

## **SURVEY ON STATUS OF MAJOR AGRO-FORESTRY TREE SPECIES AND THEIR INSECT PEST SCENARIO IN CHHATTISGARH PLAINS**

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**ABSTRACT:** Survey conducted at twelve districts of Chhattisgarh plains during 2011-12 on 100 respondents belonging to some institutes or owners/farmers of agro-forestry plantations, revealed that the distribution of farmers was uneven *with maximum* small (46.9%) followed by medium(27.4%) and large farmers (25.7%) based on their land holding capacity. Among various tree species, Bamboo (61.3%), Aonla (53.9%) and Teak (53.6%) were found to be the most preferred and grown by maximum number of respondents followed by Sheesham (46.3%) Neem (44.4%), Karanj (42.8%) and Eucalyptus (42.2%). Gamhar was found to be least preferred being grown by only 16.9% respondents. Among the insect pests, Teak skeletoniser, *Eutectona machaeralis*, was reported as the most serious pest of Teak reported by 39.3% respondents followed by Bamboo lesser leaf roller, *Pyrausta bambucivora* on Bamboo (39.2%) and Mealy bug, *Ferrisia virgata* on Aonla with 37.5% respondents. Termites were reported as major pests on Eucalyptus by 24.9% respondents in which two species were *identified as*, *Odentotermes horni* (Wasman) and *O. obesus* (Rambur). Gundhi bug (*Leptocorisa acuta*) on Teak,(23.2%), Sal borer (*Hoplocerambyx spinicornis* Newm) on sal (21.0%). Gundhi bug (*Leptocorisa acuta*) on Karanj (15.4%) and Blue bug (*Chrysocoris purpureus*) on *Jatropha* (12.2%) were the other major damaging insect pests as reported by maximum number of farmers in the twelve districts of Chhattisgarh plains.

**Key words:** Forest Farm, Insect management, Gundhi bug, Economic loss.