

Workshop on Assessment of Forest Types of India

2nd February 2012

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding
Coimbatore-641 002

REPORT

A regional workshop on 'Assessment of Forest Types of India' was conducted in the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), Coimbatore, on 2nd February 2012. A total number of 28 experts / delegates from the State Forest Departments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka and research / educational organizations like Indian Institute of Science, Institute



of Wood Science & Technology, Bangalore, Botanical Survey of India, Kerala Forest Research Institute, French Institute, Puducherry, Kerala Agricultural University, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli, Karpagam University, Coimbatore and Calicut University, Kerala and researchers involved in Forestry from NGOs and colleges in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, participated in the workshop. The workshop was also attended by the team members of the Task Force, constituted in IFGTB for executing the works related to assessment of forest types in the mandate States.

The workshop had the following objectives:-

- To deliberate on the changes happened in the vegetation of the above mandate States / UTs
- To formulate methodologies for assessing the forest types
- To identify study areas, teams, collaborators and chalk out modalities / action plan

Shri T.P. Rangunath, Group Co-ordinator (Research) of IFGTB welcomed the participants. Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director of IFGTB gave an introduction to the initiatives taken by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) for re-visiting the Revised Forest Classification made by H.G. Champion and S.K.

Seth, in 1968. The deliberations of the workshop were organized in the following four technical sessions, under the guidance of the respective Expert Panel:-

Session 1: Changing scenario of forest vegetation and need for re-assessment

Expert panel: Dr. S. Chand Basha, IFS (Retd.), former PCCF, Kerala & ex-Director, KFRI, Peechi.
Dr. G.V.S. Murthy, Joint Director, Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore.
Dr. K. Swarupananadan, Research Co-ordinator, KFRI, Peechi.
Dr. D. Narasimhan, Professor, Madras Christian College, Chennai.
Dr. M.B. Viswanathan, Professor, Dept. of Plant Science, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli
Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Scientist-E & Task Force Member, IFGTB

Session 2: Formulation of methodology for re-assessment of forest types and monitoring

Expert panel: Dr. M. H. Swaminath, Addl. PCCF, Karnataka Forest Dept. & Co-Team Leader.
Dr. R. Sukumar, Professor, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
Dr. B. R. Ramesh, Research Director, French Institute, Puducherry.
Dr. A.R.R. Menon, Scientist (Retd.), GIS & Remote Sensing, KFRI, Peechi
Dr. P.V. Karunakaran, Programme Director, Centre for Environment and Development (CED), Thiruvananthapuram
Dr. V.S. Ramachandran, Professor, Department of Plant Science, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore
Dr. Kannan C.S. Warriar, Scientist-D & Task Force Member, IFGTB

Session 3: Formulation of Action Plan, identification of collaborators and study areas

Expert panel: Dr. N. Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB, Coimbatore
Dr. H. Nagesh Prabhu, CCF & Nodal Officer, Kerala Forest Dept.
Dr. Manoj Kumar Sarkar, CCF & Nodal Officer, Tamil Nadu Forest Dept.
Shri R.S.C. Jayaraj, Head, FLUCC, IFGTB (Nodal Officer, Andamans)
Dr. P. Vijayakumaran Nair, Scientist, GIS & Remote Sensing, KFRI, Peechi
Dr. K. Sudhakara, Professor, College of Forestry, Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, Thrissur
Dr. M. Sabu, Professor, Dept. of Botany, Calicut University, Kerala &
Dr. K. R. Sasidharan, Scientist-D & Task Force Member, IFGTB.

Session 4: Concluding session

The following were the other participants who attended the workshop: -

Delegates

Dr. A. K. Pradeep, Calicut University, Kerala
Dr. A. V. Santhoshkumar, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur.
Dr. P. S. Udayan, Sree Krishna College, Thrissur.
Dr. R. Gopalan, Karpagam University, Coimbatore.
Dr. S. Karuppusamy, The Madura College, Madurai.
Dr. S. Paulsamy, Kongunadu Arts and Science College, Coimbatore.
Dr. K. H. Amithabachan, Hornbill Foundation, Kerala.
Dr. C. Murugan, Botanical Survey of India, Andaman.
Dr. E. A. Jayson, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi.
Dr. N. Venkatasubramanian, Research Officer, (Retd.), IFGTB, Coimbatore.
Shri M. Srinivasa Rao, Conservator of Forests, IWST, Bangalore.

IFGTB Task Force members & others

Shri T. P. Raghunath, IFS, Group Co-ordinator (Research)
Dr. Rekha R. Warriar, Scientist 'D'
Dr. V. Sivakumar, Scientist 'E'
Smt. R. Anandalakshmi, Scientist 'D'
Dr. K. Panneerselvam, Scientist 'C'
Dr. S. P. Subramani, R.A.I
Dr. A. Balu, Scientist 'F'
Shri S.K. Shanmuga Sundaram, Head, Biodiversity Divn.
Dr. B. Gurudev Singh, Scientist 'F'
Dr. K. Palanisamy, Scientist 'F'
Shri R. Vivekanandan, Scientist 'E'
Dr. B. Nagarajan, Scientist 'E'
Shri D.Chellasamy, Co-ordinator (Facilities)
Shri Mohamed Shujaiddin, DCF
Shri V.K. W. Bachpai, Scientist 'C'
Dr. A. Shanthi, Scientist 'B'
Dr. S. Murugesan, Scientist 'F'
Shri K. S. Venkataramanan, Research Officer
Dr. Maheshwar Hegde, Scientist 'D'
Dr. J. P. Jacob, Scientist 'E'
Shri A. Durai, Research Officer
Dr. N. V. Mathish, Scientist 'E'
Shri Rajasugunasekar, Scientist 'C'
Shri S. Saravanan, Scientist 'D'
Dr. N. Senthilkumar, Scientist 'D'
Dr. A. Nicodemus, Scientist 'E'
Dr. J.H. Franklin Benjamin, BSI, Coimbatore
Dr. K. Althaf Ahamed Kabeer, BSI, Coimbatore
Shri Balasubramanian, French Institute, Puducherry



The workshop had presentations made by the State Nodal Officers identified for the Assessment of Forest Types and experts in the fields of Forest Ecology, Plant Taxonomy, Floristics, Geographical Information System and Mapping.

The partners to undertake this work along with IFGTB were identified and it was suggested that the work would commence by March, 2012 in the mandated States of IFGTB.

The workshop ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. K. R. Sasidharan, Scientist-D & Member Secretary, IFGTB Task Force.

