

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To  
The Hony. Editor,  
Indian Forester,  
P.O. New Forest,  
Dehra Dun (Uttarakhand).

**Sub : Indication of gregarious flowering in *Bambusa tulda* in North-eastern states of India.**

Sir,

*Bambusa tulda* (Deobans), a symbodial bamboo species, grows well in humid tropical and sub-tropical regions of the Indian sub continent. In India it is distributed naturally in the North and North-eastern parts of the country. It produces culms up to 10-15 m height and 4-8 cm dia. Flowering is reported generally after 25-30 years.

During a collection trip to North-eastern part of India, Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun team had collected germplasm of *Bambusa tulda* from Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Asam) during the 3rd week of November 2007. The collected material of

**Fig. 1**



**Fig. 2**



this species was planted in earthenware pots containing soil, sand and farmyard manure and kept in the glasshouse of Plant Physiology Discipline, Botany Division F.R.I, Dehra Dun.

It was observed that in the 2nd week of February 2008 while other Bamboo species sprouted and formed leaves, *B. tulda* flowered and subsequently set seeds (Fig. 1). These seeds dropped in the same pot and germinated vigorously during April 2008 (Fig. 2). Since all plants of *B. tulda* collected from RFRI Jorhat flowered, set seeds and all seeds germinated, it is a clear cut indication of gregarious flowering of this species in North-eastern states of the country.

Accordingly the State Forest Departments are advised to survey the area and make special observation to confirm the gregarious flowering in *B. tulda* in North-eastern states of the country and make advance planning for collection and utilization of bulk seed of this species to make best use of seed for production of planting material and culms for diverse uses which will subsequently dry after flowering.

Yours Faithfully  
Sd/-  
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