

ICFRE Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research in Forestry

Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Scientist F, at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore has been conferred with the ICFRE Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research in Forestry for the year 2019. He has released three productive clones of *Casuarina equisetifolia* suitable for salt affected soils. The research has significance as about 6.73 million hectares of salt affected lands exist in India. These clones will also support the efforts of ICFRE which has been declared as



Dr Kannan CS Warriar, Scientist F, Coimbatore has been recognized for his work on salt tolerant clones of *Casuarina equisetifolia*.

the centre of excellence for addressing issues related to land degradation by the Honourable Prime Minister of India. He is also leading a tree improvement programme of *Thespesia populnea* to evolve crook free varieties of this multipurpose tree species. The trees generally grow in short twists and turns, and lumber of good length is not generally available. Plus trees numbering 139 have been selected with straight stem form from south Indian States. Dr Kannan Warriar was also the recipient of the Rolla S Rao National Award by

the Indian Association of Angiosperm Taxonomy for the best research work on biodiversity conservation. His extensive research on conservation of endangering sacred groves won him this award. He is the First Rank Holder for both B.Sc. and M.Sc. Forestry degrees from Kerala

Agricultural University and holds a doctoral degree in Forest Genetics. He was also the recipient of the Kalaprathibha Award (Most talented male artist) of the Kerala Agricultural

University for 5 years. His classical composition Prakruthi Vandanam, an invocation on nature, based on Yajur Veda, released for the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change has been well received. Dr Kannan Warriar has composed music for the Official Theme Song of the Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department "Kadarivu" sung by the renowned playback singer Sh. P. Jayachandran. He is also functioning as the Coordinator of ENVIS Centre on Forest Genetic Resources and Tree Improvement at IFGTB.

