

Kannan C S Warriar of IFGTB, receives 2019 National Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research in Forestry from ICFRE

By **AC Team** - July 22, 2020



Kannan CS Warriar, Senior Principal Scientist (Scientist F) at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (**IFGTB**) received the **2019 National Award of Excellence for Outstanding Research in Forestry** from the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (**ICFRE**).

Key Points:

- i. The National Award was given to Kannan CS Warriar for releasing three productive clones of **Casuarina equisetifolia**, first of its kind in India that are suitable for **salt affected (sodic) soils**.
- ii. The clones developed by Kannan are expected to boost the agro forestry initiatives of ICFRE and offer a potential solution to the sea erosion in the coast of Kerala.
- iii. Kannan collaborated with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (**CSIRO**) Australia for infusing the germplasm of *Casuarina equisetifolia*, for broadening the genetic base of the species in India.

Casuarina equisetifolia:

Casuarina, commonly known as 'kattadi' and 'savukku'.

Around 15 species of *Casuarina* are found in the tropical and subtropical zones.

It is cultivated in many regions because of its adaptability to multiple environmental conditions.

It is used for biomass energy plantations for its nitrogen fixing ability as well as for its pulp and other industrial applications.

About Kannan C S Warriar:

Education:

i. Kannan was the first rank holder in BSc and MSc Forestry at the Kerala Agricultural University.

ii. He received his doctorate in Forest genetics from FRI Deemed University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Patent:

Along with Dr. V. Sivakumar, Dr. C. Buvaneswaran and K. Ravichandran, he obtained the Patent for **Tree Mean Diameter Estimation from Terrestrial Image Using Digital Camera**.

Awards:

For his research on **endangering sacred groves** of non-forested region in Kerala he won the **Rolla S Rao Award** for the best research work in the field of biodiversity conservation in India, instituted by the Indian Association of Angiosperm Taxonomy.

About Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE):

Director General– Arun Singh Rawat (appointed after the repatriation of the previous DG SC Gairola to his parent cadre of Maharashtra on March 16, 2020)

Location– Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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