

Patron

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Vice-Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Chairperson Organizing Committee

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President DNAES

Co-chairperson Organizing Committee

Dr R. K. Kohli

Professor & Chairman Department of Botany,

Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

Coordinator IUFRO 8.02.04 & IUFRO 4.02.02

rkohli45@yahoo.com Tel 91-172-2783817, 2534015, Tel-Fax: 2779510

Organising Secretaries

Dr. Daizy R. Batish

Professor Department of Botany, Panjab University, Chandigarh

daizybatish@gmail.com

Dr Shibu Jose

Coordinator IUFRO 8.02.04

School of Forest Resources & Conservation, Univ. Florida, Gainesville

sjose@ufl.edu

Joint Organizing Secretary

Dr. H. P. Singh

Centre for Environment, Panjab University, Chandigarh

hpsingh_01@yahoo.com

Advisory Committee

Dr Don K. Lee, President IUFRO

Dr. J. S. Singh FNA, BHU, Varanasi

Dr. P.S. Ramakrishnan, FNA, JNU, New Delhi

Dr. R.S. Tripathi, FNA, NBRI, Lucknow

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Dr. J.R. Bhatt, Advisor MoEF, GoI, New Delhi

Dr. A.K. Bhatnagar, Delhi University, Delhi

Dr. Keith Moser, Forest Services, USA

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Dr. Julie Denslow, USDA Forest Services, USA

Dr. Neelima Jerath, PSCST, Chandigarh, India

Panjab University – A Profile

Panjab University, established in 1882 at Lahore (now in Pakistan), is one of the oldest universities of India. With a long history and tradition of providing excellent quality education to students from all parts of the country and abroad, the university has strength of over 22,000 students in 55 teaching and research departments. The main campus of the university is spread over 550 acres in Sector 14 and 25 Chandigarh, apart from its various regional centers and 114 affiliated colleges. It is essentially a residential campus that supports students from all parts of India and other countries.

About the City Chandigarh

Chandigarh (114 km²) was planned by the French architect Le Corbusier. Picturesquely located at the foothills of Shivaliks, it is known for its urban planning and modern architecture. It is the capital of the states of Punjab and Haryana but under the administrative control of the centre. It is a leading commercial and academic hub of the north India. The city is well connected by bus, rail and air and is world famous for *Rock Garden, Asia's Biggest Rose Garden* and other attractions including Government Arts Museum & Gallery, Open Hand Monument and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research. The weather during March is generally pleasant.

About the Organisers

The conference is being organized by the Centre for Environment and the Department of Botany, Panjab University, in association with working parties 8.02.04 (Ecology of Alien Invasives) and 4.02.02 (Resource Inventory) of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, Dayanand National Academy of Environmental Sciences, Chandigarh, Society of Environmental Scientists, New Delhi and Eco-Transformation, New Delhi.

International Meet

Plant Invasion & Forest Ecology: Concerns & Solutions

March 16-18, 2009

at

**Panjab University
Chandigarh**



Organized by

**Centre for Environment
&
Department of Botany,
Panjab University, Chandigarh,
India**

Co-sponsored by

*International Union of Forest Research Organizations, WP
8.02.04 and 4.02.02*

*IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries
Dayanand National Academy of Environmental Sciences
Society of Environmental Scientists, New Delhi
Eco-Transformation, New Delhi*

About the Conference

The threat of invasive plants to biodiversity is second only to habitat loss and even more than pollution. Alien invasive plants affect native ecosystems by altering hydrology, fire regimes, and nutrient cycling apart from competing with natives, reducing species richness, changing structure and composition of communities. This impacts on flora, dependent fauna, soil, microbial components and thus ecosystem integrity and ecology.

The ecological impacts of invasive alien plant species on forest ecosystems have attracted the attention of researchers, managers, and policy makers the world over. The real challenge before man is to control their spread for meeting the objectives of the Convention on Biodiversity and save the global ecology from destruction. The dimensions and nature of the issue is such that no individual or a nation alone can combat the threat. The world at large will have to join hands to tackle the problem collectively. In order to frame some guidelines and prepare scientists for collectively combating the invasion, a 3-day international conference "Plant Invasion & Forest Ecology: Concerns & Solutions" is being organized at the Panjab University, Chandigarh, India from March 16-18, 2009

