

Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding Coimbatore-641 002

4th Research Scholar's Meet 12-11-2018

The fourth meeting in the series of research scholar's presentations was held on 12.11.2018 (Monday) at 4.30 PM at Bamboo Lawn, IFGTB. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Mohit Gera, IFS, the Director of the Institute.

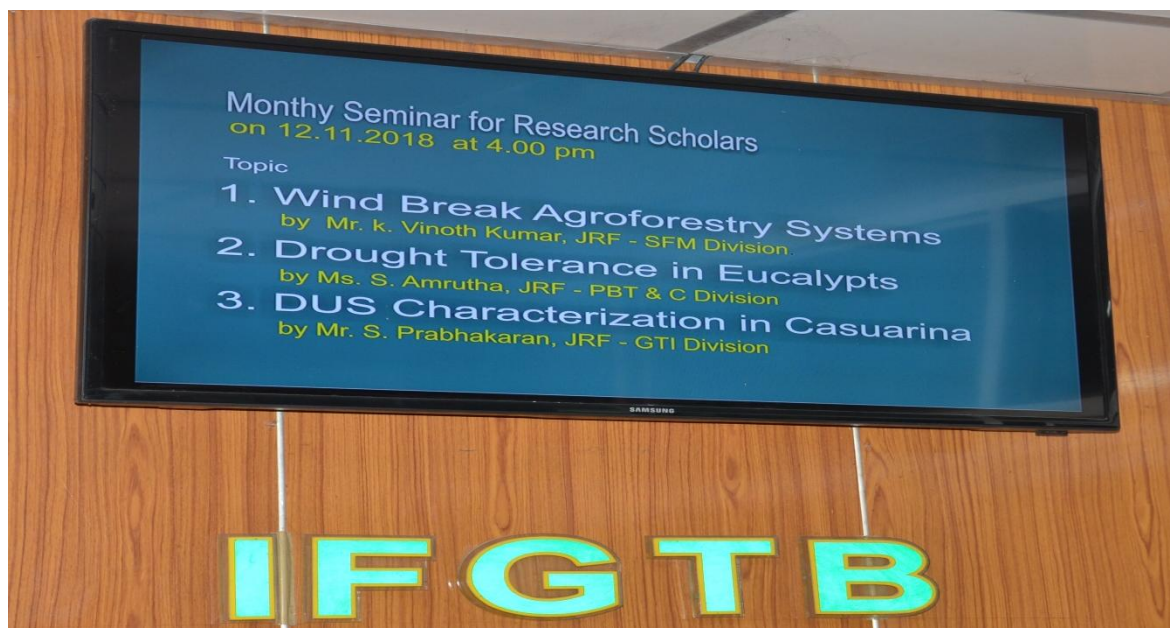
To bring in an element of cohesion in the workplace among the research scholars, the Director introduced a team game to accomplish a task of transporting a freely moving ball to an assigned location using 10" longitudinal cut pieces of pipe in a competitive format where in two teams play with each other. The game aimed at building team spirit, to develop trust, and enhance problem solving skills with limited equipment. The aim was also to make the scholars work together to get the maximum output by realizing his/her strength and limitations.



The game also involved elements of strategic planning. The game was, in fact, originally designed to predict the optimal number of workers required for smooth functioning of a nursery, as a part of forestry economics.



Following the event, the Director invited the research scholars to make their presentations.



Mr. K. Vinoth Kumar presented the significance of windbreak agroforestry in moderation of microclimate, reducing soil erosion, enhancing crop productivity and enhanced food and wood production. He elaborated on the economics involved through implementation of wind break agroforestry systems in high wind prone and areas, to cyclones.

Ms. S. Amruta gave a detailed presentation on the growth, physiological, photosynthetic and biochemical parameters, which could serve as indicators to identify drought tolerant clones of Eucalyptus. Her study, she stated, would lead to the development of a drought index for screening plants under nursery conditions.

Mr. S. Prabhakaran explained about the PPV & FRA Act, and the process of Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) testing in Casuarinas, which is ongoing at the Institute.

