

**REPORT ON ONE DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME ON  
“ADVANCES IN PLANTATION TECHNOLOGY FOR PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT”  
FOR FIELD OFFICIALS OF TAMIL NADU PLANTATION CORPORATION LIMITED  
(TAF CORN)**

**INSTITUTE OF FOREST GENETICS & TREE BREEDING  
COIMBATORE**

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IFGTB organised one day training on 14.03.19 on the theme “*Advances in Plantation Technology for Productivity Enhancement*” for the field officials of Tamil Nadu Plantation Corporation Limited (TAF CORN). During the interaction with Managing Director TAF CORN, Trichy the training needs for the field officials of TAF CORN was highlighted and accordingly, Extension division of IFGTB had submitted a proposal to TAF CORN for training 30 officials on latest technologies on plantation technologies. The one day module was designed for catering to the training need assessment for the field officials. In this background, IFGTB organised this one day training. MD, TAF CORN nominated 31 officials from various regions of Tamil Nadu for the training. The nominated officials included, Regional Managers, Range Officers and Foresters.

Shri. Rajesh Gopalan, IFS, Head Extension welcomed the gathering and gave overview of the integrated training module - objectives and expected outcomes. Dr. Mohit Gera, Director IFGTB inaugurated the training and made Lead Presentation on technologies of IFGTB in plantation technology and the focus areas wherein IFGTB and TAF CORN can work together. He stressed that improving the productivity of the existing plantations alone would help in narrowing down the gap between the demand and the supply of pulpwood. He also added that enhancing productivity can be achieved by adapting to improved and advanced technologies in plantation management. He also thanked Chairman and MD TAF CORN for their support in organizing the training for the field officials. The inaugural session was attended by Dr. S. Murugesan, Group Coordinator Research, Shri. P. Kathirvel, IFS, Asst. Silviculturist and Shri. Maria Dominic Savio and resource persons.

At the outset, the training module began with presentations of Mr. M. Selvam, Regional Manager, Tirukoilur and Mr. S. Nesamani, Regional Manager, Karaikudi region on the Challenges and Expectations of the field officials in Eucalyptus and Cashew plantation models. They narrated the current practices followed in plantation and nursery management in TAFCON and issues requiring attention.

The one day module included technical sessions on Tree Improvement in Eucalyptus presented by Dr. V. Sivakumar, Clonal Propagation Technologies by Smt. Shanti, Improved Silvicultural Practices by Dr. C. Bhuvaneshwaran and Role of Bio fertilizers and Pest management in Eucalyptus plantations by Dr. A. Balu and Dr. A. Karthikeyan.

Participants visited Clonal Multiplication Garden in IFGTB where Smt. Shanti explained on the various advanced methodologies practised by IFGTB in clonal propagation of Eucalyptus, Casuarina and other important species. Participants largely benefitted by the demonstration made in nursery particularly on the use of different kinds of nodal cuttings and rooting hormone mixtures. Later the participants visited the Transgenic Laboratory; Dr. Mathish, Scientist explained them on the ongoing transgenic technologies in IFGTB in developing salt tolerant clones in Eucalyptus.

During the technical sessions and in open discussions some of the key issues which were deliberated in length are summarised as below;

1. Necessity of Clonal diversity in the planted forests.
2. Need for focus on clones resistant to pest and diseases in Eucalyptus.
3. Intercropping trials - experimenting "Paired row" methodology.
4. Revision or standardising existing nursery techniques in TAFCON to tune with advanced practices in clonal propagule production.
5. Soil Health Report Card for assessing the problematic soils and prescribing appropriate soil amendments.
6. Training needs assessment for various categories of field functionaries' viz., Forest Guards, Foresters and Range Officer based on job profile. Designing content, duration and field visit exposure as per the need.

Participants were given a book titled "***Clonal propagule production in Forest Trees***" published by IFGTB and reading materials on the presentations made by the resource persons. In the valedictory session, participants gave their feedback on the training course. Mr. M. Selvam, Regional Manager, Tirukoilur region made a presentation on the learning's from the training, while Mr. Sathiyamoorthy,

Range Officer, Thiagadurgam presented his impressions on the training module. The participants were given certificates by Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS Director IFGTB. The integrated training module was organised by Extension division of IFGTB with the funding support of TAFCON. Shri. P. Chandrasekaran, presented the vote of thanks to the sponsors of the training programme, participants and resource persons of the training.

**Director  
IFGTB**



Inaugural address by Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, Director. IFGTB



Lead Presentation on technologies of IFGTB by Director, IFGTB



Lecture on Tree Improvement in Eucalyptus by Dr.Sivakumar, Scientist, IFGTB



Clonal Production in Eucalyptus -Class by Ms.Shanthi, ACTO, IFGTB



Dr.Buvaneshwaran, Scientist, IFGTB highlighted on Improved Silvicultural practices for Productivity Enhancement



Clonal nursery demonstration at VMG, IFGTB



Class by Dr.Mathish, Scientist, IFGTB on Transgenic technologies in IFGTB



Disease and Pest Management by Dr. Balu, Scientist



Role of Biofertilizers class by Dr.Karthikeyan, Scientist, IFGTB



Distribution of Certificates by Director, IFGTB

