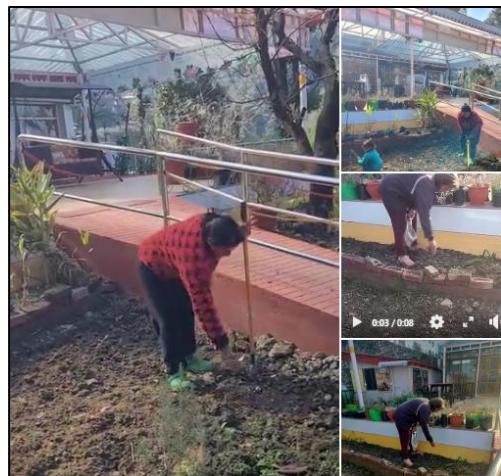


HimSurabhi: Aroma Living Museum Report 2025

1. On 30th January 2025, a warm and pleasant day marked the beginning of the German chamomile sowing at Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute. With deep-rooted commitment to hands-on learning and sustainable practice, the seeds were lovingly sown by Dr. Jyoti Marwah, Yachana, and their youngest budding naturalist, little Arav “Tiny” Bhole. A symbolic start to the growing season, it was a moment that blended tradition, mentorship, and a heartfelt connection to Nature.



2. On 10th February 2025, the Kisan Mela at CIMAP Pantnagar proved to be an enriching and memorable experience for Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute. The team was honored by the recognition of their work in the keynote address by Dr. Om Prakash Singh, Vice Chancellor of Uttarakhand Open University. A special highlight was the heartfelt performance by young singer Yachana, whose voice captivated the audience and powerfully conveyed the importance of medicinal and aromatic plants through the institute's signature song. Visitors showed enthusiastic interest in the personal care products, exploring the thoughtfully curated range derived from these valuable Himalayan botanicals.



3. On 24th February 2025, as the sun cast its gentle warmth over the hills, the girls at Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute engaged in a hands-on session of agarbatti (incense stick) making. Harnessing the natural heat, they skillfully transformed pulverized powders of aromatic plants into fragrant incense, blending tradition with sustainability. The activity reflected both the essence of skill-building and a deep respect for the aromatic treasures of nature.



4. On 28th February 2025, Dr. Om Prakash Duggal Charitable Society was honored with the Healthcare Heroes Award at Hyatt Centric, Dehradun. The award was presented by Chief Secretary Smt. Radha Raturi, on behalf of the hosts Veloxxmedia, in collaboration with SETU Aayog and SIDCUL, Government of Uttarakhand. Dr. Jyoti Marwah received the award on behalf of the Society, recognizing its dedicated contributions in the field of healthcare, natural wellness, and aromatic plant-based solutions. A proud moment celebrating impactful work rooted in nature and community well-being.



5. On 6th March 2025, it was an insightful and inspiring day at the State-Level Conference by SETU Aayog, held under the theme "*Empowering Women for a Viksit and Sashakt Uttarakhand*". The immersive panel discussion featured voices committed to advancing women's roles in development, where experiences, challenges, and success stories were

shared. The session highlighted actionable pathways for inclusive growth, and Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute was honored to be part of this collective vision for an empowered Uttarakhand.



6. On 13th March 2025, the 2025 Buransh journey began with joy and reverence. Working with these vibrant blossoms was a sheer delight, evoking a sense of spiritual connection and gratitude. The Buransh (Rhododendron) flowers, especially when combined with Chamomile and Lavender, created a mesmerizing elixir—soothing to the senses and healing to the soul. As always, we hope that future generations continue to receive the blessings of these Himalayan treasures.



7. Presiding at the inaugural session of the conference on "*Science and Technology of Natural Aromas for Societal Benefits and Women Empowerment*" held at Vengurla and concluding on 22nd March 2025, it was an honour to share the stage with Chief Guest Dr. Vibha Malhotra Sahney, Head of the Aroma Mission, Government of India. Organized by Barrister Khardekar College Vengurla, Sindhudurg Council, Kolhapur

Garden Club, and Indian Women Scientists Association Kolhapur, the event showcased valuable contributions from Himsurabhi: Aroma Museum Mussoorie through Himalayan flowers and value-added aromatic products. The initiative focused on the urgent need to move away from phthalates and synthetic, petroleum-based substances found in harmful aerosols and deodorants, which act as endocrine disruptors. A special thanks to Dr. Girish Soman from Satara for his effort in extracting Surangi CO₂ for this conference—a treasured collaboration. The cultural evening on 21st featured a beautiful Pahari dance performance by Rajshree Rawat from Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Kudos to the organizing visionaries Dr. Dhanashree Patil, Dr. Seema Gaekwad, and Dr. Pallavi Kulkarni along with their enthusiastic Konkan team. A proud highlight was the launch of *SHIVSA*, our natural perfume uniting blooms of the Himalayan Shivaliks and Konkan Sahyadri, officiated by Dr. Sahney. The event also marked the beginning of *Himsurabhi Aroma Business*—a collaborative venture with young medical professionals passionate about Konkan aromas. With several invitations extended from Kolhapur, Himsurabhi is now preparing to take this fragrance journey further.



8. On 26th March 2025, *Tree Take* magazine published a vital article by Dr. Jyoti Marwah titled "Inhaling Aerosols Can Lead to Cardiac Arrest in Teens," raising urgent awareness about the harmful effects of synthetic aerosols, particularly on adolescents. The article highlights how these aerosols, commonly found in perfumes and deodorants, act as endocrine disruptors and can dangerously impact heart health, even leading to cardiac incidents. Dr. Marwah emphasizes the growing need to switch to

natural, plant-based alternatives to protect health and the environment. It's a must-read that urges reflection on our everyday lifestyle choices.

