

PROJECT PROFILE

Title: Establishment of a South zonal Germplasm Bank of *Melia Dubia*

Principle Investigators: Dr. Rekha R. Warriar, Scientist-E

Duration: 2013-2015

Objectives:

1. To assemble diverse germplasm of *Melia dubia* from its natural distribution ranges as Clonal and seed material
2. To screen the germplasm for key insect pests and develop suitable control measures

Funding Agency: Karnataka Forest Department

Summary

With the support of the Forest Department, tours were undertaken to the natural growing belts of *Melia dubia* which falls within the 9 to 12° N latitudes and patches of naturally occurring trees were selected. Girth at breast height and clear bole length were the main criteria considered for the selection of trees. Single tree collections with identity were maintained. The fruits and seeds were studied for their fruit and seed weight, physical characteristics like area, length, breadth, perimeter, roundness, aspect ratio, curve length, curve width, convex area and full ratio. The drupes were then subjected to cut tests to study the filling patterns in the seeds collected from different sources. They were also tested for their viability using TZ tests (ISTA rules). Field gene banks have been established in three locations Thithimathi (one) and two at Hoskote. A clonal trial has been established at Dharwad.