



CHOICE OF FUELWOOD SPECIES BY THE RURAL COMMUNITY IN AROUND SHIVTARAI REGION

Agricultural Science

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KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

Energy security and clean environment have received renewed interest in recent years to improve livelihoods and economic development in many developing countries across the world. Energy is vital input for social and economic development of any region or a nation. Future economic growth depends on long term availability of energy from sources that are affordable, accessible, secure and sustainable. More than half of the world's population live in rural areas, who depend mostly on biomass for their energy supply, and have no access to modern form of energy (Bris et al., 2001).

According to the Household Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by NSSO in the year 2007-2008, in rural India, over 77% households depend on fuel wood and wood chips for cooking. Over 7% percent use dung cake and only 9% use LPG (Jaiswal and Bhattacharya, 2013). In Chhattisgarh, where 11,185 villages out of a total of 19,720 villages are forest fringed. The rural population living in vicinity of forests is heavily depends on traditional fuels. The continuous exploitation of woody biomass from forests and plantations resulted in severe degradation of biomass resources and affecting the availability of these resources. The gap between demand and supply of biomass resources is widening day by day. Therefore, the regional planning and management are now become essential for sustainable management of energy resources. The combination of high population growth with decreasing arable land as well as growing energy demand put immense pressure on biomass resources in many districts of Chhattisgarh. Likewise, low per capita income and slow economic growth are considered to be the major impediments in transforming biomass energy into more modern energy forms in the near future (Mohapatra et al. 1998).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study was carried out in Shivtarai region of Bilaspur district during 2012-13. primary socio-economic data of household was collected by structured interview schedule. A questionnaire schedule was prepared covering the desired aspects related to choice and consumption of firewood in the study area.

RESULT & CONCLUSION

As per survey choice of rural people for firewood is depicted in table 1. It was also found that the usage and dependence on firewood is more prominent for cooking purpose

Commonly Used Firewood Species are Shown in (Table-1)

S. No.	Tree species	Botanical Name	Family	Calorific value Kcal/Kg	Smoky/ Less
1.	Amaltas	Cassia fistula	Fabaceae	4200	Smoky
2.	Arjun	Terminalia arjuna	Combretaceae	5080	Less Smoky
3.	Babool	Acacia nilotica	Fabaceae	4950	Less Smoky
4.	Ber	Zizyphus mauritiana	Rhamnaceae	4878	Less Smoky
5.	Haldu	Adina cordifolia	Verbenaceae	3855	Smoky
6.	Jharberi	Zizyphus jujube	Rhamnaceae	4900	Less Smoky
7.	Karra	Cleistanthus collinus	Euphorbiaceae	4592	Less Smoky
8.	Khair	Acacia catechu	Fabaceae	4946	Less Smoky
9.	Mahua	Madhuca latifolia	Sapotaceae	8742	Less Smoky

10.	Palas	Butea monosperma	Fabaceae	5030	Less Smoky
11.	Siris	Albizia spp.	Fabaceae	4300	Less smoky
12.	Tendu	Diospyros melanoxylon	Sapotaceae	5030	Smoky
13.	Kachnar	Bahuniaverigeta	Fabaceae	4800	Less Smoky
14.	Nilgiri	Eucalyptus spp.	Myrtaceae	4880	Less Smoky

CONCLUSION

The awareness should be created among rural masses by educating them about improved technologies for minimizing risk of health hazards and encourage them to gradual switchover from the use of traditional fuels to alternate fuels.

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