



Quarterly

Newsletter

Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar

Consolidated Issue



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Director General

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NEWS OF FOREST EDUCATION DIVISION

HAKIM SHAH

Director Forest Education

The Forest Education Division, Pakistan Forest Institute Peshawar, conducted NTS test for admissions to M.Sc, B.Sc and BS forestry courses, Annual Sports Week and various other academic activities during July-December, 2013 given as under:

HEC ACCREDITATION INSPECTION COMMITTEE VISIT

External evaluation and accreditation of the agriculture/forestry degree programs is the primary and important function of the National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council of HEC. The Accreditation Inspection Committee of HEC conducted an on-site assessment and evaluation of PFI forestry degree programs on December 16-17, 2013. The team comprised of Prof. Dr. Sarwat Naz Mirza, Dean Forestry, Wildlife and Environment AAU, Rawalpindi, Dr. M. Afzal, Director PFRI Punjab, and Mr. Naseer Alam Khan, Secretary NAEAC.



Group photo of PFI faculty with HEC team



PFI faculty's meeting with the HEC team

The committee was given a presentation about the functions and activities of PFI by Mr. Hakim Shah DFE. The team conducted inspection visits to infrastructure facilities of PFI including Classrooms, laboratories, library, GIS centre, research gardens etc.

The HEC team appreciated the quality of PFI's faculty and its research and education facilities.

WORKING PLAN CAMP

The working plan camp of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry students session 2011-2013 was held from July 4th to 24th 2013 at PFI field station Shinkhari, Mansehra.

Instructors from PFI briefed the students about different techniques of data collection, data analysis and compilation. On July 7th Mr. Iqbal Swati Ex-CCF, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa forest department visited the camp and gave a lecture about the general history of forest Management in sub-continent, particularly in Pakistan. On July 10th Mr. Tehmasib Khan DFO Kaghan Forest division visited the camp and delivered lectures on the Management history of Kaghan Forest division.

From July 11th to 23rd, students collected field data by using different inventory techniques which was later compiled and consolidated at the station. Socio-economic data from surrounding villages was also collected.



PFI instructor with students in the field

On July 21st Syed Said Badshah Bukhari, Secretary Environment/ Director General P.F.I along with Mr. Hakim Shah, Director Forest Education visited the camp and

reviewed the whole exercise. On this occasion, saplings were planted by the distinguished guests and students.



**Secretary Environment KP planting sapling
ANNUAL SPORTS WEEK**

Annual Sports Week of the college was celebrated from 25.10.2013 to 30.10.2013 in the main college ground of Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar. Various outdoor and indoor games such as Football, Cricket, Lawn tennis, Volleyball, Basketball and Table Tennis were played by M.Sc and B.Sc. Forestry students.



A view of Volleyball match

Student athletes displayed their physical fitness and strength on the concluding day in various athletic events such as 100 meters race, 200 meters & 400 meters races, Relay race, Obstacles race, Sack race, Javelin throw, Long jump, High jump and Tug of war.



DFE awarding trophy to winning team captain

Director General, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar was the chief guest of the concluding ceremony of Annual Sports Week 2013. In his address, he emphasized that sports were a very important part of every individual's professional as well as personal life. He advised the students to compete with sportsman spirit in every sphere of their life. Later, he gave away prizes to the winners.

Annual marathon race was held on 29.10.13. All students of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses session (2011-13) participated in the event. Mr. M. Tauseef, student of B.Sc forestry won the race.

ADMISSIONS TO M.Sc / B.Sc COURSES (SESSION 2013-15) AND BS FORESTRY COURSE (SESSION 2013-17)

The process for admission to M.Sc., B.Sc. and BS Forestry courses against self-supporting general seats started in the month of August, 2013. 4-year BS Forestry course has been introduced for the first time from this session. Admission notice was advertised in a number of leading English and Urdu newspapers including The News, Dawn, Jang, Aaj and Mashriq. The last date for submission of applications was 6.9.2013.

Services of National Testing Service (NTS) were hired for conducting the entry test which was held simultaneously on 22.09.2013 at six centres established throughout the country i.e. Peshawar, Islamabad, Lahore, Multan, Karachi and Quetta.



DFE and Manager NTS inspecting the examination Centre

Besides the admission of self financed candidates, Balochistan Forest Department has sent 10 nominees for training in the B.Sc forestry course. Regular classes commenced with effect from 01.11.2013.

EXAMINATIONS & RESULTS

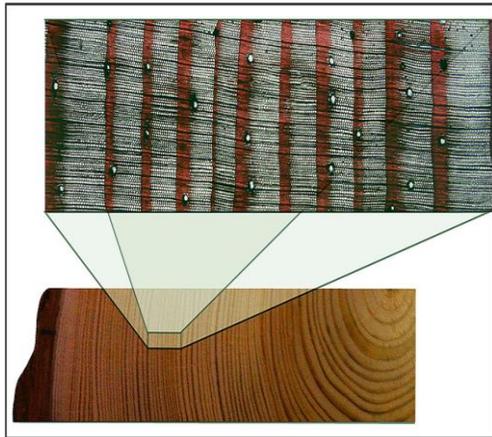
The University of Peshawar conducted 5th term annual examinations of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses, session 2011-13 and 2nd term annual examinations of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses, session 2012-14 during September/October 2013.