9. On 29th March 2025, it was the perfect stage to harvest our *Rhododendron arboreum*—locally known as *Buransh*—from the forested grounds of Dr. Om Prakash Duggal Charitable Society's HimSurabhi: Aroma Museum in Library, Mussoorie. A true delight to work with such fresh blossoms, this marks the beginning of another beautiful cycle of value addition from nature's bounty. There's much more planned with the remaining flowers in the coming days.



10. On 10th April 2025, we observed our humble pollinators at work on the flowers of *Artemisia*—a sight of gratitude and harmony with nature. At Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute, we maintain a dedicated bee colony nestled in our sofa, their chosen home. These in-house pollinators have already played a vital role with our Himalayan Golden Berries during February and March and are now actively aiding pollination across a variety of blooms including *Jatamansi*, *Chamomile*, *Mustard*, *Lavender*, *Magnolia*, *Elderberry*, and *Hissar*.



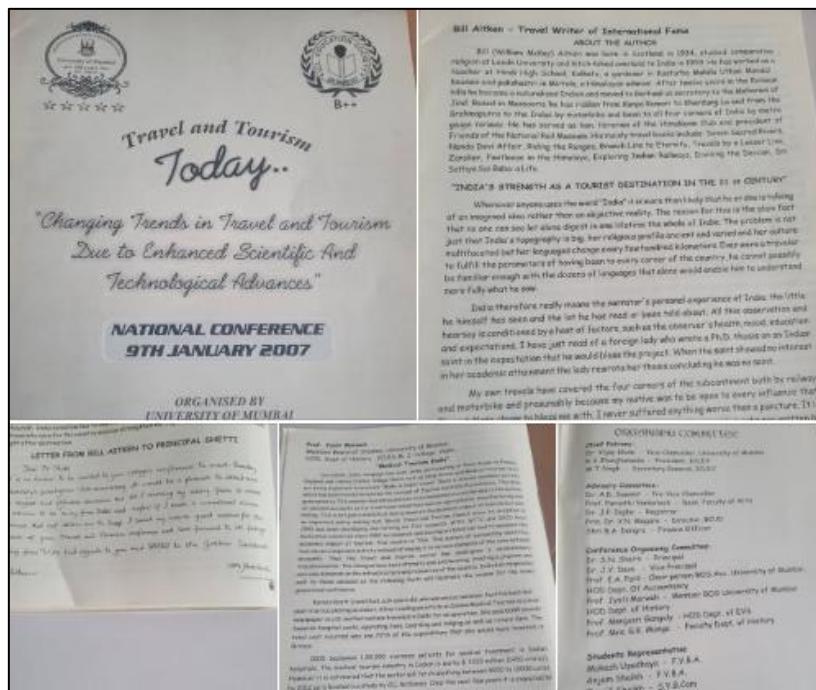
11. On 14th April 2025, at Ambedkar Chowk Mussoorie, we commemorated the 135th Jayanti of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the visionary architect of the Indian Constitution, in an event steeped in history and recognition. On this special occasion, the Dalit Samaj Academy conferred its Fellowship Award to Dr. Om Prakash Duggal Charitable Society, acknowledging its unwavering commitment and contributions. This honour, received at the hands of Hon'ble Minister Shri Ganesh Joshi and Mussoorie Nagar Palika Adhyaksha Smt. Meera Saklani, holds deep meaning for us as the legacy of Dr. Om Prakash Duggal is lovingly carried forward by his daughter in true spirit and word. Our heartfelt thanks to the Academy and Shri Sunil Sonkarji for this recognition—it means a great deal to both me and the Society.



12. 18th April 2025 — Immersed in the gentle warmth of the season, as the flowers bloom in full glory and life stirs all around. The buzz of bees, flutter of butterflies, hum of cicadas, calls of barbets, and soft dance of moths create a living symphony, occasionally kissed by passing showers from above — a beautiful reminder of Nature's rhythm and grace.



13. My humble tribute to the highly accomplished and acclaimed travel litterateur Shri Bill Aitken, Mussoorie's pride. I had the privilege of corresponding with him extensively in 2007, when I was Head of the History Department and organizing the University of Mumbai's sesquicentennial National Conference on "Travel and Tourism Today." Though unable to attend in person, Shri Aitken graciously contributed a thoughtful article that was published in our conference brochure, reflecting his deep engagement and support. Esteemed guests at the event included Ms. Aradhana Johri, IAS, Dr. Manoj Dixit (University of Lucknow), and Mrs. Anuradha Goel (Joint Director, Dept. of Culture, U.P.). I now seek to reconnect with whoever holds the rights to Shri Aitken's work, to return his contribution from this meaningful event and honor his legacy.



