

New method to assess forest productivity

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Method analyses digital photographs

Measuring the diameter and height of trees individually and manually using tree calipers or wheeler pentaprism to determine the wood yield may soon become a thing of the past. A team of scientists has developed a method to estimate productivity of forest plantations by analysing digital photographs. The team recently bagged Indian Patent for the invention. Kannan C.S. Warriar, a native of Haripad in Alappuzha district and senior principal scientist at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, told *The Hindu* that the method they had developed could predict more accurately the wood yield from the state of current forest plantation. “We obtained a patent on estimation of plantation productivity based on digital images. By this method, we can tell about the productivity by analysing a digital photo, even captured using a mobile phone, using image analyser,” Mr. Warriar said. According to scientists, the method uses the reflected light to analyse RGB values using an image analyser.



Other members

Mr. Warriar said the patent for ‘Tree Mean Diameter Estimation from Terrestrial Images Using Digital Camera’ is only the 17th time a patent is given in the country in the field of forest research. The other members of the team include Veeresamy Sivakumar and Chellaiah Buvanewaran, both from Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.

SOURCE:-<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/new-method-to-assess-forest-productivity/article25533025.ece>