

Tribal Farmers Reaping Rich Benefit from Lac Cultivation on Flemingia Spp.
Under Direct to Consumer Scheme

Under the leadership of Dr V K Bahuguna, DG, ICFRE, country wide "Direct To Consumer" scheme has been launched by the ICFRE, in order to provide direct benefit to the rural farmers from the developed ICFRE technologies in the field of forestry. In the eastern region, the scheme was launched by Shri R. Das, Director, IFP, Ranchi, at Khunti district of Jharkhand in 2012. Under this scheme, brood lac cultivation on Flemingia spp. was introduced in the farmer's agriculture field at village Jeori, district Khunti. Since then under the supervision of Shri Rameshwar Das, Director, IFP, Dr Arvind Kumar, PI of the project along with Shri S N Vaidya, RA I have constantly monitored the plantation and provided all the possible technical support to the farmer.

A team from IFP, Ranchi, comprising of Dr Sharad Tiwari, Head, Extension Division and Dr Arvind Kumar, Project PI visited the site on 28th February, 2013, to evaluate the performance of the lac cultivation on *Flemingia semialata*. The farmer told the team members that about 245 kg of brood lac has been produced from brood lac cultivation on Flemingia spp. over 1 acre of land and has earned about rupees 2.45 lacs by selling the brood lac. This would be the additional income to him apart from income he is getting from agriculture crops. The present market rate of brood lac is about 1000/- per kg. Shri Suto Manki (farmer) is very happy to have this additional income from lac production and he was very grateful to the support of IFP, Ranchi for providing Flemingia seedling and technical support. This has generated interest among other farmers living around and they have also shown keen interest to adopt the same model.

