

INSTITUTE OF WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, BANGALORE
BHARAT KA AMRUT MAHOTSAV – WEEK 31 TO WEEK 43

Webinar
on
Nursery Techniques, Cultivation and Management of Sandalwood

10 December 2021

AzadiKaAmritMahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of Independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sri. NarendraModi inaugurated 'AzadiKaAmritMahotsav' celebration by flagging off 'Dandi March' from Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad on 12 March 2021, 75 weeks before our 75th anniversary of Independence and will end past a year on 15th August 2023.

As part of this celebration, ICFRE is conducting various programs like technical series, workshops, exhibitions, documentary shows, poster and essay competitions, cycle rallies etc. As part of Week 31 to 43 celebration of Bharat KaAmrutMahotsav, the Institute conducted a webinar on Sandalwood based agroforestry models ("**Nursery Techniques, Cultivation and Management of Sandalwood**") on **10 December 2021**. A total of 64 participants attended the online/virtual training.

Dr. A.N. Arun Kumar, Head, Silviculture & Forest Management welcomed the Director, IWST, Group Co-ordinator (Research) and all other participants and briefed about the significance of the training. Dr. M.P. Singh, IFS, Director, IWST delivered inaugural address and highlighted the role of sandalwood in rural livelihood promotion and its prospects. Shri.V.S.bShettappanavar, IFS, GCR addressed the participants and emphasised the importance of sandalwood briefly.

Following this, Dr. N. Ravi, Scientist -E, IWST delivered a lecture on 'Nursery techniques and production of quality planting stock of sandalwood'. He explained about seed collection, processing, nursery techniques and method of quality seedling production to the participants. He also addressed some of the questions raised by participants related to quality of seed, pre-treatment and germination of sandal.

Dr. M V Durai, Scientist-C, IWST presented on 'An over view of sandalwood cultivation and its management'. He elaborately explained about special feature of sandalwood tree, its suitability for agroforestry systems, cultivation methods, spacing, manuring, irrigation, host-sandal management, choice of hosts, pruning, various sandal-based agroforestry models and sandalwood maturity.

Dr.B.N. Diwakara, Scientist F, IWST delivered a lecture on 'Economics of Sandalwood cultivation'. He described the cost of sandalwood and revenue that could be generated from

sandalwood. He also elaborated comparative economics of sandalwood against other farming species. He further explained the process of heartwood formation and method of estimation.

Dr.A.Muthu Kumar, Scientist E, IWST gave a lecture on 'Common diseases in sandalwood'- Basic principles of disease, method of infection, major diseases in sandal nursery and plantations and control methods were elaborated nicely.

Dr..R.Sundararaj, Head, Forest Protection Division, IWST delivered a talk on "Insect and pest management in sandalwood. He spoke extensively on health of sandalwood, causes for insects attack and extent of damage. He cited that more than 150 insects are recorded in sandalwood trees. He suggested various control and remedial measures for controlling insects in sandalwood.

Shri. V.Soundarajan, Scientist- C (Information Science), IWST delivered a lecture on "E-protection of sandalwood trees". He highlighted protection of sandalwood trees from theft using mobile technology. Small micro-chips are inserted in the sandalwood trees, which will alert the owners on their mobile phones, when anyone tried to attempt to cut the trees.

This was followed by an interactive discussion and participants' feedback session to address queries of the participants. Senior scientists and Forest officers, Dr. R.Sundararaj, Head, Forest protection division, Dr. A. N. Arun Kumar, Head, SFM Division, Dr.B N Diwakar, Shri. C M Shivakumar, Head, Extension division, Dr.N Ravi, Shri.V.Soundarajan and Dr. M.V.Duraiparticipated in the discussion and number of questions related to cultivation, host, pruning, pest and diseases, and marketing of sandalwood were clarified.

Dr.B.N. Diwakar proposed vote of thanks.