14. Vengurla's inspiring efforts to highlight the significance of natural aromas—both in flavours and fragrances—were beautifully led by Dr. Dhanashree Patil, with strong support from IWSA, Barrister Khardekar College, and the Sindhudurg Council. It was my privilege to deliver the Presidential Address on 21st March 2025 during this enriching initiative. A highlight of the experience was the exposure to Surangi flowers,

a rare and aromatic forest harvest of March. Let us continue to value and preserve Nature's bountiful grace in the form of natural aromas. <https://youtu.be/NsIFbhqvNbk>



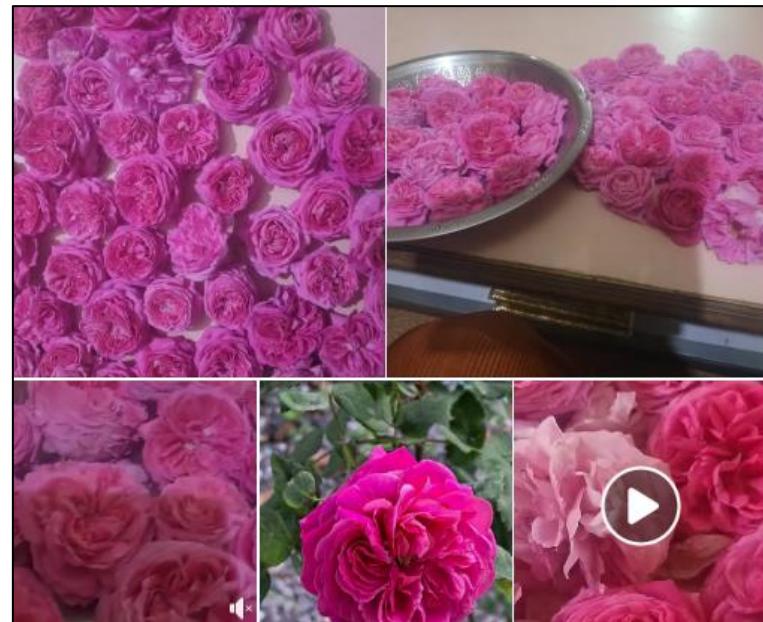
15. 24 April 2025— Understanding the value of our ancient culture in traditional perfumery—attar/itr—offers the healthiest path forward in a world overwhelmed by phthalates and hazardous synthetic fragrances in aerosols and deodorants. The Indian science of scent, known as Gandhshastra, along with Gandhvada, Gandhprakriya, and Gandhdravya, holds a rich legacy from the time of the Indus Valley Civilization, referenced in texts like the *Brihat Samhita*, *Agni Purana*, *Manasollasa*, and even the Rovesti Records of 1977. Let's honor this knowledge by consciously integrating natural plant components into our daily personal care and food habits—for wellness, sustainability, and cultural continuity. <https://youtu.be/YIU1mNZ09rE>



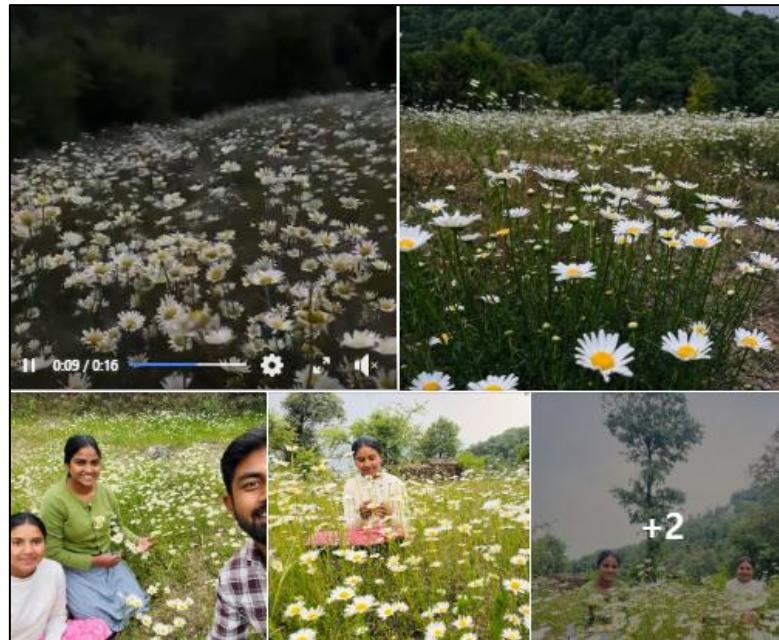
16. 24 April 2025 – Early mornings have become an olfactory delight with the blissful, healing aromas of grapefruit flowers, accompanied by the visual joy of bees and birds dancing around them. It's been over 20 days now, living in the serenity of God's grace and benevolence, surrounded by the quiet miracles of Nature.



17. 27 April 2025 – Daily Damask rose collection is in full swing at Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute, where the fragrant blooms are being lovingly harvested for preparing gulkand, rose infusions, and dried petals to be used in bakery delights. A beautiful blend of tradition and value addition, straight from Nature's lap.



18. 27 April 2025 – At *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute*, the Oxeye daisies are in full bloom across our hillside—standing tall and radiant, unfazed by the ongoing deforestation and human negligence. Despite it all, these resilient wildflowers continue their graceful rhythm of nature, lifting their heads each day to enchant, inspire, and remind us of the enduring beauty and healing power of the natural world.



19. 3rd May 2025 – What a phenomenal day it was as *Jabberkhet Nature Reserve* celebrated a decade of dedication to conservation! It was a privilege to blend my journey of establishing *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute* and *HimSurabhi: Aroma Museum* since 2018 with the inspiring story shared by Sejal Vohra and Vipul Jain about Jabberkhet's early days. As part of the celebration, we were delighted to launch our commemorative perfume "JabNat 10" — a tribute to *Jabberkhet* and *Nature*, marking this significant 10-year milestone.



