

A photograph of a dense forest of tall, slender trees with light-colored bark, likely birches. The trees are closely spaced, and their trunks are covered in characteristic white bark with dark lenticels. The canopy is thick with green leaves, and sunlight filters through the branches, creating a dappled light effect on the forest floor. The image is framed by a thick green border.



RAIN FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education)
Jorhat, Assam 785010

Introduction

The North East region of India which is a treasure trove of varied species of flora and fauna harbors matchless plant wealth of endemic species. *Aquilaria malaccensis* L., locally known as *Sasi* or *Agaru*, is a precious floral wealth of this region belongs to Thymelaeaceae family consisting of about 21 species. It is the most expensive wood in the world and hence many a times referred to as "Liquid Gold". The dark brown agarwood or eaglewood which is formed as a result of the tree's immune response to fungal infection is the principal product of the tree. The people of North East India in general and Assam in particular had the knowledge of agar wood or 'Sasi Kath' since ancient times. Its pleasant aroma and costly medicinal values have been the cause of attraction of people since time immemorial. Religious books or "Puthi" written on the specially treated bark glorified its position in the society and people started its plantation in the rear yards of their homes and within the campus of 'Thans' and "Satras". Agarwood and its products are in high demand for medicine, incense and perfume across Asia and the Middle East. Considering the economic benefits of the tree, of late, more and more areas are covered under agar cultivation, which is a very good sign for the rural economy of the region.

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat conducted the 1st National Seminar on Agarwood on 10-11th March, 2015. Now it proposes to conduct the "2nd National Seminar" on Agarwood" on 24th and 25th March, 2022 at Jorhat. The second day of the National Seminar will also be a Tree Growers' Mela for agarwood farmers. The various techniques related to nursery, plantation, artificial inoculation harvest and post-harvest processing shall be discussed and demonstrated to the farmers. This seminar will be on a hybrid mode-both offline and online mode and will provide a common forum to the scientists, foresters and managers to discuss various issues pertaining to the conservation, ecology of agarwood-producing species, plant microbe interaction and other stress-related factors in agarwood induction and formation, and the application of this knowledge to sustainable production, utilization, conservation as well as trade, marketing and policy issues. It will bring players in academia and industry together to exchange the latest information and technologies and strengthen collaboration.

In the Seminar Venue, the Agarwood traders may set-up their stall to exhibit their products and sell them. They need to Register in advance and they will be allotted a space of ft, at the Seminar Venue.

About Jorhat

Jorhat is one of the major cities of Assam. The city acts as a gateway to upper Assam and to the state of Nagaland. It was the last capital of the *Ahom* Kingdom and home to many historical monuments of Assamese culture. Jorhat is located at 26°45'N, 94°13'E and 26°75'N, 94°22'E. It has an average elevation of 116 meters. In the north of the district, the Brahmaputra River forms the largest riverine island of the world, Majuli, which spreads over 924.6 square km with a population of about 150,000. The cultural diversities which prevailed in Jorhat nearly a century ago has inspired the people to participate in cultural activities through the decades and as a result Jorhat has been able to produce many creative writers, musician, actors, historians and journalists, making Jorhat ***“The Cultural Capital of Assam”***. Places of interest in and around Jorhat: Kaziranga National Park, Hoollongapar Gibbon WLS, historical monuments of Sivasagar. RFRI is located about 10 km East of Jorhat City on NH-37 (on Jorhat-Tinsukia Highway).

Connectivity

By Air: Jorhat Airport, commonly known as Rawriah Airport, is located approximately five km from the heart of the town. Jorhat town has flights to Kolkata, Guwahati, New Delhi (via Guwahati) and Bangalore (via Guwahati and Kolkata).

By Rail: Jorhat Town Station and Mariani Junction are major stations of Jorhat. Few short distance trains connect Jorhat Town Station with other places of Assam. All important trains, viz. Rajdhani Express, Kamrup Express, Brahmaputra Mail etc. run through Mariani Junction railway station, which is about 16 km from Jorhat Town. A computerized reservation facility is also available at the Station.

By Road: Jorhat is well connected with all major cities of Northeast India. Jorhat is the only town in upper Assam to have Inter State Bus Terminus (ISBT) service that provides connectivity with other regions of the Northeast with regular buses for major cities and tourist destinations of the neighbouring states. National Highway 37 connects Jorhat with all major cities of Assam. Jorhat is 300 km from Guwahati and it takes about 6/7 hours to reach Jorhat from Guwahati by road.

Objectives

To provide a platform for sharing of ideas and information amongst scientists and tree growers on agarwood research.

To discuss and evaluate new ideas on production, extraction technologies and conservation of agarwood.

To promote latest approaches on development of new products from agarwood.

To discuss the policy issues with regard to harvesting, utilization and marketing of agarwood in India.

Themes of Seminar

Biodiversity, Ecology and Population Dynamics.
Cultivation and Conservation of agarwood producing species.
Plant- Insect- Microbe Interaction.
Extraction technologies and products.
Agarwood based livelihood opportunities in India.
Agarwood Trade, Marketing and Policy Issues.
Artificial Induction of Agarwood.

Abstracts and Full Papers

Papers are invited on the themes identified for the Seminar. Abstracts should not exceed more than 250 words excluding a concise title, names and address of the authors, neatly typed on A4 size paper (MS word, 1.5 spacing and Times New Roman Font, Size: 12 throughout). Abstract can also be sent through e-mail as an attachment to the following e-mail address: borahrk@icfre.org
Full papers may be submitted for incorporating in the proceedings.

Important deadlines:

Last date of submission of Abstract: **14 March 2022**

Last date of submission of Full length Paper: **18 March 2022**

Registration Fees:

For Scientists, Researchers, Foresters etc	: Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees one thousand only)
For Research Scholars, Craftsman	: Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred only)
For Agarwood traders/ industries who wish to set up a stall	: Rs.10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only)

Registration Fees are to be paid either on Cash or may be deposited online

Name of Bank	: Union Bank of India, Jorhat Branch
Account no.	: 393102010058882
IFSC Code	: UBIN0539317

Accommodation:

The Organizing Committee will try to accommodate the Participants in the Govt. Guest Houses, Hotels etc of Jorhat on their request in advance. The accommodation charges have to be borne by the participants by themselves.

Patrons

Shri Arun Singh Rawat, IFS
Director General, ICFRE, Dehradun

Convener

Dr. R.S.C. Jayaraj, IFS
Director, RFRI, Jorhat

Organizing Secretary

Dr. R.K. Borah
Scientist-G and Group Coordinator Research
RFRI, Jorhat.

Organizing Committee

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Shri. Rajesh Kumar, Scientist- E RFRI, Jorhat
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Rain Forest Research Institute

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No. 09435051669

SECOND NATIONAL SEMINAR ON GARWOOD
CUM
TREE GROWERS' MELA FOR AGARWOOD FARMERS

Date: 24-25th March, 2022

Registration Form

Name :

Designation :

Organization :

Corresponding Address :
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Telephone : Residence..... Office.....

Mobile :

E-mail :

Declaration: I wish to attend the National Seminar & to present a Paper on
the theme:.....

Oral/Poster :

Title of the Paper :
.....
.....

Payment Details : Amount (Rs.).....No

Bank Transaction No.....
.....

Accommodation required : Yes/No

Registration Category : Professors/ Scientists/ Officers/
Research Scholars/Students/ others
(Please specify)

Date:

Name and Signature