

Title of the Project	:	Invasion impacts of <i>Acacia mearnsii</i> on changes in soil fertility status of shola forests in the Western Ghats
Principal Investigator	:	Dr.A.C.Surya Prabha, Scientist-D
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Duration of Project	:	2016-2018
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To study the invasion impacts of <i>A. mearnsii</i> on physico-chemical characteristics of soils in shola forests. ➤ To enumerate the microbial population in soils of shola forests invaded by <i>A. mearnsii</i> 		
Funding agency	:	ICFRE
Summary/Achievements		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project has contributed to the understanding of soil physico-chemical characteristics and soil microbial population in <i>A. mearnsii</i> invaded shola forests. • Soil properties such as pH, available nitrogen and the amount of base cations in the soil varied significantly under <i>A. mearnsii</i> invaded shola forests compared with native vegetation. • The population of bacteria, fungi and actinomycetes was highest under shola forests in all the three ranges of Kodaikanal Forest Division.