20. 4th May 2025 – It was truly delightful to witness the enthusiasm of young minds as Ishaan and I planted an Elderberry shrub at *Jabberkhet Nature Reserve* on its 10th anniversary celebration held on 3rd May 2025. Ishaan had lovingly dug the pit for the sapling, which was specially prepared by Ravinder Marwah at *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute*. With hope and joy, we now look forward to seeing it bloom next year. A heartfelt appreciation to Ishaan for his hands-on love for nature!



21. 11th May 2025 – Forest Endeavors! As we commemorate *National Technology Day*, our focus at Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute and HimSurabhi: Aroma Museum & Interpretation Centre was on food preservation technology, especially for seasonal fruits now ready for harvest. A hands-on value addition training session was held for enthusiastic women from Siya Gaon and Kempty, empowering them with skills to preserve fruits for extended use and economic benefit. The session was also graced by Patrakar Virender ji, marking a meaningful intersection of tradition, innovation, and women-led development.



22. 13th May 2025 – A Day of Natural Flavours! What an incredible day of creation at *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute*! From the orchards and wild bounty of the hills, we preserved the essence of Apricots, Peaches, Timla (wild fig), Golden Himalayan Raspberries, Plums, and Nectarine—transforming them into a delightful range of Jams, Fruit Gelato, Jelly, Tutti Frutti, Pickles, Candy, and Chutneys. A true celebration of Himalayan flavours in their most natural and delicious forms!



23. 16th May 2025 – Kokum Buransh Sharbat by ShivSa! Delighted to announce a refreshing new creation from *ShivSa* — Kokum Buransh Sharbat, a perfect fusion of *Garcinia indica* (Kokum) and *Rhododendron* (Buransh). Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Chinmay Pishawekar from Kolhapur for gifting us these rich, tangy Kokum fruits that made this unique blend possible. A truly flavorful collaboration of the Konkan and Himalayan regions!



24. 13th May 2025 – It was a truly enriching two-day interaction with Dr. Chinmay Pishawekar from Kolhapur at the *HimSurabhi Aroma Museum, Mussoorie*. The focus of this special meeting was to share insights and compare Dr. Pishawekar's initiative on Golden Champaca from Kolhapur with our concrete extracted from Him Champa in Mussoorie. Though both flowers belong to the same family and are known for their heavenly aromas, their olfactory profiles are distinctly different, offering a fascinating

perspective on regional fragrance biodiversity. A delightful exchange of botanical and aromatic wisdom!



25. On 20 May 2025, Ami, who heads operations for a France-based IT company, along with her lovely niece, found solace and spiritual comfort at the *HimSurabhi Aroma Museum and Interpretation Centre for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants*, Mussoorie. The moment was beautifully captured as she embraced the Magnolia tree, in full bloom and buzzing with bees around its fragrant flowers—a heartfelt connection with nature and a gentle reminder of its healing power.



26. On 23rd May 2025, Peaches and plums had to be plucked raw today at *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute* due to an unexpected monkey menace. The ripening fruits had drawn a troop, prompting an early harvest to save the yield. Nature's blessings sometimes come with wild challenges!



27. On 24th May 2025, A delightful day at *Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute* as both *Lavandula angustifolia* (true lavender) and cotton lavender (*Santolina* spp.) came into full bloom. Their soothing fragrance filled the air, marking a perfect harmony of colour, calm, and nature's healing essence.



28. On 29th May 2025, A truly memorable day in Mussoorie as the first bloom of *Magnolia grandiflora* graced the estate of *Duggal Villa*—planted with love by Dr. O.P. Duggal in April 2018. This estate, purchased by him in 1958 from Rani Laxmi of Shivgarh, now celebrates the fulfillment of his cherished vision. Though he isn't here to witness this bloom, his legacy continues as we initiate the solvent extraction process of *Magnolia*

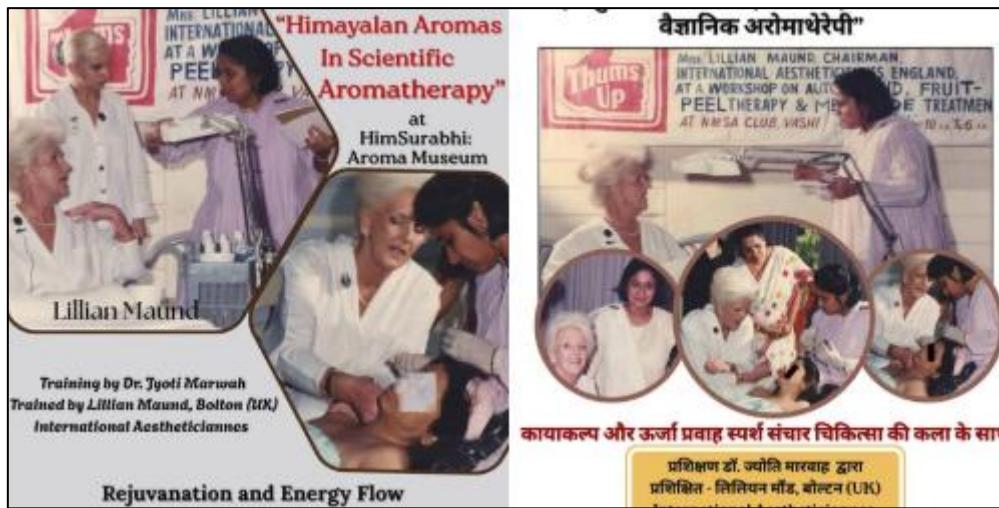
(*Him Champa*) for natural perfumery. A heartfelt tribute to his dream, now blossoming into reality.



