

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON
PROSOPIS: ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE AND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES
February 20-21, 2009, Bhuj

Background

The genus *Prosopis* has over forty species with only four indigenous to Asia. *Prosopis juliflora* is the most common across arid and semiarid regions of the Indian subcontinent due to its high adaptiveness to the extreme environmental conditions. This species has been regarded as aggressive pioneers and hence considered as a weed species in India by virtue of its ability to occupy highly degraded land and also encroach fertile lands in various ecosystems. This results in ecological imbalances and economic loss; nevertheless, it has valuable uses like nutrient enrichment of soil, fodder for livestock, firewood, and charcoal besides being a source of Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs). Though it seems to have immense value to poor communities in drylands and a problematic species to productive ecosystems, its wise use can be realizable through best possible utilization and innovative management practices to control the invasion and spread. Admittedly, *P. juliflora* has significant potential in augmenting the rural economy and livelihood options. The definition of problems and potential assume significance at this time with greatest importance attached to biodiversity conservation and protecting the ecosystem balance in its totality.

In view of these specifics, Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology (GUIDE) is organizing a national symposium with an attempt to bring together researchers, managers, decision makers and stakeholders to a single forum to find out best suitable management strategies. This symposium mainly aims at addressing the core issue of management of *P. juliflora* for its economic utilities and effectively managing the invasion, while improving the overall biodiversity. The workshop provides an opportunity for sharing the existing knowledge base and debate on various themes to evolve suitable tools for the management of the species in ecologically fragile ecosystems and minimize threat to the biodiversity and augment economy of the dependent community.

Sessions/Themes

- I. ***P. Juliflora*: Status and Distribution in India**
History of *P. juliflora* in India, status and distribution, local and regional significance, long-term Monitoring, dispersal and regeneration potential, predictive models.
- II. **Ecological issues and significance**
Ecological processes (soil, water, biological interactions: species, ecosystem, and landscape level) and implications for climate change.
- III. **Economic implications**
Energy, non-timber forest produce (NTFP), silvo-pastoral system, fodder, food resource, medicinal use and others.
- IV. **Management Options**
Case studies, biotechnological interventions, new insights and innovative approaches, livelihood options, long-term monitoring, policy issues and regulatory framework interventions,
- V. **Discussion for Action Plans and Resolution**

Venue and Date

The Symposium will be held during **20-21 February 2009** at Bhuj. The Venue for the event is **Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology (www.gujaratdesertecology.com), Bhuj.**

Important Dates:

The following time schedule is to be strictly adhered to:

Submission of Extended Abstracts	17 th January 2009
Communication regarding acceptance of extended abstracts	25 th January 2009
Registration for presenting authors	05 th February 2009
Registration for Participation Only (Neither Presenting Paper or Poster but attending)	
Intimation letter to the participants	07 th February 2009

Registration Fee

For bona fide Students and Research Scholars: Rs. 500/-, For Faculty and NGOs: Rs. 700/-

For Accompanying Person: Rs. 300/-, For Delegates: Rs. 1000/-, For Industries: Rs. 2000/-

The registration fee includes symposium kit and food during the stay at Bhuj (for the duration of the symposium). All persons intending to participate in the Symposium will have to register themselves by paying the registration fee. The fee has to be paid by Demand Draft, drawn in favour of "Director, GUIDE" payable at Bhuj".

The duly filled-in registration form along with the Demand Draft drawn in favour of Director-GUIDE, payable at Bhuj for the requisite amount accompanied by **Three hard copies of the Extended Abstract in the Prescribed Format and a soft copy of the same in CD-ROM (MS Word Format) has to be sent by post to**

Dr. S. F. Wesley Sunderraj,
Convener

National Symposium on Prosopis: Ecological, Economic Significance and Management Challenges
Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology, Po Box# 83, Mundra Road, Bhuj – 370 001, Gujarat

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Additional contacts:

Dr. B. Anjan Kumar Prusty, Co-Convener, +91-99748 43778

Dr. V. Vijay Kumar, Director-in-Charge, +91-98242 20389, +91-98250 83869

Symposium Programme

Date	Time	Event
Day – I (20 Feb 2009)	08: 00 - 09: 30 hrs	Registration
	09: 30 – 10: 45 hrs	Inauguration
	10: 45 – 11: 00 hrs	Tea Break
	11: 00 – 13: 00 hrs	Tech. Session - I
	13: 00 – 14: 00 hrs	Launch Break
	14: 00 – 16: 00 hrs	Tech. Session - II
	16: 00 – 16: 15 hrs	Tea Break
Day – II (21 Feb 2009)	16: 15 – 18: 15 hrs	Tech. Session – III
	09: 00 - 11: 00 hrs	Tech. Session - IV
	11: 00 – 11: 15 hrs	Tea Break
	11: 15 – 12: 30 hrs	Tech. Session - V
	12: 30 – 13: 30 hrs	Valedictory Ceremony
	13: 30 – 14: 15 hrs	Launch Break
	14: 30 onwards	Post Symposium tour to Banni and Kala Dungar for a glimpse of Greater Rann of Kachchh "The Saline Desert"

