

Latest Technological Advancement in Casuarina plantation including Clonal Technology

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Abstract

SPB is one of a large integrated Pulp and Paper Mills in Tamilnadu. The mill is consuming about 4,00,000 tonnes of wood (Eucalyptus & Casuarina) as Raw materials for its manufacturing process. The above quantity is being procured from TAF CORN and from the Farmers' plantations. The company produces about 350 tonnes of Quality papers per day, using Wood and Bagasse.

To have a sustainable supply of wood based raw materials for the Industry, the company has started Contract Farming in 2005 to plant Eucalyptus and Casuarina and has covered about 50,000 acres so far. With unique Scientific management and advanced technical know how, greater emphasis is being given for genetically superior quality of the planting material combined with improved packaging practices.

Significant gain in Casuarina junghuhniana productivity have been achieved through Clonal planting material collected from Clonal hedge garden, adopting optimum space for planting, application of Organic and Inorganic fertilizers. Nearly 20 lakh clones are produced and supplied to farmers every year at subsidized cost by using low cost Clonal hedge garden.

Casuarina seedlings are raised from Seedling Seed Orchards and Clonal material is being produced and supplied to the Farming community to a level of 5.25 crores per annum. The productivity of Farm Forestry Casuarina Clonal plantation is enhanced to about 50-60 MT from 25-30 MT in the seed route plantation in about 3-4 years rotation per acre.