29. On 31st May 2025, A fragrant milestone at Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute and HimSurabhi: Aroma Museum & Interpretation Centre at *Duggal Villa*, as we carried out the season's first distillation of Roman Chamomile essential oil. A moment of aroma, purity, and celebration—capturing the soul-soothing essence of this cherished bloom.



30. On 1st June 2025, Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute announces its upcoming training program titled "Train to Heal with Natural Himalayan Aromas." This unique initiative invites participants to explore the therapeutic power of Himalayan aromatic plants through hands-on sessions and guided learning. Scheduled for June 2025, the program had accepted only 10 registrations for immersive and personalized experience.



31. On 9th June 2025, participants from Bhatoli Gaon, Kempthy attended a hands-on training session at the HimSurabhi Aroma Museum, conducted by Dr. Jyoti Marwah and Ravinder Kumar Marwah, a chemical engineer from IIT Kanpur. The training included the collection of Roman Chamomile by the participants themselves, followed by a practical demonstration where they uploaded the plant material into the distillation unit to learn the process of extracting essential oil—highly valued in perfumery. Additionally, they received an informative discourse on making cold-pressed soaps using natural fragrances and were given a guided tour of the museum galleries, offering a comprehensive insight into aromatic plant value addition.



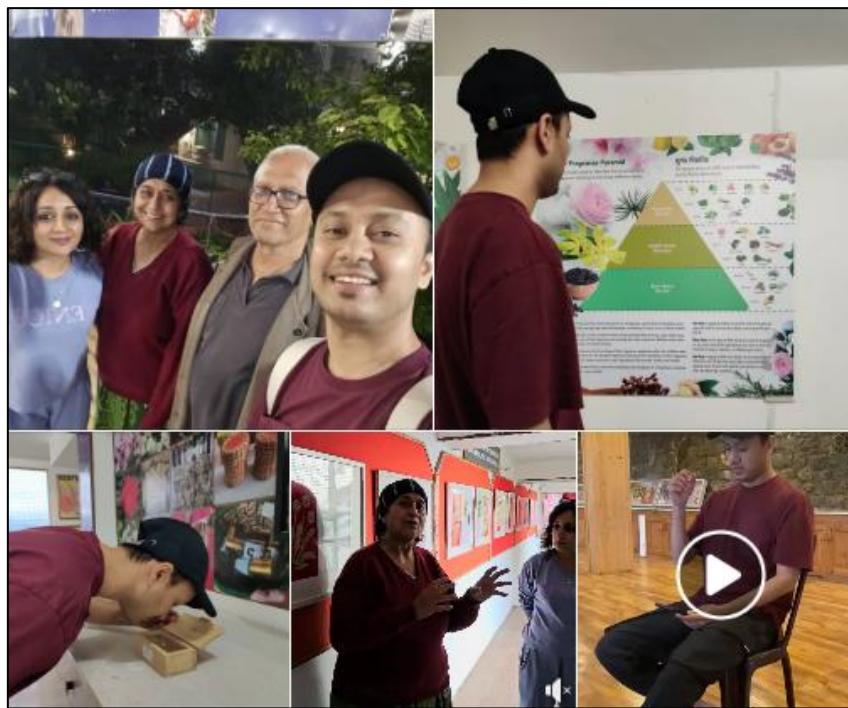
32. On 14th June 2025, it was time to relish the luscious raspberries—Nature's mouth-watering delight—ripening beautifully in our Vatika. These vibrant berries, rich in anthocyanins, essential fatty acids, and powerful antioxidants, were handpicked for creating healthful jams and sherbats. The evening harvest, kissed by the day's sunlight, added even more goodness and flavor, making it a truly rewarding day in our natural aromatic haven.



33. On 22nd June, the Himsurabhi Aroma Museum in collaboration with CSIR-CIMAP hosted an enlightening session on the benefits of floriculture. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Srivastava, Head of the Business Development Group at CIMAP Lucknow, shared various livelihood opportunities that flowers offer. Special invitee actor Prerna Panwar added grace to the event, which was also attended by NGOs and school counselors. A virtual session on Chakra Healing with Flowers was conducted by Nirmanee Director and Founder Nidhi Sharma from Hyderabad. Additionally, floriculturist Kalpana Sawant from Kolhapur gave a captivating demonstration on flower preservation using Golden Champaca. Each training held its unique charm, enriching participants with diverse floral knowledge.



34. On 24th June, it was a truly delightful evening at the HimSurabhi Aroma Museum, Mussoorie (Duggal Villa), graced by renowned singer Sourabh Joshi and Pinky Poonawala. Sourabh's soulful voice and beautifully sung song added magic to the gathering, making it a heartwarming celebration of unity and shared joy.



