

Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division, FRI, Dehradun organized a short technical session on September 25, 2018 in the Board Room of FRI wherein Prof. Achintya Bezbaruah, Civil and Environmental Engineering at North Dakota State University (NDSU), Fargo, USA and Fulbright Expert Fellow delivered a lecture on “Plant-based Resources for Environmental Remediation and Sustainable Agriculture”. The technical session was chaired by Dr. Savita, Director, FRI and attended by the scientists of the institute. Dr. Bezbaruah presented an illustrated account of his research on application of nanomaterials in plant productivity improvement, and environmental remediation. He demonstrated the recovery of phosphate from water and waste water and its reuse in agriculture. He also showed the use of nanomaterials for prolific growth of spinach, lettuce and algae and micronutrient (Fe, Zn and Se) fortification. Other interesting aspects of his lecture included coating of starches, synthesis of hybrid nanostructures of magnetic iron nanoparticles and graphene oxide and their use in removal of fluoride. The lecture opened many opportunities for research collaborations on the synthesis, characterization and use of plant derived nanoparticles for plant growth and wood quality improvement. At the outset, Dr. V.K. Varshney, Scientist-G, Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division, welcomed the guest speaker, chairperson and all presents during the session and introduced the speaker to the gathering. At the end Dr. Savita presented a memento to the speaker and expressed her gratitude. The session ended with the vote of thanks.

Figure captions:

Figure 1 : Prof. Achintya Bezbaruah delivering his lecture.

Figure 2: Deliberations during the technical session

Figure 3: Dr. Savita presenting memento to the speaker.



