

Scientist awarded for 3 salt tolerant clones of casuarina

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**Coimbatore:** The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education has conferred the national award for excellence in outstanding research in forestry for the year 2019 on scientist Kannan C S Warriar, senior principal, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB), for releasing three productive clones of Casuarina, also known as Kattadi and Savukku, that are suitable for salt affected soils for the first time in the country. The country has around 6.73 million hectares of salt affected land.

The institute in its statement said Warriar has also been the recipient of the Rola S Rao National Award for his extensive research on conservation of endangered sacred groves, also called 'Koil Kadu'. The scientist, in his 27 years in forestry research, has 232 research publications.

The clones he released is expected to boost ICFRE's agroforestry initiatives. ICFRE was recently declared the centre for excellence in addressing issues related to land



Kannan C S Warriar

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degradation by the prime minister. The scientist, who has a doctoral degree in forest genetics, is the first rank holder for both BSc and MSc forestry degrees from the Kerala Agricultural University.