

Research Wing of Maharashtra Forest Department.

Maharashtra has a rich and glorious tradition of forest based research activities which is more than six decades old. The first Silvicultural branch of forest department of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency was established at Pune in 1939 The Research wing is headed by the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Research, Education & Training) M.S., Pune with head quarters at Pune. For administrative convenience the state research wing had been reorganized & divided into two regions- Western & Eastern headed by CF & Silviculturists Western & Eastern Regions with head quarters at Pune and Chandrapur respectively, later both posts upgraded to CCF. Recently the post of CCF Eastern Region has been converted to the post of CCF (Mangrove Cell) and entire research wing brought up under control of CCF & Silviculturist, Pune.

The research activities are carried out as specified in the Quinquennial Research Programme QRP approved by the Research Advisory Committee headed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur. Quinquennial Research Programme for the period 2011-12 to 2015-16 has been prepared by giving a new direction, dimension and approach to the research activities to be taken up in the coming five years. To maintain continuity of on-going research programmes, long term projects of the previous Quinquennial Research Programme have been continued for maintenance and observation purposes. The new research activities to be taken up have been categorized under four main Project Themes of genetic nature

1. Forest Genetics & Plant Improvement.
2. Silvicultural Studies & Trials.
3. Forest Management Studies.
4. Forestry Research Extension & Documentation.

The proposed Project Themes have been kept to be of generic nature so as to enable mid-term inclusion of various types of new and appropriate research projects funded by other departments of State and Central Government or other national and international donor agencies within the ambit of the Quinquennial Research Programme in vogue. The implementation strategies for each of the proposed Project Themes have been spelt out in the proposed Quinquennial Research Programme and that corresponding to each of the strategies, new and ongoing project activities have been proposed along with physical and financial input, their implementation strategy viz. in-house and /or through out sourcing.

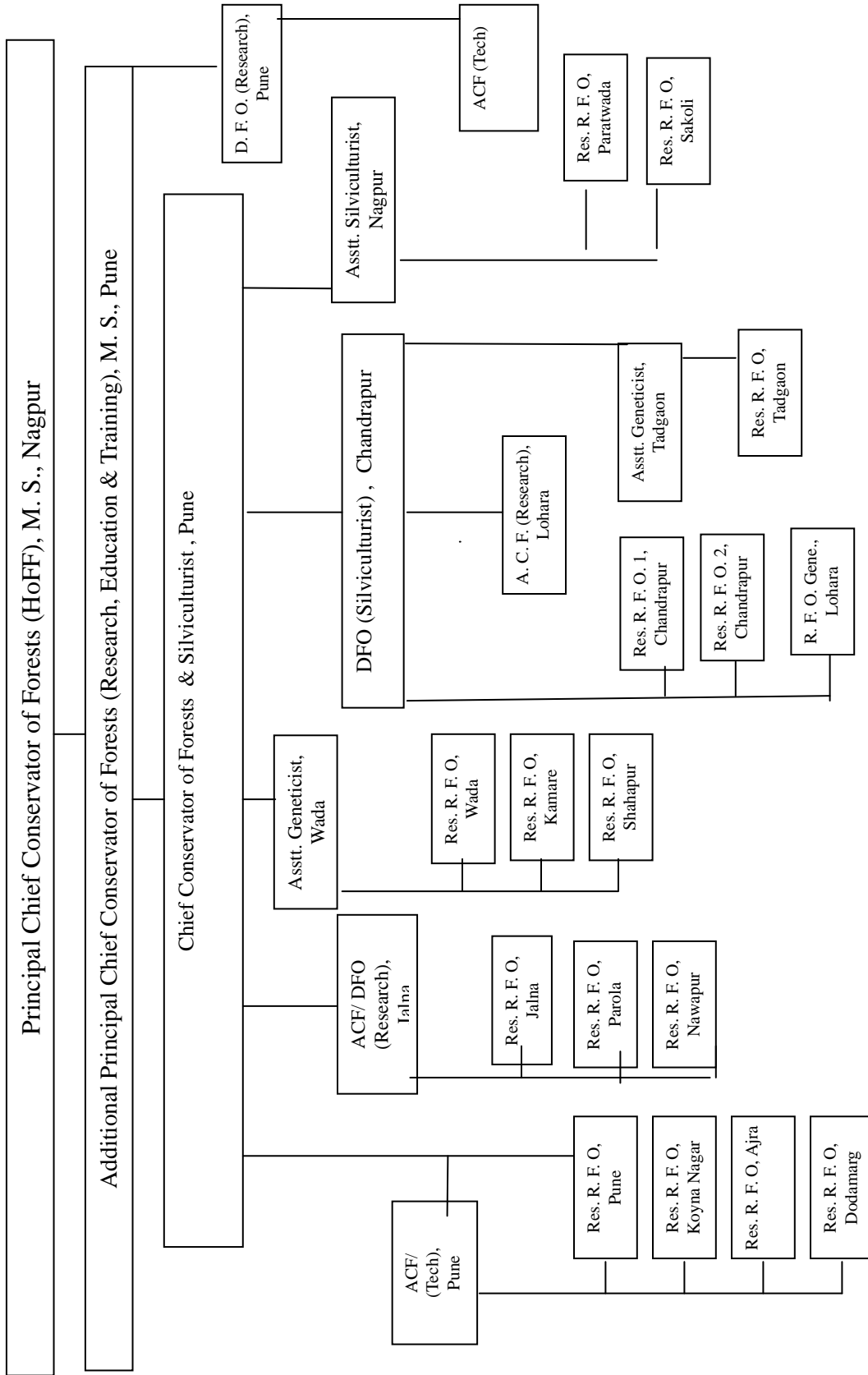
The activities involving pure research will generally be out sourced to State/ National level forestry institutions, universities etc. engaged in the field of forestry research. While the applied research component consisting of field trials will be carried out in-house by the research wing. As there is a pressing need to study the current forest management scenario, a new project theme named Forest Management Studies has been incorporated in new Quinquennial Research Programme under this project theme, studies to evaluate the impact of the various works undertaken by the department like socio economic impact assessment of JFM activities, Soil & Moisture Conservation, afforestation activities etc. have been included which will be generally outsourced to specialized agencies.

