertilizers were also imparted to the participants during the training. The Chief Guest distributed the Certificates and Bio-fertilizer packets to all the participants. The training was concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. V. Mohan, Training Co-ordinator.



Invocation



Welcome address by Dr.V.Mohan, Scientist-F and Training Co-ordinator, IFGTB Coimbatore



Participants (Farmers, Tree Growers and SFD Officials) attended the training at Council Hall, Panchayat Union Office, Gudalur



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Presidential address by Shri. S.N. Thejsavi, I.F.S., District Forest Officer, Gudalur, Nilgiri Hills



Inaugural address by the Chief Guest Shri. R.S. Prashanth, I.F.S., Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore



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Lecture about Bio-fertilizers and its application methods by Dr.V.Mohan, Scientist-F & Training Co-ordinator, IFGTB, Coimbatore



Lecture about Bio-fertilizers and its application methods by Dr.V.Mohan, Scientist-F & Training Co-ordinator, IFGTB, Coimbatore



Lecture and Interaction about Bio-fertilizers and its application methods by Dr.V.Mohan, Scientist-F & Training Co-ordinator, IFGTB, Coimbatore



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Demonstration about AM fungal bio-fertilizer production



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Interaction about Bio-fertilizers and their application and feedback from the participants



Interaction about Bio-fertilizers and their application and feedback from the participants



AM fungal Bio-Fertilizers developed by IFGTB and supplied to Forest officials, Farmers and other stake holders of Nilgiris District



Certificate and Bio-fertilizer distribution by the Chief Guest Shri. R.S. Prashanth, I.F.S., Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director, IFGTB, Coimbatore



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**Certificate and Bio-fertilizer distribution by the Presiding Officer
Shri. S.N. Thejsavi, I.F.S., District Forest Officer, Gudalur, Nilgiri Hills**



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Vote of Thanks by Dr.V.Mohan, Scientist-F and Training Co-ordinator, IFGTB, Coimbatore



Participants (Farmers and Tree growers) along with the Training co-ordinator Dr. V. Mohan, Scientist-F, IFGTB



Participants (HADP Watershed Cluster Farmers and Tree growers) along with the Training co-ordinator Dr. V. Mohan, Scientist-F, IFGTB



Participants (HADP Watershed Cluster Farmers and Tree growers) along with the Training co-ordinator Dr. V. Mohan, Scientist-F, IFGTB