

## **Modern Nursery Techniques and Production of Tall Plants of Deodar: A Training Programme held at Mashobra, Shimla on 27.02.2013**

Under one of the ongoing research project titled, ‘**Development of Techniques for raising Deodar (*Cedrus deodara*) plantations through Tall Plants**’ a one day training and demonstration programme was organized on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 **at Mashobra, Shimla district**. ‘**Modern Nursery Techniques and Production of Tall Plants of Deodar**’. For reaching the end users *i.e.* State Forest Department more effectively, the training programme was organized in active collaboration with Divisional Forest Officer, Shimla in the premises of Mashobra range of his forest division.

**Sh. Vinod Kumar Sharma**, Divisional Forest Officer, Shimla inaugurated the training programme. In his inaugural address he explained about the importance of quality nursery stock and the tall plants for greening the degraded land in the shortest possible time. He appreciated the Institute for organizing this training programme which have direct bearing on the survival and productivity of manmade plantations. He told that the department has already initiated work on production of tall plants in their nurseries and asked the field staff to discuss freely the various issues including the problems associated with the production of tall plants in the nursery. He requested the resource persons in particular to address all the queries from the field during plenary session.

**Dr. VP Panwar**, Scientist-C of the Institute welcomed the participants (35 Nos.) as invited by the Institute, from different ranges of Shimla and Theog forest divisions. He made a special thanks to DFO Shimla for sparing his valuable time for inaugurating this on day training. He also briefed about the day’s event and subsequently made an institutional presentation for highlighting the Institutional activities.

**Dr. Sandeep Sharma**, Scientist-F and Coordinator of this training programme made detailed presentation on ‘**Modern Trends in Nursery Management**’ especially seedling production system in Root-trainer and various critical issues involved while adopting this system in the nursery. **Dr. S. Chakrabarti**, Scientist-F highlighted the various nursery pests and their management. He also discussed the case study of Deodar mortality in Kullu forest division and also suggested for controlling the problem. **Sh. Jagdish Singh**, Scientist-E, talked about vegetative propagation techniques and importance of clonal forestry in enhancing the productivity. He also briefed the participants about nursery techniques of *Paulownia* and some other important species relevant to the agroforestry systems in the state of Himachal Pradesh. In the afternoon session **Dr. VP Panwar**, discussed the importance of soil fertility and nutrient management in the nursery followed by a presentation of **Smt. Savita Kumari Banyal**, RA-I who highlighted the importance of seed in the forestry programmes and various steps involved in seed processing. **Dr. Sandeep Sharma** then briefed about techniques for the production of tall plants of Deodar in the nursery along with techniques for composting and vermi-composting . A presentation on the importance of temperate medicinal plants and the related parameters was made. Technique for production of tall plant of Deodar were practically demonstrated to the participants by the experts.

Plenary session was chaired by the **Dr. VRR Singh, Director HFRI Shimla**. All the experts freely interacted with the participants. The relevant queries of the field functionaries of State Forest Department, those who were present during the training were duly addressed through expert opinions.

In the end, a special Vote of Thanks was extended by Dr. S. Chakrabarti, HFRI, Shimla.

## SOME PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME



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