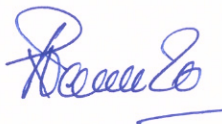


ABSTRACT OF THE PROJECT

1.	Project Code	FRC/XI/015
2.	Name of the Project	Study on impact of <i>podu</i> cultivation on Phytodiversity and soil factors in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh
3.	Funding Agency/ Agencies	ICFRE
4.	Institute/ Directorate (ICFRE Hqrs.)	Institute of Forest Biodiversity (formerly Forest Research Centre), Hyderabad
5.	Name and Designation of Principal Investigator	Dr. N. Rama Rao, Scientist-G (from 10 th July 2011) Sri. D. Jaya Prasad, IFS, Dy. C.F., (from 1 st April 2010 to 10 th July 2011)
6.	Name (s) and Designation (s) of Co-Principal Investigator (s) and Associates, if any	Dr. A. Ponnambalam, Scientist-C Mr. E. Venkata Reddy, IFS Dy. C.F. Dr. S.J. Rahaman, Principal Scientist ANGRAU Mr. N.R. Raveendra Prasad, R.O. Mrs. R. Asha Kumari, RA-1 Mr. B. Devender, Project Asst. Mr. V. Ramu Naik, Field Asst.
7.	Division	Institute of Forest Biodiversity (formerly Forest Research Centre), Hyderabad
8.	Project Discipline	Ecology and Environment
9.	Objectives of the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Study the regeneration of different species in '<i>Podu</i>' cultivated areas • To study the physical and chemical composition of the soils in the '<i>Podu</i>' cultivated areas • To study the microflora and microfauna of the soils in '<i>Podu</i>' cultivated areas
10.	Species involved	NA
11.	Experimental Work	The Institute of Forest Biodiversity is taking up the ecological studies to study the impact of <i>podu</i> cultivation and nature of forest succession taking place in the Eastern Ghats. The study was not taken up earlier in this area will be useful to have the baseline data.

		<p>Experimental sites:</p> <p>(1) Palakonda Range of Srikakulam Forest Division</p> <p>(2) Rampachodavaram Range of Kakinada Forest Division</p> <p>(3) North and South of Bhadrachalam Forest Divisions in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh</p>
a)	Methods adopted	<p>1. Selection of sample areas: An extensive survey was made along the selected forest areas. For investigations, three sites were selected where shifting cultivation taken place in the past. For comparative study, adjoining protected forest areas were selected as controls.</p> <p>2. For vegetation analysis of trees, the minimum size of quadrat selected was 20 X 20 m (based on the species area curve method) and of seedlings and grasses 1.0 X 1.0 m. The number of species occurring in each quadrat was recorded. In case of creeping plants any portion of the plant up to 5.0 cm in length and having functional root is counted as one plant. The plants beyond seedling stage (i.e., more than 2 cm height in case of monocots and beyond first leaf stage in case of dicots) were counted. The basal areas at the point of emergence for constituting species were measured and thus the values for frequency, density, abundance, relative frequency, relative density, and relative dominance and importance value index were calculated.</p> <p>3. Collection and analysis of Phyto-diversity</p> <p>4. Collection and analysis of soil samples from the study areas and control plots</p>
b)	Equipments used, if any	Laptop computer, Digital camera, Binoculars, Ranging rods, Pegs, Herbarium press, Ropes, etc.
c)	Scope (States covered)	Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh

12.	Date of commencement of the Project	1 st April 2010
13.	Date of completion of the Project	31 st March 2012
14.	Budget outlay of the Project	Rs. 8.12 lakhs (Provisional) Rs. 3.55 lakhs (Sanctioned)
15.	Expenditure incurred on the Project	Rs. 4.04 lakhs
16.	Reason for financial deviation	The financial deviation is due to enhancement of fellowships and travel expenses
17.	Manpower involved	--
(a)	No. of Scientists/ officers	Six
(b)	No. of Research personnel	One Project Assistant & One Field Assistant
(c)	No. of office staff	One (RA-I)
18.	Extension of findings to the User Groups	SFD, FDC, NGOs and Society, Tribals
19.	Publications from the findings of the Project	Nil
20.	Patents, if any	Nil
21.	Project Summary/ Achievements/ Findings	During the period, <i>podu</i> areas in Bhdarachalam Forest Division of Khammam District, Rampachodavaram Range of Kakinada Forest Division and Palakonda Range of Srikakulam Forest Division were identified and surveyed. Altogether 12 sites were selected and the phyto-diversity was monitored in two seasons in a year. Regeneration status of plant species in all the identified plots was studied and data analyzed for IVI, dominance and diversity. Soil samples were collected and analyzed at Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad for soil nutrient parameters.


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