

INVITATION

Importance of the bamboos to the lives of people especially of rural folk is immense. Among the bamboos, Hill bamboo, commonly known as **Nirgal** or **Ringal**, is a group of dwarf bamboos occupying montane regions in the tropical regions of the world. This little studied group of plants is extremely significant from ecological and socio-economic point of view. Out of about 136 species belonging to 30 genera of bamboos in India, Hill Bamboos account only for 3 genera and 23 species. Major diversity of Hill Bamboos is found in the Eastern Himalayas. The Western Himalayas have only 4 species belonging to 2 genera, with only 2 species i.e. *Arundinaria falcata* and *Thamnocalamus spathiflorus* being recorded from Himachal Pradesh.

Hill Bamboos form a versatile raw material and are put to multifarious uses especially in the hilly terrains of Himalayas. Almost every household in the region uses the Hill Bamboos or products made of it on day-to-day basis. Some of the important hill bamboo products used locally include baskets of various shapes and sizes, mats, walking sticks, hukka pipes, fishing rods, etc. Culms of these bamboos are also exported to other places for making hukka pipes and fishing rods. Leaves are also used as a green fodder. These bamboos are an important source of livelihood to the basket weavers and related artisans.

General habitat degradation and management neglect has brought this very important resource under stress, affecting the local socio-economic fabric and the ecological functions dependent upon this group of plants. The situation calls for immediate action towards conservation and sustainable utilization of this resource

The Himalayan Forest Research Institute is organizing a National Seminar with the aim to bring together scientists, foresters and other stakeholders to evaluate the status, socio-economics, propagation and management techniques of hill bamboos and its contribution in rural livelihoods.

We consider it a privilege to extend you a warm invitation for your active participation in this Seminar. We sincerely hope that your participation would help effectively address the topical issues of hill bamboos.

Dr. V.P. Tewari

Chairman, Organizing Committee & Director HFRI

BACKGROUND

The management of hill bamboos does not find adequate place in forest management plans of the hill states due to the intrinsic bias in favour of timber species growing in the region. Considering the ecological significance and vast economic potential of this very important local resource, sustainable development and utilization of hill bamboos through scientific management is necessary. It is essential that sustainable supply of quality raw material be ensured by using improved propagation techniques, biotechnology and superior management practices.

It is in this backdrop, a National Seminar on “**Hill Bamboo-an Important Resource for Improving Rural Livelihoods**” is being organized on 17-18 October, 2014 by the Himalayan Forest Research Institute Shimla, with fund support from National Bamboo Mission under Bamboo Technical Support Group-Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (BTSG-ICFRE) project. The key themes for deliberations during the seminar are:

- I. Hill bamboo propagation through improved Nursery techniques and Biotechnological interventions
- II. Management of Hill bamboos in natural forests including resource augmentation
- III. Potential of Hill Bamboos for enhancing rural livelihoods
- IV. Socio-economics of bamboo products, trade, marketing and entrepreneurship
- V. Development of awareness and extension efforts

VENUE AND CLIMATE

The Seminar will be held at **Wild life Information & Interpretation Centre, Near MC office, Manali**, a famous Hill Station in Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh. Manali is known all over the World for its scenic natural beauty. Manali can be approached by road (8 hours) from Chandigarh by NH-21. From Delhi, flights are available to the nearby Airport at Bhunter (Kullu). The climate in October is generally pleasant. However, it is advisable to carry light woolen clothing.

ACCOMODATION

Limited accommodation is available in the Mountaineering Training Institute, Manali @ Rs. 1000 per day that may be arranged on first come first served basis. Good quality budget hotels are also available in Manali City on affordable cost starting from Rs. 1800 per day. Participants will have to bear the accommodation charges. For accommodation enquiries, requests may be sent to Dr. R. K. Verma, Organizing Secretary either by post or email at rkverma89326@gmail.com & vermaraj@icfre.org

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS, PAPERS & POSTERS

One page abstract (500 words, 12 pt Times New Roman) including the title, authors, affiliation and key words for oral or poster presentation should be submitted to the Organizing Secretary up to 30th September, 2014.

Abstract should be prepared in MS Word. Acceptance will be notified by 5th October 2014. Authors whose abstract will be accepted will be required to submit full papers by 15th October, 2014.

Paper should be prepared on Standard A4 size paper in single space, 12 pt Times New Roman, title bold, and address in italic. Margins: Top – 3 cm, Bottom- 2.5 cm, Left – 3 cm, Right – 2.5 cm. Manuscript should be arranged in order: title, name & address of author (s), abstract, keywords (4-6), introduction, materials & methods, results & discussion, acknowledgement, references. No. of pages should not exceed 6 pages.

The dimension of the poster should be a maximum of 90 cm wide and 120 cm high. The posters should be informative, clear and attractive. It is advisable to organize poster under the headings similar to paper (less wording, more illustrations). Posters should be legible from a distance of 1-2 m.

REGISTRATION

Registration form duly filled-in should be sent to the Organizing Secretary. The registration fee is Rs. 1000/- which includes seminar kit and all the meals during the seminar. For accompanying person, the lodging & boarding charges will be borne by the participants. Very limited funds are available with the organizer, however, some partial assistance can be provided to few participants on request. The fee may be deposited through Bank Draft made in favour of Director, HFRI payable at Shimla. Registration will be confirmed only after the receipt of the fee. There is no registration fee for ICFRE employee and supporting organizations.

A paid visit (Rs. 500/person) is planned to Kothi and Rohtang Pass on 19th October if sufficient participants opt for this.

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts 30th September 2014
Notification of Acceptance 05th October 2014
Deadline for Registration 10th October, 2014
Deadline for full paper 15th October, 2014

PATRONS

Dr. S. S. Garbyal, IFS
Director General (Forests) & Special Secretary
MoEF&CC, Govt of India, New Delhi

Dr. Ashwani Kumar, IFS
Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Dehradun

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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REGISTRATION FORM

Title:	First Name:	Middle Name:	Last Name:
Position:			
Organization/Institution/Affiliation_____			
Address:			
City _____		Pin code:_____	
State/Province			
Tel.: _____		Fax: _____	
e-mail:			
Title of Paper:			
Theme of Paper:			
Mode of Presentation: <input type="checkbox"/> Oral <input type="checkbox"/> Poster			
Date:			
Signature:			

Kindly return the completed form to the Organizing Secretary

For more information please contact:
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Announcement

National Seminar on Hill Bamboo- An Important Resource for Improving Rural Livelihoods

October 17-18, 2014



Organised by

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla
(Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)

Supported by



Bamboo Technical Support Group, NBM, New Delhi
&
Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education
Dehradun