Information for Contributors

The authors are invited to contribute original results of their work that has not either been presented and/or published elsewhere. Each author/co-author can contribute a maximum of two papers only. In the case of papers with multiple authors, they may indicate the name of the presenting author by an underline. The first author has to give an undertaking to the effect that his/her research paper is based on original work and that it has not been previously published. However, authors are free to publish the presented papers elsewhere after the Symposium.

Format of Extended Abstracts

- The extended abstract should not exceed 1,200 words inclusive of text, figures, graphs etc with 1.5 line space. Each A4 size page should have a margin of 30 mm at the top and 25 mm on other three

sides. All pages of the extended abstract should be numbered consecutively starting from '1', and the page numbers are to be right aligned at the bottom of each page.

- The extended abstract should be prepared as MS Word document file using "Times New Roman" characters for the text. All photographs and figures should be embedded in the MS Word document file in the appropriate location for completeness. However, they should be also submitted as separate jpeg or tiff format files for convenience of better reproduction, if found necessary.
- The title of the extended abstract and the name(s) and address(es) of the authors including e-mail ID should be placed in the top of the first page. The title should be upper case, bold, font size 13; the name(s) of the author(s) should be title case, bold, font size 12; and the addresses of the author(s) should be title case, regular, font size 12, all being horizontally centered.
- Kindly specify the themes/sessions, where you wish to include your abstract before the title.
- The extended abstract is to be organized under four sections; a) Introduction, b) Materials and Methods, c) Results and Conclusions and d) References. If necessary, a brief acknowledgement after the References. These four sub titles are to be title case, bold, font size 12 and horizontally left indented.
- Ideally, 'Introduction' can be about 150 words, 'Materials and Methods' can be about 300 words, 'Results and Conclusions' can be about 650 words (inclusive of all figures and tables) and 'References' can be about 100 words.
- SI units alone should be used, all symbols and abbreviations should be clearly defined; photographs, if any, will be printed in black and white.
- The style of citing 'References' should be author(s) name and year within brackets {example: (Prusty and Azeez 2007)}.
- The listing of the 'References' at the end of the extended abstract in alphabetical order should follow the example as below :

Allen SE (1989). *Chemical Analysis of Ecological Materials* (Ed.). 2nd Edition, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 368 pp.

Prusty BAK and Azeez PA (2007). Vertical distribution of alkali and alkaline earth metals in the soil profile of a wetland-terrestrial ecosystem complex in India. *Australian Journal of Soil Research*. 45 (7): 533-542.

The manuscripts not prepared in the stipulated format are liable to be rejected.

Selection of Papers

The participants should submit Extended Abstract of the paper/papers to be presented, before the **last date**. The abstracts will be evaluated by a Technical Committee for their suitability for presentation. The Technical Committee will re-classify the papers, if necessary, for oral and poster presentation. However, if an author prefers Poster Presentation, it may be indicated on the top margin. The Decision of the Technical Committee in this regard will be final and irrevocable. Acceptance or rejection of the abstract will be communicated through **e-mail only**.

Presentation of Papers

15 minutes will be allotted for each oral presentation including discussion.

Oral Presentations: Audiovisual Equipment

Please note that for all oral presentations only Data Projection (PowerPoint) will be available for use by speakers.

Instructions on the preparation of poster displays will be sent to authors upon notification of the abstract's acceptance.

Poster Presentations

Posters will be a part of the extensive program and will be displayed within the exhibition area.

Proceedings

The Proceedings of the symposium will contain extended abstracts of all accepted papers and only registered participants are eligible for a free copy and a CD containing all the abstracts.

