



Quarterly

Newsletter

Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar



Chief Patron: Syed Said Badshah Bukhari
Director General

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Editor: Tanvir Ahmad Qureshi
Extension Specialist

NEWS OF FOREST EDUCATION DIVISION

HAKIM SHAH
Director, Forest Education

The Forest Education Division, PFI conducted various activities including celebration of Annual Sports Week and Eid Milad un Nabi (SAW) during January-March, 2012 as highlighted below:

Annual Sports Week

Annual Sports Week of PFI forestry students was held from 22-3-2012 to 26-3-2012. M.Sc and B.Sc Forestry courses played football, cricket, volleyball and basketball matches against each other. Various Indoor games like badminton and table tennis and field athletics events were also held.

Syed Said Badshah Bukhari, Secretary Environment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the Chief Guest at the Prize distribution ceremony. He congratulated the winners and advised the students to fully participate in games to keep themselves physically and mentally fit. Winners of team events and individual games were awarded trophies and certificates.



Syed Said Badshah Bukhari, Secretary, Environment Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, awarding winner trophy to the captain of M.Sc Forestry cricket team

In his welcome address, Director Forest Education Mr. Hakim Shah, emphasized the importance of morning PT and evening games of the students. He thanked the guests, organizers and students for making this event a big success.



Forestry Students with Secretary Environment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Faculty Member



Mr. Hakim Shah, Director Forest Education addressing the guests and students

At the end of the ceremony, Chir Pine saplings were planted by the Secretary Environment and DFE to commemorate spring tree planting campaign.



Syed Said Badshah Bukhari, Secretary Environment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa planting Chir Pine sapling

Eid Milad un Nabi (SAW) celebrations

On the occasion of Eid Milad un Nabi (SAW), celebrated on February 5, 2012 a program was arranged at the M.Sc Forestry hostel in which students of M.Sc and B.Sc Forestry classes delivered speeches on the life of Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) concluding that his life was a complete code for success in this world and hereafter. Faculty members also spoke on the occasions highlighting the importance of the day and shedding light on different aspects of the life of the Holy Prophet (SAW).

At the end, Mr. Asif Jah APOF addressed the students advising them to work hard for success in life by taking guidance from the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet (SAW).



Forestry students listening to speeches



Mr. Asif Jah APOF addressing the gathering

All Pakistan Forest Management Tour

Study tours are an integral part of the training schedule at Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar. The prime objective of these tours is to make the students abreast regarding the practical aspect of forestry.

All Pakistan Forest Management Tour was conducted from 15-02-2012 to 29-02-2012. 87 students of M.Sc and B.Sc Forestry session (2010-12) were accompanied by 3 instructors namely Mr. Muhammad Yousaf Khan LIF, Dr. Muhammad Nawaz Rajpar LIF and Sohaib Ahmad LIF.

First day of the tour was travel from Peshawar to D.G. Khan. On the way students were briefed about the roadside linear plantations, social forestry and farm forestry. In D.G. Khan the experienced field staff conducted field visit to rangelands to show practical demonstration of different Range Management Practices.

Secretary Environment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Syed Said Badshah Bukhari and Director Forest Education Division, Mr. Hakim Shah joined the classes in Karachi. During field visit to Mangroves, Mr. Riaz Wagan Conservator of Forests Karachi, Mr. Agha Tahir, Project Director Mangroves and Mr. Irfan DFO Mangrove briefed the students about the management of Mangroves. Students also visited Haleji Lake, Keenjhar Lake, Coconut plantations, and Kirther National Park. During these visits field staff took keen interest to brief the students about practical application / problems in management of these Eco-systems.

In Sukkur, students were briefed by the Senior Field Officers about Pie Forest Game reserve. Students also visited riverain forests where they were comprehensively briefed by Mr. Javed Mahr DFO about flood management, regeneration and agriculture crops production.

In Bahawalpur, senior field officers conducted the visit to Lal Suhanra National Park. The DFO and SDFO briefed the students in detail about Park Management,

Wildlife Management, Irrigated Plantation Management Practices and Linear Canal side Plantation Management.

During visit to Lal Sohanra National Park, Mr. Hamza Shahbaz Sharif MNA, who was on a visit to the National Park, met with the students. Mr. Muhammad Yousaf Khan LIF briefed him about the academic and field training of Foresters at PFI, Peshawar. He invited the instructors and students for an official lunch at Chief Minister Secretariat, Lahore.

In Bahawalpur, students also visited the xerophytic ecosystem of Cholistan, where the students were briefed by the field professionals on Range Management practices, water harvesting techniques and wildlife management techniques.

In Lahore, students visited irrigated plantation of Changa Manga. DFO Changa Manga briefed the students on different methodologies / procedure adopted for raising and management of Changa Manga Plantation right from Nursery to sale depot.



DFO Changa Manga briefing forestry students

On last leg of the tour, students went to Sialkot Sports Industry, where they were shown different sections of sport factories. They were briefed at length on the seasoning, selection and sawing of wood for making different sports goods.

