



Forest Research Institute, Dehradun
Report on webinar conducted by NTFP Discipline, Silviculture and Forest
Management Division, under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
[28th January, 2022]

A Webinar on “*Resource Management and Value Addition of NTFPs*” Under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahaotsav was conducted by Non Timber Forest Product Discipline of Silviculture and Forest Management (S&FM) Division, on Friday, 28th January 2022. The welcome address and introduction to the webinar was delivered by Shri. R. P. Singh, IFS, Head of S&FM Division, FRI. The inaugural address was delivered by the Chief Guest Shri S.D. Sharma, IFS, DDG (Research), ICFRE. The organizers of the webinar are deeply grateful and indebted to Shri A.S. Rawat, IFS, Director, FRI, for his support and guidance.

The technical session began with a lecture on “*Recent Trends in Utilization of NTFPs*” given by Dr. Amol Vasisht, Head, Department of Forest Products & Utilization, College of Forestry, VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry, Ranichauri - Tehri Garhwal (UK). In his presentation the commercial importance of NTFPs had been salient covering both national and global revenue and export trends. Utilization pattern of wild plants by tribal and indigenous peoples of India had been briefly discussed. Industrial applications, export and revenue possibilities of medicinal plants like Kattha, catch, gum, resin had been highlighted including elaboration on their cultivation, extraction and processing techniques. A strong case had been made highlighting the tremendous potential of NTFP value addition to generate large scale green employment, boost small and medium enterprises, thus helping in developmental issues.

Next, a lecture on “*Ex-situ Conservation of Oroxyllum indicum (Shyonak): An Important Dashmula Tree*”, was delivered by Dr. B. P. Tamta, Scientist-F, NTFP Discipline, S & FM Division, FRI. He gave detailed account of the species and highlighted the distribution and phytochemical quantification in the 4 states followed by best propagation practices. He mentioned that significance of the target species as a high valued endangered medicinal plant with less population count in the natural habitat had galvanized the development of germplasm repository that can act as a source of superior quality planting stock. His lecture was followed by a lecture on “*Diversity of wild edible fruits from forests and their significance in livelihood generation*” by Dr. Mala Rathore, Scientist-F, NTFP Discipline, S & FM Division, FRI. The informative session shed light on the variety and importance of lesser known, underutilized, wild edible fruits. The opportunities for livelihood generation in their processing and value-addition, and the

potential for addressing issues of malnutrition given their nutritional properties, both had been highlighted.

A question answer session with the participants was held at the end. Finally, a vote of thanks was delivered by Shri L. R. Panda, Scientist-B. The webinar was moderated by Ms. Sushmita Uniyal, JRF. Assistance in moderation talking points, press note, photos and report preparation was rendered by Shri Rajarshi Ghosh, Technician (Field/Lab Research).

Glimpses of the event

