

## **Report on Extension activities of the Institute during November 2016**

- Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore organized **One day Workshop on “Cultivation Techniques of Important Tree Species”** on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016 at Coimbatore for the Farmers. 71 farmers from all over Tamil Nadu participated in the workshop. The Workshop was inaugurated by Dr.H.Philip, Director, Extension Education, TNAU. In his inaugural address he deliberated that tree cultivation and management is a major feature of the way of life. He opined that diversity in farming land, mixed farming strategies need to be innovatively integrated for accomplishing sustainable income to the farming community and enhancing profitability through value-addition. He also acknowledged institute for conducting such workshop and training for the farmers and appealed to all participants to take maximum benefit from the training programme.

Shri S. SenthilKumar, IFS, Head of Forest Economics & Extension Division, welcomed the gathering and briefed about the workshop. Presidential address was delivered by Dr.S.Murugesan, GCR, IFGTB where he highlighted that ease of availability of quality planting material at reasonable costs, however, is a challenge. Development of location specific quality seedlings has the potential to increase the agriculture productivity. He added that the major aim of this workshop is to train the personnel with suitable cultivation technology in cost effective way. The vote of thanks was proposed by Smt.K.Yasodha, IFS, Extension officer, IFGTB. Respective scientists presented the following lectures in the technical sessions: - Sandalwood by Dr.Syam Vishwanath, Scientist, IWST, Red Sanders by Dr.Maheshwar Hegde, IFGTB, Teak & Melia by Dr.Rekha Warriar, IFGTB, Gmelina by Shri Mayavel, IFGTB, Mahogany by Dr.M.V.Durai, IFGTB, Cadamba by Dr.A.Vijayaraghavan, IFGTB, Casuarina by Dr.A.Nicodemus, IFGTB, Eucalyptus by Dr.V.Sivakumar, IFGTB, Pest and Disease Management by Dr.A.Balu, IFGTB & Windbreak clone by Dr.C.Buvaneswaran, IFGTB.

The workshop won high appreciation from the participants, both in terms of technical content and arrangements made. The participants suggested for conducting more number of such trainings in future. A sales counter for Books, Seeds, Seedlings and Products released by IFGTB was put up during the Workshop.



- The institute also organized another **One day Workshop on “Tree Cultivation and Management Techniques”** on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at St.Joseph’s College, Trichy for the Farmers. 300 farmers including beneficiaries such as Tree growers, Tree growers associations, Farm radio listener groups from all over Tamil Nadu participated in the workshop.

Shri.S.Senthilkumar IFS, Head of Forest Economics & Extension Division, welcomed the gathering and gave an overview of the workshop. Shri R. S. Prashanth, IFS, Director, IFGTB, in his presidential address, deliberated that IFGTB is a pioneer Institute which works on the Tree Improvement and over the years the Institute is bringing together a large number of farmers, wood-based industries and forestry research organizations on one platform which will help in understanding the issues related to tree farming and exchange of ideas and sharing of experiences.

The Chief Guest of the function, Dr.Pandiyarajan, Dean, Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Trichy delivered the inaugural address. He pointed out that the overwhelming response from the participants gains confidence for growing more trees in future. He explained the long-term improvement efforts and commitment of IFGTB in Tree Improvement and Breeding. Smt.K.Yasodha IFS, Extension Officer, and Training Co-ordinator, proposed the Vote of thanks.

During the technical session, the following lectures were given by the Scientists of IFGTB. Cultivation of Teak and *Melia dubia* – Dr.Rekha Warriar, Cultivation of Casuarina and Gmelina – Dr.A.Mayavel, Cultivation of Eucalyptus – Dr.V.Sivakumar, Cultivation of Ailanthus – Dr.D. Raja Suguna Sekar, Cultivation of Cadamba – Dr.A.Vijayarahavan, Casuarina based windbreak system – Dr.C.Buvaneshwaran, Disease management – Dr.Karthikeyan and Pest management – Dr.A.Balu.

An interaction session on selected topics for close interaction and exchange of thoughts among the farmers followed the presentations of Scientists of IFGTB. The workshop won high appreciation from the participants, both in terms of technical content and arrangements made. The participants earned for more such trainings in future. The efforts of the scientists to disseminate excellent findings in the form of published material were well received by the farming communities. These publications were put up for sale during the Workshop which had drawn good crowds, facilitated by Sri.R.Velumani, Research Assistant, FLUCC division. Sri.P.Chandrasekaran, Research Officer, Extension wing anchored and co-ordinated the event.

