

Forest institute launches short-term courses

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Coimbatore: The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB) has introduced a range of paid courses on topics like applications of biotechnology, taxonomy, applied forest entomology and urban forestry. The courses, which range from one to three days, are held from September to January. Classes will be handled by senior IFGTB scientists. The institute has introduced 12 courses and a timetable, along with details of the co-ordinator for each course. The fee for the courses would be Rs 1,500 for a one-day course, Rs 3,000 for a two-day course and Rs 4,500 for a three-day course.

“While some courses require minimum qualification like matriculation, others require an undergraduate degree in engineering or a post-graduate degree in Agriculture, Botany or Microbiology. But we have some courses for school students, farmers and tree growers, which do not have minimum qualification,” IFGTB director Dr Mohit Gera, IFS told TOI.

Some of the courses are Culture and Multiplication of *Trichoderma viride* from Organic Wastes, Urban Forestry, Plant Taxonomy, Seed Handling Testing and Quality Seedling Production of Forest Species, Characterization of Forest Genetic Resources and its Conservation, Biofertilizer Techniques of Quality Seedling Production and Agroforestry.

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