EXAMINATIONS AND RESULTS

4th and 5th term annual examinations of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses, session 2009-2011 were held during February/March 2012. The University of Peshawar announced the result of final (5th) term annual examinations of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses, session 2009-2011 on 26-3-2012.

2nd term annual examinations of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses, session 2010-12 were held during January 2012.

PFI FIELD STATION SHINKIARI IS FUNCTIONAL AGAIN

Asif Kamal Siddiqui, Project Director – URFS Project

It is a matter of great pleasure and contentment for all of us that PFI Field Station, Shinkari, which was completely destroyed by the earthquake of October 2005, has been reconstructed and upgraded under the URFS - Project. Almost 90 percent civil works have been completed except the electrification for which request for additional funds has been made with the Ministry. For the time being, necessary arrangements for electricity have been made at the Field Station for the comfort and ease of students. The most fascinating and satisfactory news is that forestry students have re-started their field activities at the PFI Field Station, Shinkari. The first badge of more than 90 Forestry students (MSc and BSc) enjoyed their stay in newly constructed hostel in January, 2010 for their Working Plan and Forest Surveying exercises. The next badge of 46 MSc and BSc forestry students stayed there in the month of August, 2010 and the next badge of 105 students will stay there for working plan exercises in October, 2010.

Beside students, the PFI research staff has also initiated their research activities at the Field Station. Watershed Management Specialist has already completed the survey of selected watersheds for construction of necessary engineering structures to measure the runoff and sediment yield in chirpine forests of Shinkari. Rest of the PFI researchers are welcome to plan their research activities at Field Station, Shinkari.



Newly constructed Student Hostel, Shinkari



Newly constructed Barracks with 12 rooms



Surveying exercises at Field Station



Plane Table Survey at Field station, Shinkiri

MANGROVE FOREST ECOSYSTEM

Dr. Muhammad Nawaz Rajpar
Lecturer in Forestry

Mangroves are characterized by unique species of trees and shrubs that fringe the intertidal zone along sheltered coastal, estuarine and riverine areas in tropical and subtropical latitudes. They are an integral part of the coastal eco-system, representing a significant environmental resource on a local, national and global scale. Mangroves are distributed on 181,000 km² worldwide. Mangroves of South and Southeast Asia form the world's most extensive and diverse mangrove systems comprising 42.0% of global mangroves followed by Africa (21.0%), North/Central America (15.0%), Oceania (12.0%), South America (11.0%) and Middle East (5.5%).

Pakistan's mangrove ecosystem is one of the largest found in an arid climate encompass 160,000 ha mainly found on the marine alluvium along sheltered coasts and estuaries. The major tree species are *Avicennia marina*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Ceriops tagal* and *Aegicerias corniculata* in species-specific belts depending on soil and inundation patterns of freshwater. Tree height ranges between 7 and 25 m. Mangrove forests are one of among the most productive ecosystems on this planet and are prime importance for millions of coastal communities that use mangrove as raw material for various purposes and earn

livelihoods such as wood for building materials, fodder for livestock, and also for food and charcoal.

Economic Importance

Mangrove play very important role economically as well as ecologically. They provide spawning and nursery areas for a variety of marine species such as fish, prawns, crabs and shellfish. The tree formations contribute to the marine food web through their production of detritus. Several commercially important species of marine animals are known to spend at least a part of their life cycle here. They protect the coastline from erosion due to storm surge and cyclones. Similarly, they also provide a valuable recreational, educational and scientific resource and represent an important part of indigenous culture.

The mangrove ecosystem includes waterways (estuaries, creeks, canals, lagoons and backwaters), mudflats, salt pans and islands, and is often highly saline, frequently inundated and soft bottomed anaerobic mud provide suitable habitat for wide array of wildlife species such as birds (cormorants, darters, herons, bitterns, egrets, storks, eagles, kites, kingfishers, woodpeckers, and waders), mammals (monkeys, tigers, fishing cats, otters, flying foxes, dolphins, whales) and reptiles (snakes and crocodiles). The mangrove ecosystem has important direct and indirect economic, ecological and social values to man. Mangrove ecosystems have consistently been undervalued, usually because only their direct goods and services have been included in economic calculations (e.g. forestry resources), but this represents only a minor part of the total value of mangroves.

Threats

Despite the multifunctional attributes, mangrove forests are the most threatened tropical ecosystem across the world. The areas of mangroves forests all over the world have declined due to anthropogenic activities such as urban development, diversion of freshwater flows, over harvesting of fuel wood and timber as well as conversion into development activities like aquaculture, rice fields, mining and salt extraction. Undervaluation of natural products and ecological services supported by mangrove ecosystems has been a major driving force behind mangrove destruction. In addition, mangroves have

been extensively damaged for firewood and charcoal, used in the construction of dwellings, furniture, boats and fishing gear.

