

PROJECT PROFILE

Title of the Project	:	Development of volatile based lure for key insects pests of commercial tree species - teak (<i>Tectona grandis</i>) and Ailanthus (<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i> and <i>A. tryphysa</i>)
Principle Investigator	:	Dr. John Prasanth Jacob
Co Investigators	:	Dr. N. Bakthavatsalam
Duration of Project (Start & End)	:	3 years (01-04-2019 to 31-03-2022)
Objectives		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To study the biology and ecology of the seed pest, <i>Bootanellus orientalis</i> in the field and potted Casuarina seed orchards 2. Development of management strategies through chemicals and botanical pesticides
Funding agency	:	ICFRE
Summary/Achievements	:	<p>Study identified several foliar volatiles from <i>T. grandis</i> and <i>A. excelsa</i> that have elicited strong antennal responses electrophysiologically by <i>H. puera</i> and <i>E. narcissus</i>. However the field trials with the different blends of these identified chemicals tends to show that all the compounds that cause physiological response need not give a significant behavioural response in adult insects. The physiological status of the adult female with developed eggs may cease to play an active role in the attraction to the plant volatiles than the pheromones. Present results tend to show that this volatile identity could only be used as a cue to attract the adults towards oviposition and that this could be used in tandem with the sex pheromone to improve the efficacy of trapping.</p>