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## RESPONSE OF TREE PRUNING ON TIMBER AND FUELWOOD PRODUCTION OF DALBERGIA SISSOO IN AGRI-SILVICULTURE SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT: An experiment has been carried out to evaluate the response of different tree pruning intensities on diameter growth and wood biomass of D.sissoo under agri-silviculture system in central India during the year 2014. Age of plantation was 16 years. Four selected pruning intensities were 0 ( $P_0$ ), 25 ( $P_{25}$ ), 50 ( $P_{50}$ ) and 75% ( $P_{75}$ ) pruning of total tree height. Stems/branches were categorized into large sized timber (diameter  $\geq$  10), small sized timber (7 cm  $\leq$  diameter < 10 cm) and fuel wood (4 cm  $\leq$  diameter < 7 cm). Branches of diameter < 4 cm were ignored. Length and mid diameter of sections of stem/branch were measured in standing tree. Volume of section was estimated by Huber's formula. Density of wood pieces were determined in the laboratory. Significant highest dbh was recorded in  $P_{25}$  (27.4 cm) followed by  $P_0$  (27.3 cm),  $P_{50}$  (21.4 cm) and  $P_{75}$  (18.2 cm). Similarly significant highest large sized timber volume was recorded in  $P_{25}$  (145.95 m³ha¹) followed by  $P_0$  (97.34 m³ha¹),  $P_{50}$  (87.13 m³ha¹) and  $P_{75}$  (58.07 m³ha¹). Small sized timber also exhibited similar trend with numeric values of  $P_{25}$  (14.56 m³ha¹),  $P_{00}$  (14.06 m³ha¹),  $P_{50}$  (8.38 m³ha¹) and  $P_{75}$  (5.24 m³ha¹). Estimated fuelwood quantity was highest in  $P_0$  (15.9 tonnes ha¹), followed by  $P_0$  (12.3 tonnes ha¹),  $P_{50}$  (7.6 tonnes ha¹) and  $P_{75}$  (4.5 tonnes ha¹). Combined wood quantity (Large + Small + Fuelwood) was highest in  $P_{25}$  (169.63 tonnes ha¹), followed by  $P_0$  (125.12 tonnes ha¹). It was concluded that in view of wood biomass moderate pruning of 25% is best among the selected four pruning intensities.

Keywords: Dalbergia sissoo, pruning intensity, large sized timber, small sized timber, fuelwood, wood biomass

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