35. 16 जुलाई 2025 को मसूरी में हरेला पर्व के अवसर पर हिमसुरभि संग्रहालय में एल्डरबेरी फार्म की शुरुआत की गई, जिसमें 100 से अधिक एल्डरबेरी पौधे लगाए गए। यह पहल पर्यावरण संरक्षण, स्वास्थ्य संवर्धन और स्थानीय कृषि को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से की गई। मुख्य अतिथि सभासद सचिन गुहर और अन्य विशिष्ट अतिथियों ने पौधारोपण कर कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ किया। यह आयोजन कीन संस्था को समर्पित था, जिनकी मेहनत और समर्पण से फार्म स्थापित हुआ। विनबर्ग एलन स्कूल के छात्र-छात्राओं ने भी इस मौके पर भाग लिया, पौधों के बारे में जाना और पर्यावरण को लेकर अपनी जिज्ञासा व्यक्त की। डॉ. ज्योति मारवाह, जो पिछले पांच वर्षों से एल्डरबेरी पर शोध कर रही हैं, ने इस फार्म की प्रेरणा दी। उनका मानना है कि मसूरी में एल्डरबेरी की खेती से स्वास्थ्यवर्धक उत्पादों के साथ-साथ क्षेत्र की विशेष पहचान बनेगी। कार्यक्रम के अंत में हर्बल गार्डन की सैर और सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम का आयोजन भी किया गया।

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On 16th July 2025, the Elderberry Farm inauguration was celebrated alongside the felicitation of Keen for their dedicated efforts in building a clean and vibrant community. This occasion perfectly aligned with Harela festival, marking a proud moment as Mussoorie secured a prime position in cleanliness and environmental stewardship.



36. Book Launch of "Berry Whispers", Date: August 5, 2025, Venue: Auditorium, Vaze College, Mulund East, Mumbai. The National Centre for Science Communicators (NCSC), in collaboration with KET's Scientific Research Centre and the Dr. Om Prakash Duggle Charitable Trust, successfully organised the formal launch of the book "Berry Whispers" on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Auditorium, Vaze College, Mulund East. The event was graced by Prof. A. D. Sawant, President of the Society for Clean Environment and the National Society of Friends of Trees, and Former Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Mumbai. He attended the event as the Chief Guest and formally released the book. "Berry Whispers" is a reflective and thought-provoking literary work jointly authored by Dr. Jyoti Marwah, Dr. Danashree Patil, and Dr. A. Rajalaxmi.

The book explores subtle narratives and evocative themes drawn from nature, emotion, and human experience. Through poetic language and a sensitive lens, the authors invite readers into a contemplative space that celebrates the beauty of the everyday, while gently raising questions about life, relationships, and purpose. The programme brought together a distinguished gathering of individuals from the academic, scientific, and literary communities. It featured insightful addresses, thoughtful reflections on the book's thematic significance, and expressions of appreciation for the collaborative efforts behind the event. The audience responded warmly, and the event was widely appreciated for its content, organization, and spirit of intellectual engagement. The success of the launch reflects the shared commitment

of all stakeholders to promoting literary expression and strengthening the culture of science communication through creative and meaningful platforms.



37. On 10th August 2025, it was a delight to be amidst the students of Wynberg Allen Mussoorie. The show was managed so wonderfully by students themselves, as they skilled themselves in event management and hosting students for the inter school cultural competitions at Capta Caelum reach for the sky. It was a day of dance, music, photography, modeling to show concern for Natures Biodiversity and much more. It left us mesmerized as we were transported to a world of imagination, that let ideas flow into thoughtful action and perception most realistic. Grateful to the school for this grand opportunity to go back to those charming and carefree school days of fun and frolic. Above all meeting and coordinating with so many people who are working for the good of society in different ways, Mark Ogleby from Mumbai, Rajat Shakti, Nupur, Agam, Aashray and Surbhi (my friend). A day that made the heart feel young once again. Above all it left a lasting impression on my little Granddaughter Alaina. Who could relate to her school in London and was convinced that schools in India are as good as her school in London. A sincere word of appreciation for the hard work by teachers as they mold and prepare the students to take on the world as leaders. They are the real strength of any system that imparts education and character building for our future generations.



38. Divya Agarwal's views: A Heartfelt Gratitude to Dr. Jyoti Marwah Ma'am, Her Family & the Aroma Museum Experience in Mussoorie on Tuesday, 19th

August, me and my husband had one of the most beautiful experiences of our lives at the HIMSURABHI Aroma Museum at Duggal Villa, Mussoorie, under the guidance of the inspiring Dr. Jyoti Marwah ma'am. We learned the art of essential oil extraction from lavender leaves—an experience we both absolutely loved! Ma'am welcomed us with so much warmth, offering her soothing herbal tea and explaining every herb with such passion and detail. Sir added a special charm by serving us his homemade elderberry wine and even elderberry candies, which made the day even sweeter. Their lovely granddaughter (Aliana) melted our hearts. She proudly showed us all her creations—handmade soaps, perfumes, and other natural gifts and explained almost every herb in museum, her enthusiasm and creativity were truly inspiring! And how could we forget Brownie, their adorable dog? She was so affectionate and instantly reminded me of my own Tim Tim. My husband adored her too. Walking through the Aroma Museum was like entering a fragrant storybook—full of history, science, and the magic of Himalayan aromatic plants. Every corner was a blend of tradition and innovation. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank Dr. Jyoti Marwah ma'am, her husband, their daughter, sweet Alaina, little Brownie and other family members for making Tuesday such a heartwarming and unforgettable day. It wasn't just a visit—it was a memory for life.



40. On 1st September 2025, Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute introduced a Timru-based oil-pulling formulation for healthy gums and strong teeth. Drawing on in-house distilled essential oils and natural perfumery expertise, the blend pairs Timru (*Zanthoxylum armatum*) essential oil with cold-pressed carrier oil specifically sesame and coconut oil. The formulation aims to freshen breath, support oral hygiene, and encourage gentle lymphatic drainage from the oral cavity. Users are guided to choose the carrier oil that best suits them and to practice simple, self-applied routines that align with natural wellness principles.



