

IN THIS ISSUE

Certification Agency in Cochin	2
Perilous Persistence	3
Books & Educational materials	4

PLANTS IN PEST CONTROL

Gliricidia sepium

Family : Leguminosae

Habitat

It is a small or medium sized tree grown fairly widely in parts of Madras, Mysore, Bombay and Travancore – Cochin upto an elevation of 3,000 ft. It is an excellent source of green manure for paddy in Tamilnadu and has been recommended for cultivation on bunds of fields.

Agronomy

It was introduced into India primarily as a shade tree in plantations. This tree is quick growing. It has large leaves and purplish pink or white flowers.

Regional names

Tamil : Kona maram; Telugu : Madre, Madura

Parts Used : Leaves

Target Organisms :

Field pests

Aphids	General
Bean pod weevils	<i>Apion godmani</i>
Blister beetles	<i>Pyrota decorata</i>
Caterpillars	General
Fall armyworm	<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i>
Sweet pepper weevils	
Termites	<i>Microcerotermes losbanosensis</i>
Whitefly	<i>Bemisia tabaci</i>
White grubs	
Rodents	

Mode of Action : Repellent, Insecticidal, Rodenticidal



Preparations in pest control

Leaf extract

Grind 0.5 kg *Gliricidia* leaves and soak them in water for 24 hours. Filter and dilute with 20 litres of water. Shelf life is 3 weeks.

Uses

Useful as a foliar fertiliser in coffee nurseries and can be applied once a week. Can also be used as a fungicide. When it is to be used as a fungicide soak the leaves for 3 days before use.

Leaf, flour and soap extract

Take 0.5 kg leaves, 120 gm flour and 50 gm chopped up soap. Grind the leaves and soak it in water overnight. The next day filter the solution and

add soap and flour. This solution is diluted with 20 litres of water.

Uses

Apply this once a week after transplantation on tomatoes. It acts as a fertiliser and pest repellent. It also controls white fly.

Gliricidia, neem leaf extract

Take 1 kg *Gliricidia* leaves, 1 kg neem leaves and 5 litres of water. Chop the leaves and soak it in water for 3 days. After 3 days filter it and add 20 litres of water.

Uses

This is sprayed once in 5 days when flowering starts in beans.

New organic certification agency opens in Cochin

INDOCERT (Indian Organic Certification Agency) is an independent, nationally accredited, nonprofit trust whose primary aim is in conducting inspections and granting certification for organic production methods. This organisation is operating in technical collaboration with FIBL (Research Institute on Organic Agriculture, Switzerland) and bio.inspecta (Swiss based organic certification agency). It started its activities in August 2002. INDOCERT can certify any of the following areas such as; organic agricultural production, organic animal husbandry (including bee keeping), processing and trade of organic products, collections of organic products from wild areas and inputs for organic agriculture.

For further details contact:

Mathew Sebastian, Executive Director, INDOCERT, Thottumugham P.O., Alwaye-683105, Cochin, Kerala State, INDIA.

Ph+Fax: ++91-(0)484-630909 / 620943

E-mail: info@indocert.org

Web: www.indocert.org

News from our Farmer's Network



Mr. Palanivel is a farmer who hails from the Arasankudi village (Tiruvarumbur taluk) of Trichy district. A part of his land is very close to the irrigation canal and there is water seepage in this land continuously. The soil type is a mixture of alluvium and

clay. In the rainy season the land looks almost like a pond due to water logging. Mr. Palanivel approached CIKS and got the seeds of Sambamosanam which withstands water logging. Except for 12 - 15 days throughout the duration of the crop there was water logging. In spite of this in 70 cents of land he obtained a yield of 2280 kg. of paddy. His total income from paddy and fodder was Rs.13,170/- and his expenditure was Rs.3,050/-. **His net income was Rs.10,660/- from 70 cents of land.**

Contact address:

Mr. A. Palanivel, Arasangudi village, Tiruvarambur (via, taluk), Trichy.

PERILOUS PERSISTENCE

Some potentially lethal pesticides that have not yet been banned in India.

