

A Report on the Training Programme under NMPB funded project on "Cultivation of Atish, Ban Kakri, Chora and other Important Temperate Medicinal Plants" held at Bhalla, Doda, Jammu (J & K) on 29.11.2016

Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla organized one day training and demonstration programme on 'Cultivation of Atish, Ban Kakri, Chora and other important high valued Temperate Medicinal Plants' at Bhalla, Distt. Doda in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kerdra (KVK, SKUAST-J), Doda at Bhadarwah, Jammu (J &K) on 29.11.2016 under the 'National Medicinal Plants Board', New Delhi funded project. 43 progressive farmers of Thalsara, Droundi, Bhalla etc. of Chenab Valley falling in Doda district of Jammu & Kashmir took active participation in the training programme. The training programme was conducted with a view to sensitize farmers towards cultivation of high altitude medicinal plants as crop in Chenab Valley.

Dr. Amir Hussain Jargar (KAS), Tehsildar- Bhalla inaugurated the training programme at Community Meeting Hall, Bhalla. In his inaugural address he stressed the need to diversify the traditional agriculture being practiced in the region and advocated Himachal Model of development including medicinal plants cultivation in the farmland of the region.

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F and Coordinator of this training programme welcomed the participants and briefed about the day's events to the participants. The day's proceedings started with **Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-F, HFRI** by highlighting the activities of the institute. He spoke about the importance of medicinal plants, livelihood issues and proper identification of temperate medicinal plants. After that, **Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist-F** presented his work on nursery and cultivation techniques for Atish (*Aconitum heterophyllum*), Chora (*Angelica glauca*) and Kukti (*Picrorhiza kurroa*) and also detailed about the NMPB funded project being implemented by HFRI, Shimla. He also made detailed presentation on composting and vermi-composting techniques, organic farming etc. Thereafter, **Sh. Jagdish Singh, Scientist-F** gave a presentation on nursery and cultivation techniques of *Podophyllum hexandrum* (BanKakari) and Inter-cultivation of medicinal plants in orchards of temperate areas of Himachal Pradesh. **Dr. Ravneet Kaur, Dr. Amit Charak, Dr. G. N. Jha and Dr. Munish Sharma** scientists of KVK, Doda shared their valuable experiences, especially for initiating commercial cultivation of medicinal plants in Chenab Valley of Jammu & Kashmir to diversify local traditional agricultural practices.

In the afternoon session, **Dr. S. Khajuria**, Scientist, Forestry at KVK Doda talked about commercial cultivation of Lavender, Rosemary, Jatamansi etc. He advised the farmers to initiate commercial cultivation of temperate medicinal plants. **Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Scientist -F** subsequently made detailed presentation on the marketing issues pertaining to medicinal plants for the benefit of local communities.

To further benefit the participants, a complete session was conducted in the evening as interactive session among participants and experts from HFRI, Shimla and KVK Doda. During this session participants expressed their opinion about medicinal plants cultivation and freely interacted with the resource persons. Relevant queries of the participants pertaining to various issues regarding cultivation of medicinal plants in the field, marketing etc. were duly addressed through expert opinion of the resource persons. For interested farmers, underground parts of Chora and Patish including their seeds distributed for initiating cultivation in their agriculture land from this season.

In the end, a special **Vote of Thanks** was also extended by **Sh. Jagdish Singh**, Scientist, HFRI, Shimla to the participants as well as the resource persons of KVK Doda.

Glimpses of Training Programme





Training programme on medicinal plants by KVK Doda in collaboration with HFRI Shimla



KT NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, Nov 29: One day training programme on cultivation of "Bankakri" chora, Atish and other important temperate medicinal plants" was organized today by Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla (HP) under project funded by national Medicinal plants Board New Delhi at Bhalla, Doda (J&K) in collaboration with Krish Vigyan Kendra (K.V.K) Doda. Dr. Amir Hussain (KAS) Tehsildar- Bhalla inaugurated the programme. About 50 members local community of Tehsil Bhalla actively participated.

Dr Sandeep Sharma gave detailed information for raising temperate medicinal plants, kisan nursery technique and marketing of medicinal plants. He also added that keeping in view the importance of medicinal plants, government of India has laid emphasis on large scale cultivation of Himalayan medicinal plants that will definitely improve the

socio-economic status of hill states including J&K.

Jagdish Singh Scientist of HFRI gave detailed presentation on medicinal plants viz Identification importance and use of high temperate medicinal plants, inter cultivation of temperate medicinal with Horticulture plantation, harvesting, processing etc.

Dr. Ravneet Kour, Dr. S. Khajuria Dr. Amit Charak Dr. G.N. Jha Scientists from KVK Doda of SKUAST Jammu gave interactive as well as scientific lectures to the participants. Dr. Khajuria laid emphasis on commercial cultivation of Lavender, rosemary, Jatamasi, etc. Dr. Munish Sharma and other technical staff of KVK Doda shared their valuable experiences of commercial cultivation of medicinal plants and aromatic plants in Baderwah region. Jagdish Singh presented vote of thanks to the resource persons from KVK Doda of SKUAST-Jammu, all the staff of BDO office Bhalla and participant farmers.

HFRI Shimla organizes programme

Early Times Report

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