

Monthly report for the Month of October 2019
Institute of Wood Science & Technology, Bengaluru

1. IMPORTANT RESEARCH FINDINGS:

Biological degradation and weathering behavior of wood polymer composites (ICFRE Funded project) (2016-September 2019)

Natural weathering of wood polymer composite for one year resulted in loss in mechanical strengths of the composite material. The loss in flexural strength was in the range of 6% to 15% and the loss in tensile strength was in the range of 10% to 18%. Studies on fungal resistance indicated significant weight loss (upto 18%) in composites at 60% wood content indicating the need for fungicide in the composition. The composites were free from any termite attack in multi-locational termite exposure.

2. NEW PROJECTS SANCTIONED DURING THE MONTH: Nil

3. PROJECTS CONCLUDED DURING THE MONTH: Nil

4. PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS (BOTH NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL):

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries

5. MEETINGS ORGANIZED:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries
1	Research Advisory Group Meeting.	22 Oct 2019 (1 day)	16	RAG members comprising of subject matter experts from Forest Department, University, industry etc

6. MEETINGS ATTENDED:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries
1	Meeting on "Working group on Western Ghats" to finalize the Ecological Sensitive Zone (ECZ) of Western Ghats at IIRS, Dehradun.	22 – 24 Oct 2019 (3 days)	1	The six states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat spread across the Western Ghats.

7. WORKSHOP:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries

8. TRAININGS ORGANIZED:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries
1	Wood Science (Under VVK)	03Oct 2019	35	Forest Guard Trainees of Forest Technical & Administrative Training Institute, Kadugodi, Karnataka
2	Field identification of certain important timbers	14 - 17 Oct 2019 (4 days)	55	III BSc (Forestry) students College of Forestry, Ponnampet, Kodagu

9. TRAININGS ATTENDED:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries

10. DEMONSTRATIONS:

Sl. No	Topic	Duration	No. of participants	Beneficiaries

11. PARTICIPATION IN KISAN MELA/EXHIBITION/TRADE FAIR ETC.:

Institute	Participated	Duration	Place
Nil			

12. OTHER EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- Under Prakriti Program 18 students of B.Sc (Interior Design) from NITTE School of Fashion Technology and Interior Design, Bangalore visited Institute of Wood Science and Technology on 24 October 2019
- Under the consultancy project entitled “Monitoring of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) accelerated afforestation programme of plantation of 10 million trees” - in Karnataka State,detailed survey was conducted in the 5 land parcels (Kolisalu-Pura, Hosahalli, Jambhalli, Bommathi and Talagadde) raised in Sagar forest divisions by Karnataka Forest Department to study the survival percentage as a post monsoon study and the relevant photographs were uploaded through Bhuvan app.

13. RESEARCH PAPERS:

- Chauhan SS, D Annapurna, AN Arun Kumar, Geeta Joshi (2019) Phenotypic assessment of wood density and stiffness in *Meliadubia* plantations from three locations using non-destructive tools. Journal of Indian Academy of Wood Science, doi:10.1007/s13196-019-00247-8. Published online - 25th October, 2019
- Muthu Kumar A and DivyaBharathi M (2019). Field guide on management of shade trees (special emphasis to *Acrocarpusfraxinifolius* in parts of coffee plantation at Kodagu district, Karnataka, a manual was published as a project outcome.
- Muthu Kumar A and Manoj Kumar PE (2019). Urban Tree Risk Assessment- A pictorial guide, a manual was published as a project outcome.

14. VISIT OF DIGNITARIES:

15. CONSULTANCIES:

16. OTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES:

- As part of induction training 88 newly recruited Deputy Range Forest Officers from Illwala Range, Karnataka Forest Department visited Institute of Wood Science and Technology on 18 October 2019.
- As part of south India tour 41 Range Forest Officers from Central Academy of Forestry Education, Kurseong, visited the institute on 21 October 2019
- As part of curriculum 40 students of MSc (Wood Science and Technology) from Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University, Dehradun visited the institute on 30 October 2019
- Dr. Muthu Kumar A , Scientist – E attended DPR circle level meeting for Rajahmundry Circle and WLM, Krishna was organised and executed on 30/10/2019 at Vijayawada, followed by field visit to spot agricultural landscape/Urban Landscape/Forest landscape adjoining river Krishna.
- Dr. Muthu Kumar A , Scientist – E attended DPR circle level meeting for Guntur Circle was organised and executed on 31/10/2019 at Guntur, followed by field visit to spot agricultural landscape/Urban Landscape/ Forest landscape adjoining river Krishna.
- Dr. Muthu Kumar A , Scientist – E participated as expert member in expert committee meeting held at BBMP Office, Corporation circle, Bangalore on 05/10/19 regarding evaluation of application for tree felling.
- Dr. Muthu Kumar A , Scientist – E carried out Field visit on 17/10/19 to Varathur (#5, Devasthanagalu, Varathur, Karnataka 87) regarding inspection of a fallen tree.
- Dr. Muthu Kumar A , Scientist – E submitted a report on Translocation of Trees to Gujarat Forest Department on 21/10/19, as per instructions of the Director.
- Wood testing enquiries (3 samples for identification, 2 samples for moisture content, 1 sample for specific gravity tests and 5 samples for other tests, were received and test reports of 8 samples for identification, 4 samples for moisture content, 4 samples for specific gravity tests were sent to the concerned department/parties.