



Research article

Valuing ecosystem services of *Melia dubia* tree plantation in farm lands

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Abstract

Traditionally, tree plantations have been valued only for the tangible benefits; the intangible benefits provided by the tree plantation such as regulating climate, nutrient cycling, water purification, soil protection, and habitat for birds have either been undervalued or it is difficult to value these services. The present study was conducted to quantify the monetary value of nine years old *Melia dubia* plantation. The values of agroforestry eco-system services were quantified by market cost and alternate cost methods. The results indicated that total economic value provided by the plantation was Rs.6,70,496. If these values could be captured, it will help to conserve the plantation for non-commercial use.

Keywords: Ecosystem services, Market cost, Total economic value, Tree plantation