

## PROJECT PROFILE

<b>Title:</b>	Studies on the impact of <i>Indarbela quadrinotata</i> on growth of <i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> , factors influencing the pest infestation and developing eco-friendly management practices.
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	Dr. K. R. Sasidharan
<b>Co Investigators:</b>	Dr. S. Murugesan Dr. V. Mohan
<b>Duration:</b>	2009-2013
<b>Objectives:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To study the growth parameters of infested and uninfested trees and assess loss in growth increment</li><li>2. To understand the influence of site factors and Silvicultural practices on the pest incidence.</li><li>3. To study the efficacy of selected microbial pathogens and botanicals.</li></ol>	
<b>Funding Agency:</b>	ICFRE
<b>Achievements</b>	The studies have revealed that, the infestation of the bark eating caterpillar, <i>Indarbela quadrinotata</i> was able to cause significant loss in diameter and height growth in Casuarina trees. Assessment of the intensity of infestation of the bark eating caterpillar in the Casuarina plantations grown in the four agro-climatic zones of Tamil Nadu showed that, the plantations raised in North-eastern zone and Cauvery delta zone had high intensity of attack, while those in the Southern zone suffered negligible infestation. The plantations raised in the High rainfall zone did not have the infestation of the pest. Control studies carried out in the laboratory and field conditions using entomopathogenic fungi and botanicals have revealed the potential of some of the botanicals for managing the bark eating caterpillar.