

Project title	Transfer of products/technology on biobooster to Irular tribes in forest fringe villages of Coimbatore, Tamilnadu: An alternate source of livelihood support
Principal Investigator	Dr. N. Senthilkumar
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Project duration (Start & End)	3 years: 2016-2019
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of products/technology on bio-booster to rural poor for livelihood improvement. • Capacity building on non-farm activities to develop bio-booster based on locally available resources. • Validation of bio-products and establishment of marketing channel.
Summary/Achievements	<p>Forest fringe villages at Palamalai, Paraliyar and Pillur surrounding area in Coimbatore district were selected for this study. Interactions were made with the irular tribes and selected members for WSHGs. 13, 8 and 12 women were selected for the WSHGs in Palamalai, Paraliyar and Pillur respectively. The details of the members were collected in the prescribed format. Explained them about the product developed by IFGTB, Tree Rich Biobooster- and its utility in Forestry and Agriculture. The product will be transferred to tribal group in Palamalai and Pillur for livelihood improvement. Coir pith was procured and processed to bring down its EC value, followed by composted with Phosphobacterium, PPFM, Azospirillum and VAM to improve their properties for product development. Decomposed coir pith was analysed for its bulk density(0.135), pH (6.78), and EC (0.551) in order to make it suitable for making of Tree Rich Biobooster” disc. Seeds of tree species viz., Eucalyptus, Casuarina and <i>Gmelina arborea</i> were processed and are evaluated in Tree Rich Biobooster” for its germination performance. 35-45% increment in germination was observed in coir pith media than conventional potting mixture.</p>
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