Likewise, the expansion of coastal towns, building airport runways, the construction of coastal road and conversion into aquaculture ponds has lost around of a third of our mangroves. Overall, the global losses of mangrove exceed more than 50.0% of the original cover. Furthermore, the loss of mangrove trees could lead to depleting stocks of coastal marine life. For example; inshore fishermen throughout the world have noticed a remarkable decline in their catch following mangrove clearance. In addition to declining fish stocks, the loss of the mangroves is of direct concern to numerous other creatures that live within the mangroves such as birds, reptiles, fishes, mammals, shrimps and other invertebrates.

Little information is available on wildlife diversity, the extents of the socio-economic aspects and benefits of mangrove forest ecosystem of Pakistan. There is urgent need for detailed inventory of wildlife diversity and socio-economic aspects of mangrove ecosystem, because, it enable us to track the status, understand the ecological importance and better management of this unique system.

From Honey to Fragrant Soap

Tanvir Ahmad Qureshi
Forest Chemist

Once flooded with oversupply of natural honey in the open markets of Thailand, the local beekeepers adopt the innovative way of turning the amber nectar into new value added consumers' product for generating additional income. Thanks to the knowledge provided by the Naresuan University, the local beekeepers were trained to make honey soap for additional income without wasting over produced pure honey of recognized top quality world over.

The apiarists successfully developed natural honey soap bars with a special formula by using 30 percent of pure honey of the total soap substance. To make the product differentiable, they also added bee pollen and powdered turmeric to make the soap a skin moisturizer as well. Later on, liquid honey soap was also developed by using a formula of 40 percent honey having delicate texture and aroma of pure honey.

The wholesale market price of pure honey at time around was 70 bhat per kilogram whereas processed and packed honey was selling at 200 bhat per kilogram with value addition of 130 bhat per kilogram. Contrary to this, one could make 200 honey soap bars out of one kilogram honey costing 70 bhat. A solid soap bar was sold at the price of 25 bhat to the wholesalers and 35 bhat in the retailers. Thus the added value in the form of honey soap was much higher than selling of pure honey in processed one.

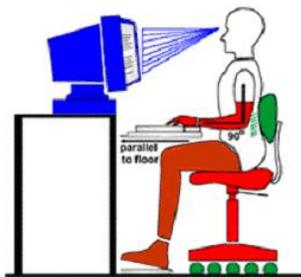
The honey farmers in Thailand are determined to keep developing their marketable products from pure honey, royal jelly, and bee pollens which are accepted by their medicinal, nutritional and moisturizing values. It is just possible that honey products may become very popular among public with passage of time as compared to selling honey in its pure form. The success story of the Thai honey farmers has a bright scope for adoption in Pakistan.

ELEMENTS OF AN IDEAL COMPUTER WORKSTATION

Asif Kamal
URFS – Project
(With thanks to Al-Madina Computers)

Viewing Angles and Distance

- Position monitor, keyboard, and chair in straight line
- Top of monitor screen at or slightly below the eye horizon
- Comfortable, non-straining distance to read monitor (typically 15-30 inches)
- Adjust brightness, contrast, and color to comfortable levels
- Avoid glare by positioning away from windows and direct lights
- Keep written work materials propped up near monitor screen



Neutral Typing Position

- Use an adjustable chair, keyboard tray, or desk/table to achieve the "neutral position" of a straight hand: wrist: forearm
- Keep upper and lower arms at a 90 degree angle to each other
- Position mouse as closely to keyboard as possible to minimize reaching and twisting



Lower Back Support

- Use a chair that provides lumbar (lower back) support - if adjustable, adjust to maintain an erect sitting posture
- Ideal chairs can be easily raised or lowered, and have 5 wheel legs for safety
- Keep feet planted firmly on floor or footstool to counterbalance forces on lower back



Legs and Feet

- Plant feet firmly on floor or - if not possible - use a foot stool
- Keep thighs parallel to floor
- Ensure leg clearance from table or keyboard tray to avoid bumps, scratches, pinches, and torn clothing



LETS FLYOVER PEAKS

Memoona Rehman
B.Sc (For) Session 2009-11

A long long Journey
 We start it early
 Sun was burney
 The course use we move on
 Was smooth and feathery
 Then it made like a
 Track and turny
 People gathered here from
 Gilgit, Kashmir, Punjab and Pakhtunkhwa
 A convey of 50 leaded gracefully by Sir
 Asif Jah
 A no; of Vehicles
 A spectrum of light
 A moon of night
 Was all in protocol
 Oh! We reach Gilgit
 We served & delighted
 Then pointed to roll
 We startle! To clap was fabulous dance
 with rolling notes
 A wesomely played character with
 musical notes
 Brave PFIans crossed the hurdle
 And flagged on top Deosai
 Oh! My God where ones
 Wish to touch the clean azure Sky
 We lushed we brushed
 With showers of days all rainy
 Me was member of this flight
 People use to call me with name of MANI