Title	**Evaluation and popularization of *Neolamarckia cadamba* in Tamil Nadu and Kerala (NFRP-160).**
Principal Investigator	Dr. A.Vijayaraghavan, Scientist-F,
Project Associate	
Start and Completion dates	01.04.2016- 31.03.2022

Objectives

1. To popularize N. cadamba among farmers through agroforestry trial in different locations.
2. To improve the productivity of N. cadamba through identification of stable and site specific clones in different locations.

Funding Agency	ICFRE
Total budget outlay	Rs. 33.71 Lakhs

SUMMARY

In IFGTB, like the work done in tree improvement of Eucalyptus, Casuarina, and teak, the improvement on N. cadamba is also aimed. We have raised the progeny trials in the previous project (NFRP-90) which was completed on March 2015. Therefore, this project is proposed to improve this species through selection of the best performing progeny from the progeny trials raised in NFRP-90 and mass multiplying the best progeny as clone and to raise multi location clonal trials in different parts of Tamil Nadu,Puducherry and Kerala to identify the best performing clones and also to popularize the species by raising agroforestry trial in farmers field and through training. In the previous project based on the one year growth data individuals of N. cadamba from the good performing progenies viz., 54,112, 61,123,112,123 having maximum mean height growth and maximum girth at breast height has been marked for the future clonal propagation. In this project the performance of the progenies from the progeny trials established at three locations viz., Neyveli, Nagercoil (Tamil Nadu) and Panampally (Kerala) were observed at half rotation age and the best performing individuals/ progenies from the progeny trials and from the plantations of N. cadamba were selected and marked as clones. The best performing individual (Clones) were mass multiplied through vegetative propagation and raised the multilocation clonal trials which pave the way for improvement in terms of productivity. The multilocation clonal trials of N. cadamba were evaluated to identify the best performing site specific stable clones. Based on the performance of the clones recorded at frequent interval on its height and girth at 52 breast height (gbh) from at one year to three year old clonal trials clones viz., 116,105, 111, 112, 140, 144, 127, 119, 115, 138, 60 and 80 are short listed for further confirmation in on farm trials. In order to popularize the species established 8 demo trials at farmers field and in KVK centres viz., at Kodur, Villupuram district Namakkal, Kenipet, KVK-TNAU, Tindivanam, Tirupur, Andiyur, Erode district, ICAR KVK-MYRADA Centre at Gobichettipalayam and ICAR-KVK-MYRADA Centre at Thalamalai, Erode district. Disseminated about the cultivation of N. cadamba to farmers and tree growers by means of training and a special talk in Tree growers Mela conducted by IFGTB at different places during the year viz., 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Book on cultivation of N. cadamba were prepared in vernacular language (Tamil and Malayalam) and released during the tree growers mela conducted at Tindivanam (2017) and in Coimbatore (2020). During the COVID-19 pandemic period

webinar was organized by IFGTB in collaboration with Pasumai Vikatan (famous press in Tamil) and delivered a talk on Kaimel Kasu Tharum cadamba maram and it has reached more viewers. Training on Cultivation of N. cadamba was conducted in collaboration with an NGO called Vanathukkul Tiruppur-VETRY Organisation, Tirupur district for farmers and tree growers.