The discussions mainly focussed on the applicability of wind break agroforestry systems to different agricultural crops, need for protecting our natural resources from the vagaries of climate change, enhance the carbon sequestration potential of our genetic resources and efforts for enhancing rural livelihood. The Director also advised Mr. Vinod Kumar to examine wind break species for their pollination services and biological control so that farmers are further benefitted. There was active participation from the scientists and students. The meeting ended with the selection of three presenters for the next session.

Director appreciated all the three candidates for their well prepared presentations, good presentation skills and thoughtful response to the queries raised by the audience. The meeting ended with selection of three research scholars for the next meeting, which are Mr. Utchimahali, JRF, PBT&C, Mr. Chidambaram, JRF, FGR and Mr. Kuralarasan, JRF, FECC, Division.



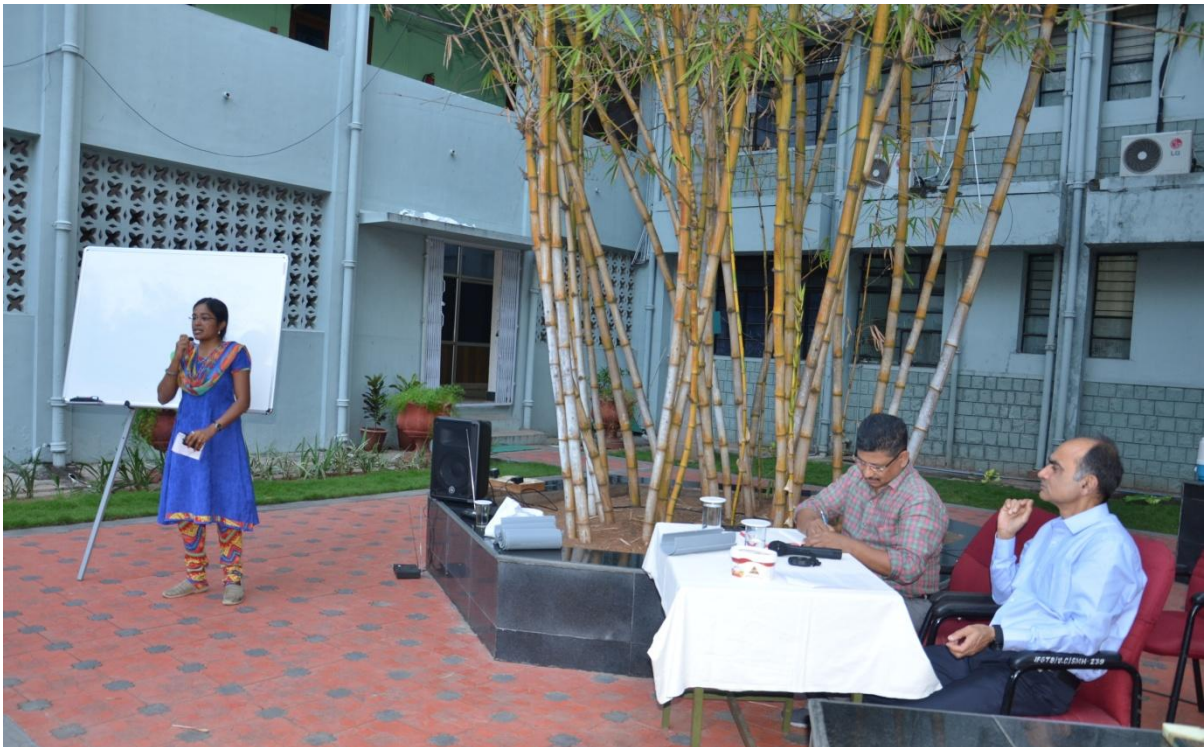
Director addressing the students



Open Discussion



Mr. Vinoth Kumar explaining the wind break agroforestry system



Ms. Amrutha discussing on drought tolerance clones of Eucalyptus



Mr. Prabhakaran explaining DUS descriptors in Casuarinas