Journal of Tropical Agriculture, Vol 46 (2008)

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Assessment of standing stock of thorny bamboo [*Bambusa bambos* (L.) Voss] in the homegardens of Palakkad and Malappuram districts in Kerala

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Abstract

The standing stocks of rural bamboo in Palakkad and Malappuram districts were assessed through a two-stage stratified random sampling scheme in which 600 homegardens in 20 *panchayaths* were surveyed. Total growing stock of thorny bamboo in Palakkad district was estimated as 61 196 clumps or 4 787 041 culms, having a total dry weight of 124 389 Mg. The corresponding figures for Malappuarm were 44 215 clumps, 3 399 855 culms, and 86 267 Mg dry weight. Average cash income generation per farmer through bamboo sale during the period from 2000 to 2005 was, however, low with Rs. 4002 and 1834 per garden per year for Palakkad and Malappuram respectively.

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