41. On 29th September 2025, at the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow, Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute gained insightful exposure by learning the technology for dehydrated flower encapsulation. The hands-on experience provided a deep understanding of preserving the natural beauty, fragrance, and essence of flowers through scientific innovation. It was a wonderful entrepreneurial exposure, opening new avenues for sustainable product development, creativity, and the fusion of science with natural aesthetics.



42. On 30th September 2025, it was a day of wonderful exposure and learning during the visit to CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow, where a gracious meeting was held with the Director of CIMAP. The delegation, comprising members from Uttarakhand Watershed and Mussoorie Forest Division, was led by Dr. Jyoti Marwah from Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute. During the interaction, Dr. Ramesh Srivastava, Head of Business Development, assured full support for initiatives in the Tehri region, ranging from the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) to their value addition and commercialization. The visit served as a promising step toward strengthening collaborations for sustainable livelihood generation through Himalayan botanicals.



43. On 2nd October 2025, Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute received a fragrant gift of roses from Kannauj, graciously sent by friend Dhirendra Dubey. These exquisite blooms, destined for the preparation of Gulkand, filled the air with their divine aroma. As the team awaited departure at the railway station, the corridors and waiting room transformed into a naturally perfumed space, glowing with freshness and color. The spontaneous beginning of the Gulkand preparation marked a joyful celebration of fragrance, friendship, and the timeless charm of Kannauj's roses.



44. On 8th October 2025, Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute celebrated the delightful creation of Hissar Raspberry Jam, made from the much-loved raspberries of the Himalayan region. The berries, carefully frozen since July for nearly two months, retained their natural color, aroma, and nutrients. When finally transformed into jam, the flavor proved naturally intoxicating rich, wholesome, and free from any additives or preservatives. This delicious and healthy food creation perfectly embodied the Institute's philosophy of combining purity, sustainability, and Himalayan freshness in every jar.



45. The Uttarakhand Watershed Directorate has arranged and invited the society for two days training of farmers in Rishikesh from 20th to 21st Nov. 2025, on “Essential oils and Plants extract as fragrances and flavours in food and Personal Care Products”.



46. On 17 Oct. 2025, a Walnut Pericarp-based Shampoo Bar was developed and showcased at the Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute and the HimSurabhi Aroma Museum. The product utilizes walnut pericarp, known for its antibacterial activity due to juglone, and reflects an initiative toward sustainable, plant-based value addition. Positive feedback is anticipated.



47. On 19 October, the morning was marked as Rose Lolly Time, with fresh rose flowers extracted into syrup and transformed into lollies to commemorate Chhoti Diwali and in loving remembrance of my parents. The occasion celebrated purity, taste, and gratitude, while gently reaffirming the importance of compassion toward all living beings and the practice of enjoying life without causing harm to animals, birds, reptiles, or plants.



48. On 19 Oct, Pine pollen, often described as a natural *superfood*, is widely valued for its use in smoothies and sweet preparations, as well as for its anti-ageing benefits in skin and hair care. Despite being a remarkable gift of nature to humankind, it remains largely unknown to many. Today marked the collection of this natural “manna,” highlighting the richness of forest-based resources and the need for greater awareness of their nutritional and wellness potential.



49. On 20 October, a memorable and enriching visit was made to CSIR-CIMAP, featuring valuable experience sharing with Dr. Prabodh Kumar Trivedi, Director, CIMAP, and Dr. Ramesh Srivastava, Head of the Business Development Group. The visit also included interaction at the Fragrance Laboratory, providing insights into research and innovation in aromatic and medicinal plants.



50. On 6 November 2025, a warm and memorable meeting was held with an IIT Madras alumnus and my esteemed former colleague and friend Madhu Bhagwat, after several decades, at the HimSurabhi Aroma Living Museum. The visit was marked by joy, nostalgia, and meaningful interaction. We are grateful for the gesture of remembrance and for being honored by the visit.



51. On 13 Nov. 2025, Ishita Marwah, a London-based Ishita Marwah, has over eight years of experience working with Chalk Paint and has transformed a wide range of surfaces, from furniture and home décor to large wall murals. Inspired by the Bloomsbury Group and the philosophy of Annie Sloan, she believes in creative freedom and painting without hesitation. An immunologist by profession and an artist by instinct, she will introduce Chalk Paint workshops covering colour theory, basic techniques, stencilling, waxing, and finishing, with hands-on training. The workshop is tentatively planned for April 2026 and is currently showcased at the HimSurabhi Aroma Living Museum, near Ilbert Manor Hotel, on Library Mall Road, Mussoorie.



52. On 19 November 2025, at the HimSurabhi Aroma Plant Science Living Museum, a successful commemorative programme was held featuring the Lifetime Achievement Award presentation to Shri Ganga Singh Rautela, Advisor, Science City Dehradun and former Director General, Science Museums, Government of India. The award was conferred by Chief Guest Smt. Alpana Pant Sharma (1991 batch, IAS) and Dr. Basukinath Pandey, Principal, SNES Rajiv Gandhi College, Vashi. The day also marked a Teacher–Student Confluence on Natural Perfume Designing, led by Dr. Jyoti Marwah, with participation of nearly 100 students from SNES Education Trust's Rajiv Gandhi College of Arts, Commerce and Science, Vashi, Navi Mumbai. Additionally, the book *Berry Whispers* was formally launched for *Himalayan Berry Times* by Shri Rautela and the Chief Guest. The event received gracious coverage from the Mussoorie press and was memorable for all participants.