As Maharashtra does not have a State Forest Research Institute of its own, the research wing mainly takes up applied research work while pure research works are referred to the Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur and other institutes.

Since inception of CAMPA fund, the research wing has intensified its activity and the focus has been given on NTFP's including medicinal plants. Various research projects on sustainable harvesting of NTFP's have been taken up. The capacity building of research staff has been incorporated in action plan through organizing trainings/ workshop in the reputed national research institutes. The strengthening of JFM committees through research interventions is also new step taken by the research wing. The projects regarding evaluation of JFM, sacred groves have been taken up through centrally sponsored schemes.

The Extension activity is being intensified through publication of brochures of prioritised plants, silvicultural report and periodical journal 'Van Sanshodhan Patrika'. The digitization of 'Central Forest Library' has been taken up for easier access to forestry literature. This shall be definitely helpful to forest officers. The preservation of rare, old and valuable books is also main objective of digitization. The website ccfretpune.gov.in is also being used for extension purpose.

ORGANIZATIONAL SET UP OF THE RESEARCH WING



Jurisdiction :

Jurisdiction of the research wing extends over the entire forest area of Maharashtra. However for ease of working and for administrative control Research Centres have been set up in various agro climatic zones covering all the forest circle of Maharashtra.

The field works of the research wing are carried out by the Research Range Forest Officer who are in charge of Research Centres. The Research Centres are divided into Research Station, which are headed by Research Forester. In all there are 17 Research Centres and 49 Research Stations spread over the various agro climatic zones of Maharashtra.

List of Reserch Centres and Reserch Stations, in various agro climatic zones are given below.

Research Centre (RFO Incharge)	Research Station (Forester Incharge)	District	Year of establishment	Soil Type	Comptt./ Survey No.	Agroclimatic Zone	Area (ha.)
1	2		3	4	5	6	7
Chief Conservator of Forests & Silviculturist, Pune							
Pune	Hadapsar	Pune	1960	Black cotton mixed with lateratic murumi	S. No. 187/188	Transition zone - II	4.00
	Research Garden	Pune	1940	Black cotton mixed with lateratic	S. No. 500	Transition zone - II	1.00
	Parawadi	Pune	2003	Black cotton & Red murumi	26	Transition zone - II	10.00
	Lingmala	Satara	1965	Red lateratic murumi	81	Transition zone - II	60.00
	Gureghar	Satara	1956	Red lateratic murumi	69	Transition zone - II	84.48
	Bondarwadi	Satara	1968	Red lateratic murumi	139	Transition zone - II	20.00
Koynanagar	Koynanagar	Satara	1965	Black with gravels & murumi	97, 100, 101, 102, 112 & 113	Transition zone - I	60.00
	Shirshinge	Satara	1967	Black with gravels & murumi	7, 34 & 40	Transition zone - I	20.00
	Kisrule	Satara	1967	Black with gravels & murumi	79 pt., 80 pt. & 90 pt.	Transition zone - I	10.88
	Chirambe	Satara	1984	Lateratic	3 to 21	Transition zone - I	30.00
	Nerle		2002	Black with gravels & murumi	428	Transition zone - I	20.00
	Retre Dharan	Sangli	2005	Lateratic murumi brown to yellowish in colour	124	Transition zone - I	17.00