Result of 5th term annual examination of M.Sc and B.Sc forestry courses session 2011-13 was announced during the period.

WOOD ANATOMY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Tanvir Hussain
Assistant Wood Technologist

Trees monitor environmental conditions that limit their biological processes, and this information is stored in the structure of annual rings. In general, a wide ring indicates that along with the other factors the year's climate may be moist and cool, while a narrow ring indicates that it may be dry and warm. Wood anatomical features measured in tree rings may further offer opportunities for obtaining these environmental information. Radial dimensions of a cell and cell wall-thickness is influenced by temperature and water availability. Increasing temperature during early-wood formation period causes shortage of phase of radial expansion of young wood cells and therefore, the radial dimensions of cells are comparatively smaller. If the tree experiences higher temperatures during latewood formation period, the phase of radial expansion is prolonged. The maturing period extends if the temperature of environment is high for both earlywood and latewood that leads to the significantly thicker cell wall. Precipitation also affects positively the radial growth period and the maturing period and causes prolongation of these. Wood density (an indirect measure of xylem anatomy) has been shown its great potential to record climatic conditions. It has been reported that wood density components measured in tree-rings are highly sensitive to climate.



Annual growth rings in conifers

ARRANGEMENT OF SHORT COURSE ON WOOD TECHNOLOGY

Ghulam Mustafa Nasir
Director, FPRD/Logging Officer

A training course on Wood Technology was conducted from 18th Nov to 22nd Nov. 2013 in Forest Products Research Division at Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar under the project titled "Properties and utilization of lesser known wood

species grown in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" with the objective to enhance the skill of wood workers/users so that they can provide better services to their organizations.



Thirteen trainees from Pak. German Wood Working Center, Peshawar made participation in the course. Lectures were delivered to the participants in different fields of forest products such as wood structure and its identification, defects in wood and their effect on wood properties, various techniques of wood processing, seasoning and preservation and utilization of low value woods for manufacturing of various wood based products. Alongwith the theory, practical demonstration was also given to the participants in different labs of the Forest Products Research Division. At the end of the course certificates were awarded to the participants.

TRAINING WORKSHOP ON "CONSERVATION AND ETHNO-BOTANICAL USES OF MEDICINAL PLANTS" AT PAKISTAN FOREST INSTITUTE, PESHAWAR

Ch. Muhammad Muslim,
Medicinal Plants Botanist

A four-days training workshop on "Conservation and Ethno-botanical uses of Medicinal Plants" in the project titled "Conservation and Sustainable use of high valued Medicinal Plants and promotion of Indigenous Knowledge" at Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar was conducted to the foresters, hakims, homeopaths, NGOs and community activists from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab w.e.f. 27 November to 30 November, 2013. More than sixty participants from Swat, Dir, Chitral, Mardan, Charsadda, Rawalpindi and Faisalabad participated in the training



DFE addressing the workshop

workshop. The participants showed keen interest in gathering knowledge on conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants. Mr. Hakeem Shah, Director Forest Education Division, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar inaugurated the opening ceremony and addressed the participants on importance of conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants contributing in our lives and emphasized on the need of conserving natural habitat in Pakistan.

Ch. Muhammad Muslim, Medicinal Plants Botanist, provided the information through presentation slides and discussed the importance of conservation of high valued medicinal plants, their sustainable use in day to day life, in modern and traditional medicine systems. Participants shared their own experiences about the medicinal plants. It helped to know their knowledge and provided more information to the participants. Each section was supported by pictures, posters and charts relevant to the topic which helped to involve the participants that can not read or write. At the completion of four-day workshop, Hakeem Shah, DG, PFI distributed the certificates among the participants.



Certificate distribution ceremony

Orientation visit to Qarshi Industries, Hattar, Haripur

An orientation tour was also arranged for the participants to Qarshi Industries (Pvt.) Limited, Hattar, Haripur. Dr. Altaf Hussain, Incharge of Herbal Section showed the introductory film on Qarshi Industries and briefed the workshop participants about the various sections and herbal garden.



MPB briefing at Medicinal Plant Farm



Participants visiting Medicinal Plant Farm

OBITUARY

Raja Walayat Hussain (1930-2013)

It is with profound sorrow we report the sad demise of Raja Walayat Hussain, Ex-Director, Forestry Research Division, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar on 9th December, 2013. Raja Walayat Hussain was born in 1930 in Jajja, district Rawalpindi. He got his M.Sc Statistics degree in 1975 and MS Forestry degree from Aberdeen University in 1982. He wrote many books including 115 scientific articles of international fame. He also prepared volume



table and yield tables for various forest tree species of Pakistan. He was a person of soft disposition, kind and helpful nature. He will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues. His death is an irreparable loss for his family, friends and forestry community in Pakistan and abroad. May Allah rest his soul in peace, Ameen.