



28. Management of exotic poplars for production of quality timber and reducing Cotton menace in Kashmir

Type: process
Date: 2015
Patent: NA

Name of Inventor

Dr. S. A. Gangoo, Dr. T. H. Masoodi,
Shah Murtaza & Dr. Ajaz-ul-Islam

Description of Technology

Practicing lateral pruning as a management practice results in a significant increment percent in height of the poplar trees when they are laterally pruned from 25% up to 100% clear bole. This as well results in a significant effect on increment per cent in diameter and therefore on overall volume of the trees. The maximum commercial volume is obtained in 100% pruning intensity which is 178% more over control followed by 25% - 50% pruning intensities. Pruning management also reduces the number of female catkins considerably when trees are pruned up to 50%. The number of catkins gets reduced by 80% at 50% pruning. Hence plantations should be pruned at least 50% clear bole to get knot-free timber and reduce cotton menace by 80%. Pruning should be done in autumn and till the plantation achieves a height of 15 meters because up to this height the trees can be pruned without much effort.



Catkins of female *Populusdeltoides* producing cotton flakes



Pruned Plantation with 75 % clear bole and unmanaged plantation of poplars at farmer's field



Male catkins Female catkins

Impact

The technology is showing its impact as it is being adopted by the forest department and comes as an advisory for farmers who plant poplars on their fields.

Commercial applicability

This technology is adaptable for all the farmers who plant poplars on their fields for timber and to the forest department who raise poplars as avenue plantations.