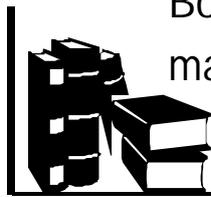
Pesticide in use in India	Countries where it is banned	Side-effects (acute/chronic exposure)
Chlorpyrifos	US, Sweden, Finland	Harmful for nervous system, inhalation or ingestion may result in headaches, blurred vision, seizures, coma and even death
Lindane	Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Indonesia, New Zealand, The Netherlands	Causes damage to the nervous and immune systems. Leads to hormone disruption, birth defects and breast cancer
DDT (Allowed in India only for public health control measures)	US, Canada, Chile, South Korea, Singapore, Cuba and most EU countries	Causes liver cancer. Affects the central and peripheral nervous systems. Damages reproductive organs.
Endosulfan	Germany, Denmark, Indonesia, Bulgaria, Norway, Sweden, Columbia, Singapore and The Netherlands	Leads to high acute toxicity. Affects kidneys, developing foetus and liver. Causes testicular and breast cancer. Mutagenic and genotoxic.
Carbaryl	Austria, Germany, Sweden	Mutagenic and carcinogenic
Paraquat	Denmark, Austria, Sweden	Acutely toxic, high risk of exposure when handled

*Source : Down to Earth
March 15, 2003*

WOMB IS NOT SAFE ANYMORE

Chlorpyrifos – a pesticide that can easily enter the human food chain has more victims to its credit, than carcinogenic air pollutants such as Poly cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHS). A study conducted by researchers from US based Columbia University, found a strong link between prenatal exposure to chlorpyrifos and low birth weight and smaller head size of infants. Several studies correlate the smaller size of the head with lower Intelligence Quotient (IQ) and poor functioning. The researchers studied 263 pregnant females, who lived in areas which were exposed to almost the same levels of pollution. The researchers used Blood plasma levels to estimate the amount of chlorpyrifos. The use of chlorpyrifos has been vastly restricted in US, even for agricultural purposes. However, in the year 2000 it was the fourth most used pesticide in India. A study conducted in 2002 by the Delhi based Indian Agriculture Research Institute, found high levels of the pesticide in 62.8% of the 86 vegetables tested. In the wake of such studies, experts urge the government to combat the problem, by disseminating information about health hazards posed by this pesticide.

*Source : Down to Earth,
March 31, 2003*



Books & Educational materials

Sustaining Agricultural Biodiversity and the Integrity and Free Flow of Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture - by Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG), ETC Group and Genetic Resources Action International (GRAIN). 2002, 24 pp.

Encourages food security and the protection of biodiversity through various FAO conventions and treaties. Provides examples of actions by non-governmental groups that promote global biodiversity. Identifies challenges posed to biodiversity by global trade, corporate power and genetically engineered organisms.

Available at <http://www.itdg.org>

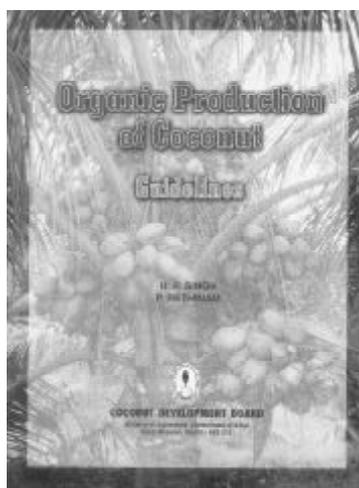
Contact ITDG, Schumacher Centre, Bourton, Rugby CV23 9QZ, UK.

Phone (44-1926) 634400; Fax (44-1926) 634401

email: itdg@itdg.org.uk

Web site : <http://www.itdg.org>

Organic Production of Coconut – Guidelines - by H.P. Singh and P. Rethinam, 2001, 75 pp.



This book provides extensive information on organic production of coconut. It contains chapters pertaining to the principles of organic production, processing and storage. It also

gives a detailed account on principles of organic production and preparation methods of organic fertilizers. A section also deals with inspection and certification systems.

Price : Rs. 200/-

Available from : **Coconut Development Board (Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India), Kera Bhavan, Kochi – 682 011.**

Editorial Team : P.A. Ansaruddin, Dr. K. Vijayalakshmi

Typesetting : S. Ramesh

Annual Subscription for INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURE NEWS

Subscription may be sent as Money Order or Demand Draft only (avoid cheques please) favouring "Pesticide Post".

Individuals : Rs.35/-

Institutions : Rs.70/-

To

Book-Post



Centre for Indian
Knowledge Systems

Real-world solutions from traditional science.

30, Gandhi Mandapam Road, Kotturpuram, Chennai - 600 085. INDIA

Phone : 91-044-24471087 / 24475862 Fax : 91-044-24471114

E-mail : ciks@vsnl.com <http://www.ciks.org>