Pre-Conference Workshop

A 2-day IUFRO-SPDC sponsored pre-conference training workshop on "Working Effectively at the Interface of Forest Science and Forest Policy" for mid-career scientists from developing countries will be held from **March 14-15, 2009** in association with DNAES. **There exists a provision of full or partial financial support to 20 young / mid-career participants from developing countries to cover travel, registration and accommodation for the 2-day training workshop.** It will also provide the trainees opportunity to participate, interact and present their work in the conference. Those interested to avail of the limited support may apply latest by **January 15, 2009** on the appended prescribed format. The applicants will be informed through e-mail latest by **January 30, 2009**. **The entry visa and travel/health insurance shall have to be taken care of by the applicants themselves.**

Call for Papers

The conference will have keynote and invited lectures, contributed oral and poster presentations on various aspects of invasion of alien species and forest ecosystems. The thrust areas of the meet include:

- **Status, Mapping & Modeling of Invasive Species**
- **Early Detection & Rapid Response**
- **Ecological and Socio- Economic Impacts**
- **Non-native Invasion Success: Ecological theories**
- **Pathways of Invasion and spread**
- **Tools and mechanisms of invasion control**
- **Management of Invasive Species**
- **Capacity building, Policies & Legislation**
- **Education and Extension Programs**

Interested participants are requested to send the abstract (*approx. 300 words*) of their proposed presentation, **preferably by email** to the Organizing Secretaries (daizybatish@gmail.com & sjose@ufl.edu) latest by **February 20, 2009**.

Registration Fee

| Particulars | Before 1.3.09 | After 1.3.09 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Scientists from | | |
| SAARC Countries | \$ 100 | \$125 |
| Other Countries | \$ 200 | \$ 250 |
| Indian Scientists | Rs 1000 | Rs 1500 |
| Indian Students/Research Scholars | Rs 700 | Rs 900 |
| Post-conference Excursion (Per Head) | | Rs 500 |

The registration fee will cover registration kit, book of abstract, lunch, tea/coffee breaks for the conference days and two dinners. It does not include the cost of stay/accommodation during the conference.

Accommodation

Organizers shall try to accommodate maximum number of scientists in the University Guest house/ faculty house and hostels on payment basis. However, the booking of accommodation shall be made on first-cum-first-served basis. In addition, Chandigarh has a number of low, medium & high budget hotels, with per day tariff ranging between Rs. 2000 – Rs. 9000. However, booking in hotels can be made only upon receipt of advance payment for at least one day.

The approx. tariff per night per room on the campus: Guest House/Faculty House/ Hostel: Rs 100-300

Registration Form

Personal Details

Name:
Designation:
Address:
.....
Tel.:
Email:

Whether presenting a paper: Yes/No
ORAL or POSTER

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

Details of Registration Fee:

Amount paid: US \$ / Rs.
Remitted vide Demand draft no dated payable at Chandigarh, India.

Accommodation required: Yes / No

Whether Faculty house / hostel / hotel (low / middle / high budget / five-star)

Advance Payment: US \$ / Rs.
For 2 /3 nights from to

Accompanying Person: Yes / No

Arrival

Date: Time:
Mode: Air / Train / Bus; Flight no.

Departure

Date: Time:
Mode: Air / Train / Bus; Flight no.

Send completed form to either of the Organizing Secretaries. The Registration Fee be sent to Dr. Daizy R. Batish, (Bank details: State Bank of India, Sector 12, Chandigarh, Branch code: 01524, Account # 10413584006, SWIFT Code: SBI NIN BB 443)

Application Form for Training Workshop (March 14-15, 2009)

Personal Details

Name:

Designation:

Address:

.....

Tel.:

Email:

Whether presenting a paper in the meet: Yes/No ORAL or POSTER

Title of Paper:.....

.....

Do you need financial assistance for attending the training workshop?

If so, how much? Kindly specify with details.

(Note: In view of limited funds for offering support from IUFRO-SPDC, we may not be in a position to offer full financial support to all. Accommodation will be provided on twin sharing basis in the Faculty House University free of charge)

Arrival

Mode: Air / Train / Bus Date:.....Time:

.....

Flight no.

Departure

Mode: Air / Train / Bus;

Date:..... Time:

Flight no.

(Signatures)

Send the application as attachment through e.mail. To meet the official requirement, please send a signed hard copy also

Append the following with the application:

- Your research publications in referred journals*
- Your curriculum vitae with age and sex*
- A brief statement (50-100 words) on why you want to attend the workshop*

Send completed form to Dr. Daizy R. Batish, Professor, Department of Botany, Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014, India (Email: daizybatish@gmail.com)