53. On 27 November 2025, lemongrass essential oil extraction was carried out at the Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute for Government Degree College, Thatyur as part of value addition activities. The exercise demonstrated the extraction process, with scope for hands-on student involvement in future programmes.



54. At the World Summit on Disaster Management organized by Uttarakhand Council for Science and Technology and held at Graphic Era University, the mission and vision of the HimSurabhi Aroma Living Museum were showcased, with a focused presentation on its authentic and sustained pursuit of Natural Perfumery. The summit was held from 28 November to 30 November 2025.



55. On 14 December 2025, at the Mussoorie Fragrance and Flavours Institute, continued academic support and guidance were extended to PhD scholars. On this day, Amanpreet, a PhD research scholar from Guru Ram Rai University, working on rosemary, visited the institute in Mussoorie. She was presented with a flowering rosemary plant to support her herbarium preparation and ongoing research work.



56. On 21 December 2025, at Cafe Commune, during Bagiya Bazaar, representatives from the HimSurabhi Aroma Museum engaged in interactions on natural perfumery design and the creation of gut-healing, nature-based products, including vinegar- and nectar-like health drinks developed from Himalayan wild berries and flowers. The exchange was held with Dr. Nipendra Chauhan, Director, erstwhile Centre for Aromatic Plants (now IPAR), and Shri Raj Shekhar Joshi, Vice Chairman, SETU Aayog, Planning Commission, Uttarakhand.



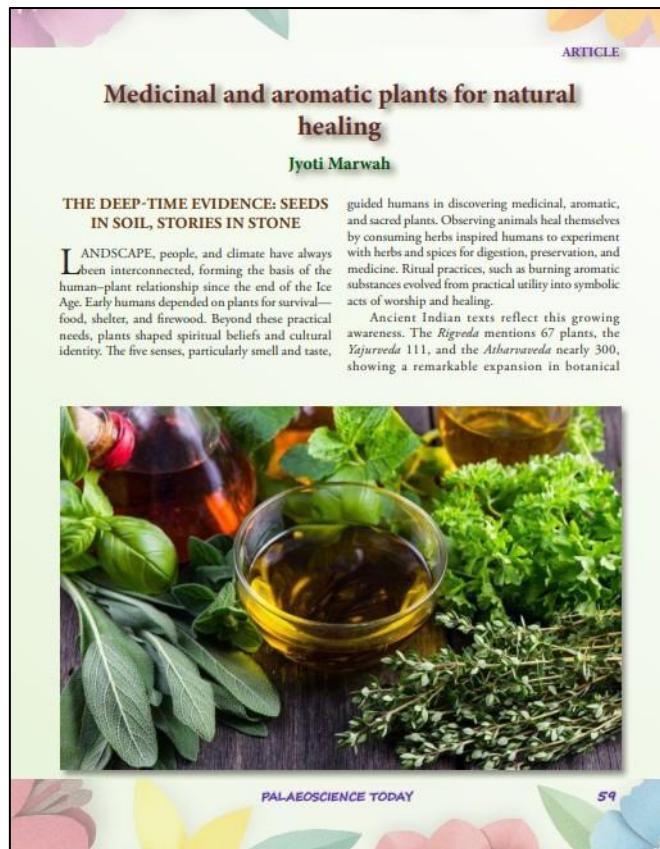
57. On 31 December 2025, the year culminated with a highlight programme at the HimSurabhi Aroma Living Museum, featuring hands-on training in Tea Shampoo preparation for children. The formulation prominently used the once-acclaimed Dehradun Tea, now largely forgotten despite its distinctive flavour and rich olfactory profile. This initiative marked a meaningful close to 2025 and a renewed commitment to reintroducing Dehradun Tea in toiletries and cosmetic applications, leveraging its saponins, flavonoids, and antioxidant properties, along with its valuable perfumery note that integrates seamlessly across the fragrance pyramid.



This exposure of 31 dec 2025 was further taken to trainer framers from Almora, Rajiv pant, Surinder Bhandari & Rajesh Kumar Palaria.

58. A scholarly article titled “Medicinal and Aromatic Plants for Natural Healing – The Deep-Time Evidence: Seeds in Soil, Stories in Stone” by Dr. Jyoti Marwah was published in *PALAEOSCIENCE TODAY*, Volume 1, Issue 2 (2025), a reputed publication of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow. Archaeobotanical and ethnobotanical studies reveal the deep history of fragrance in human culture. Excavations at Mohenjo-Daro uncovered faience vessels used for perfumes, incense, and powders, evidence that aromatics were integral to luxury, ritual, and social identity...Plant fossils, impressions, and carbonized seeds provide direct evidence of

ancient human-plant interactions. Showcased in the gallery of “Aroma Zone” in the Aroma Museum as seen below:



Highlight of the year 2024-25:

Dr. Jyoti Marwah Director of the institute is proud to announce that the young trainee, Subhash Rai, was sponsored by the Society for free training in designing skin and haircare with essential oils in Nov. – Dec. 2024. Through this mentorship, he gained hands-on experience in natural formulation and aromatic product development. His dedication and learning have now earned him a project from Govt. of India as a Startup grant in Bihar where he owns land, focusing on skincare formulations derived from bamboo leaves for its silica and biotin content- a sustainable and innovative approach to natural wellness.



59. Connect with us:

www.himsurabhi.org



www.aromawellness.com



<https://www.youtube.com/@jyotimarwah5386/videos>



<https://www.facebook.com/people/Mussoorie-Fragrance-Flavours-Institute/100064195082690/>

