

Government of Andhra Pradesh
Forest Department

Rc.No.37114/83-U4.
Dated:9.6.1983.

Office of the Chief Conservator
of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyd

Sri A.K.Mathur,I.F.S.
Chief Conservator of Forests

Circular No.11/83

Sub. Social Forestry programmes - Nursery Raising -
Seedlings of Miscellaneous species raising of-
Regarding.

Instructions were issued in this office Circular Lr.No. 15932/82-U2, dt: 27.3.82 (Circular No.5/82) that upto 20% of the seedlings to be raised in any nursery during a year should be of miscellaneous species of fruit, fodder and other minor Forest produce yielding varieties to strike a proper balance between Eucalyptus which is fast growing fuel-wood species and other species like Su-babul, Bsmboo, Jamu, Guava, or other flowering and fruit bearing trees. During my inspection of a large number of nurseries over the last 3-4 months, I have however noticed that adequate and timely steps have not been taken in the most of these nurseries spread over a large number of Divisions for raising seedlings of various miscellaneous species as per CCF's circular instructions. In most of the nurseries seeds of miscellaneous species were sown only in March-April or even in May and most bags meant for raising seedlings for Miscellaneous species are therefore either empty or had very small sized seedlings at the time of inspection. In both the cases it is doubtful whether proper sized seedlings (about 40-45 cms tall) of these miscellaneous species would be available for distribution to the public during the next rains. Another disressing aspect noticed by me during these inspections is that there is hardly any control at Divisional Forest Officers level on the choice of the miscellaneous species to be raised or the percentage composition of the various miscellaneous species to be raised in each nursery for seedlings meant for distribution. In some nurseries I even noticed that 50% of the total I believe such state of affairs could develop only if ever thing relating to nursery development is left to. Mostly to the local Foresters and Forest Guards and atmost to the Range Officers who depending upon their fancy and for ready availability of seedlings of miscellaneous species to the extent and in such proportion they liked without any control whatsoever of the Divisional Forest Officers on such nursery development from time to time.

2. All Divisional Forest Officers, are therefore, requested to look into this aspect of nursery raising atleast from 1983 and as already instructed/issued clear written instructions to each Range Officer fixing percentage/targets for different/Miscellaneous species to be raised as bag plants in each of the nurseries under their control indicating species that should only be raised, for strict compliance by the concerned Range Officers. It is needless to say that steps should be taken at the Divisional Forest Officer/Rangers level at the appropriate time through out the year to collect the required quantity of seeds of various species which are to be raised as per the targets fixed for each nursery range-wise so that adequate

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quantities of seed of all the species proposed to be raised and the extent required are available in each range in time. Generally seedlings of most miscellaneous species are to be raised at 6 to 7 month old bag plants for which purpose seeds ~~after~~ after pre-treatment as required are to be sown some time in December-January, and re-sowing of seed carried out within 3-4 weeks in all the bags where germination has not occurred by them. It would be preferably to sow two seeds in each bag to begin with to get full stocking assuming that at least one of the two seeds will germinate. The exceptions to raising the seedlings 6-7 months earlier will be raising su-babul and Babul or such other very fast growing species which would attain a height of about 40cms. even within 2-3 months of sowing. All such species should therefore be sown only some time late in April or early May to obtain seedlings of proper size July.

3. It is noticed that even with the best of efforts in raising bag plants of Eucalyptus, a small percentage of bags do not have established seedlings of Eucalyptus even after repeated pricking of seedlings is done in empty bags right into April, as and when the empty bags are noticed while grading and some shifting Eucalyptus bag plants. Such empty bags could conveniently be sown with su-babul etc., seed in late April-May to produce required number of seedlings of such fast growing species. There will thus be no necessary to keep a certain number of bags empty from the beginning of the nursery season for raising Su-babul etc. seedlings. Raising seedlings of miscellaneous species as above will apply both for distribution and Departmental planting. Unless and until adequate attention is paid by the Divisional Forest Officers and action taken by them as indicated in the preceding paragraphs at the appropriate time and watch kept on same regularly, it is likely that the sorry state of affairs noticed in a very large number of nurseries this year. Regarding raising seedlings of miscellaneous species may continue to reoccur. The Divisional Forest Officers should take this as a warning and take all required action in this matter and see that this year poor performance not repeated failing which they will be held personally responsible from now and action taken as deemed necessary.

4. The receipt of the Circular letter may be acknowledged at once.

Sd/- A.L.Rao,
Addl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Social Forestry.)

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