

Project Profile

1. **Project Title** : **Assessment of *Melia dubia* for growth performance in multi-location trials in Kerala.**
2. **Name of the Principal Investigator** : Smt. K. Shanthi, CTO
3. **Name of the funding agency** : Kerala Forest Department, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
4. **Date of start & end; Total duration** : August, 2019 to July, 2022; 3-years. Extended up to December 2025.
5. **Total Budget** : Rs. 19.22 Lakhs

6. **Objectives** : To test performance of *Melia dubia* in Kerala for its utility as an alternate pulpwood species

7. Outline of Research Programme (yearly plan of action):

Year	Activity
First	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recruitment of JRFSite identification and land preparation for trialsMass multiplication
Second	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Laying out of trials as blocksRecord Plant survival, growth data such as height, clean bole height, GBH etc.Carry out trial maintenance work including weeding, soil working, manure application etc.
Third	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Record Plant survival, growth data such as height, clean bole height, GBH etc.Comparison across sites to evaluate performance.

8. Overall progress since the implementation of the project:

Clonal trials of *Melia dubia* have been established in an area of 0.2 hectares in Anaikatti, Panampally, Mathilakam, and Pathanamthitta Kerala. Annual growth performance is recorded for the trials, and the trials are being maintained. The best-performing clones for different locations were identified. The project is extended up to Dec 2025.

9. Publications made:

Nil