Doda marg	Padave Mazgaon	Sindhudurg	1966	Red lateritic	8, 19 & 26	Transition zone - I	19.12
	Tervan Medhe	Sindhudurg	1980	Red lateritic	48	Very high rainfall zone with lateritic soil	93.27
	Fondiye	Sindhudurg	1983	Red lateritic	20 Pt. & 22	Very high rainfall zone with lateritic soil	84.93
	Chafeli	Sindhudurg	2004	Lateritic	17(2), 19 & 93/2	Very high rainfall zone with lateritic soil	2.50
	Nirwade	Sindhudurg	2004	Lateritic	91	Very high rainfall zone with lateritic soil	2.50
Ajra	Parewadi	Kolhapur	1980	Lateritic murumi	29, 39, 43 & 46	Transition zone - I	25.00
	Sulgaon	Kolhapur	1978	Lateritic murumi with gravels	74 to 76, 81 & 93 to 99	Transition zone - I	15.00
	Dewarde	Kolhapur	1981	Lateritic murumi	110, 116, 121, 128, 129	Transition zone - I	80.00
	Kasar Kandgaon	Kolhapur	1980	Lateritic murumi	81 & 82	Transition zone - I	30.00
	Chandewadi	Kolhapur	2002	Lateritic murumi	47	Transition zone - I	36.00
	Bacchi	Kolhapur	2004	Lateritic murumi with gravels	98 to 101 & 104	Transition zone - I	15.00
TOTAL							740.68
Assistant Geneticist, Wada							
Wada	Wada	Thane	1967	Water logged Black cotton	512	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	67.00
Shahapur	Shahapur	Thane	1942	Well drained Black	881	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	4.73
	Palshin	Thane	1967	Reddish black murumi	948	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	25.90
	Murbad	Thane	1997	Murumi & bouldery	773	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	25.00
	Kalamba	Thane	2002	Water logged Black cotton	S. No. 95, 96	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	10.85
Kamare	Kamare	Thane	1979	Water logged Black cotton	S. No. 371, 374, 435, 808, 80	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	199.49
	Wangaon	Thane	1962	Well drained Reddish	S. No. 25, 92, 253	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	56.60
	Bharad	Thane	2001	Well drained Black	239	Very high rainfall zone with non lateritic soil	4.50
TOTAL							394.07

Asstt. Conservator of Forests (Research), Jalna							
Jalna	Jalna	Jalna	1984	Black cotton	S. No. 204	Assured rainfall zone	50.00
Parola	Eklagna	Jalgaon	1984	Black cotton	Kuran 36	Assured rainfall zone	36.00
	Kadaji	Jalgaon	1984	Black cotton	55	Scarcity zone	20.00
	Mondhale	Jalgaon	1984	Black cotton	349	Scarcity zone	38.00
Nawapur	Nawapur	Nandurbar	1984	Red loam	S. No. 285	Transition zone - II	4.00
	Ukalapani	Nandurbar	1984	Red loam	Coupe No. 63/B	Transition zone - II	14.00
	Karanji	Nandurbar	1984	Red loam	Coupe No. 7 & 10	Transition zone - II	28.00
TOTAL							190.00
GRAND TOTAL AREA							1369.75ha

Divisional Forest Officer (Silviculturist), Chandrapur							
Lohara	Lohara	Chandrapur	1969	Granite gneiss	397, 398, 403, 407, 409	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	268.00
	Indrasen Bardi	Chandrapur	1995	Granite gneiss	406	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	42.00
Tadgaon	Tadgaon	Chandrapur	1982	Archaean gneiss	194	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	8.00
	Kothi	Chandrapur	1983	Archaean gneiss	104	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	39.00
	Botanpundi	Chandrapur	1988	Archaean gneiss	180	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	10.00
TOTAL							367.00

Assistant Silviculturist, Nagpur							
Paratwada	Nagpur	Nagpur	1960	Black loamy	13	Moderate to moderately high rainfall zone	0.58
	Chandani, Danapur	Wardha	1965	Red sandy loam with hard strata	160	Moderate to moderately high rainfall zone	15.71
	Wardha Nursery	Wardha	1965	Loamy mixed with sand		Moderate to moderately high rainfall zone	1.38
Sakoli	Mohagatta	Bhandara	1970	Red sandy loam	188	High Rainfall zone with soils from rocks of mixed origin	446.10
TOTAL							463.67