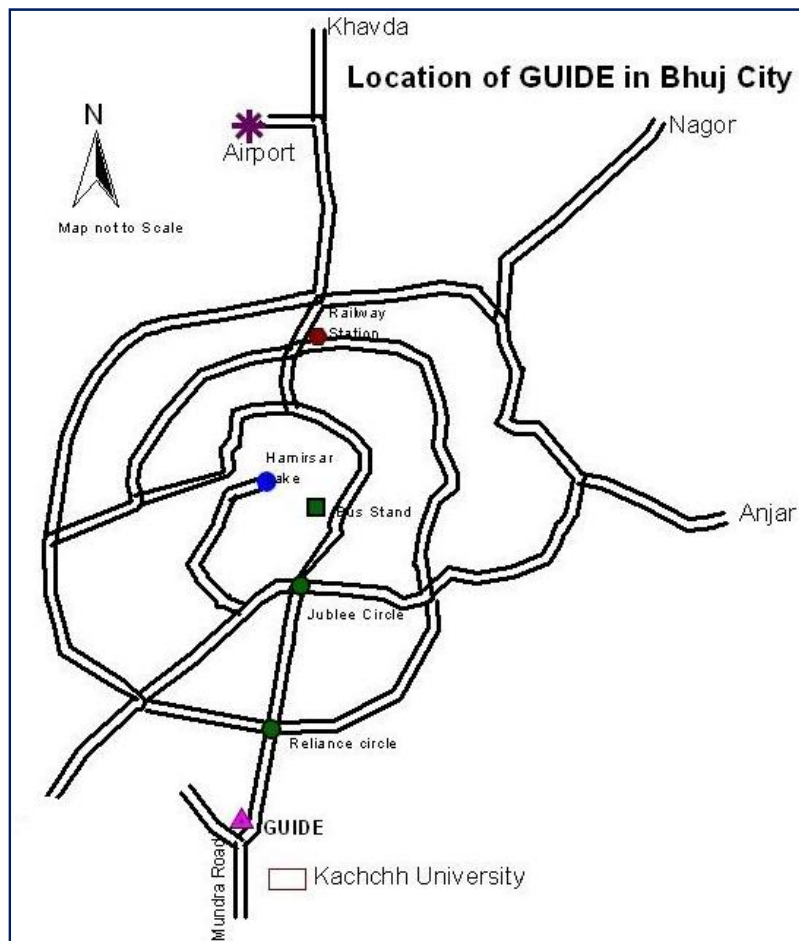
Travel and Accommodation

Participants are requested to arrange their accommodation and travel from their own resources. However, GUIDE would facilitate booking of accommodations.

Available accommodation facilities in Bhuj are as follows:

Hotel Names	Room Types and Rate (Rs. For 24 Hrs.)				Checkout Time
	Single		Double		
	A/C	Non A/C	A/C	Non A/C	
Prince	1800.00	800.00	2200.00	1000.00	12 Noon
Prince Residency	950.00	----	1200.00	----	
Lakeview	1050.00	500.00	1150.00	500.00	
Oasis	850.00	----	1850.00	----	
ILark	1800.00	----	2000.00, 2600.00	----	
KBN	1100.00	600.00	----	-----	
Anjali	850.00	250.00	1000.00	450.00	24 hours
Sahara Palace	750.00	380.00	950.00	500.00	

Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology (GUIDE) is located in the outskirts of the city of Bhuj. Bhuj is well connected with all the corners of the country through trains. It has aerial connectivity with Mumbai. There are convenient bus services throughout the state of Gujarat linking Bhuj with all major cities. GUIDE is on the Mundra Road, about 5 km south of Bhuj city. It is about 8 km from the railway station and 10 km from the air strip.



Organizing Committee

Dr. S. F. Wesley Sunderraj, Convener
Dr. B. Anjan Kumar Prusty, Co-convener
Dr. V. Vijay Kumar, Director-in-Charge, GUIDE
Dr. G. A. Thivakaran, Head, Wetland Division, GUIDE
Dr. Ashish Kumar, Scientist, GUIDE
Dr. Pankaj. N. Joshi, Jr. Scientist, GUIDE

Advisory Committee

Shri. Sudhir Mankad, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, GUIDE (formerly Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat)
Shri. Sandeep Virmani, Vice-Chairman, GUIDE
Dr. P. A. Azeez, Sr. Principal Scientist and Head, EIA Division, SACON, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
Dr. M. P. Reddy, Head, Wasteland Division, CSMCRI, Bhavnagar, Gujarat
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Shri. R. L. Meena, IFS, CF, Kachchh Circle, Bhuj, Gujarat
Shri. Kantisen Shroff, Shrujan, Bhuj, Gujarat
Shri. Madhukant Mankad, KVK, Mundra, Gujarat

REGISTRATION FORM
NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON
PROSOPIS: ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE AND MANAGEMENT
CHALLENGES

February 20-21, 2009, Bhuj

1. Name in full: Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.....
2. Designation
3. Organization/Institution
4. Address:

Phone:, Fax:

e-mail:

5. Accompanying Person:

6. Presenting Paper Yes / No

Poster Yes / No

7. Title of the Paper

Enclosed: Extended Abstract (e-version and hard copy):

8. Accommodation Required: Yes / No if Yes:

9. Arrival at Bhuj: Bus / Train / Air Date:..... and Time:

10. Details of Registration fee:Amount..... Details of DD.....

11. Place: Date:

Signature

Forwarded by Supervisor/Guide/Head of the Department
(only for bona fide students/scholars)

(Signature with Seal)

All the participants will have to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. However, GUIDE would assist in booking accommodation with advance payment along with the registration fee.