



Agroforestry and Natural Resource Management: A Linking Concept

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Agroforestry involves combination of crop, tree and livestock's in the unit piece of land, which is highly ecologically sound, economically profitable and socially acceptable sustainable land use practices, prevalent throughout the tropics. Judicious utilization of natural resources (crop, tree, animals, soil, water etc.) in the agroforestry is the major concern today. Food, nutrition and health insecurity have been arises due to resource depletion. In this context, agroforestry would be good strategies that help in resource management and its conservation in effective way. In the agroforestry model, tree and crops shed their leaf and twig which decompose and release some essential nutrients into the soils that again utilized by the same plants through extensive root systems and overall nutrient budget and cycling will be maintain in agroforestry system. Soil gives shelter to all the biodiversity including tree, crops and inhabiting varying micro and macro-organism that helps in decomposing leaves, twig and others plant and animals parts that release valuable nutrients and make availability to the plants in agroforestry systems. In addition, the scope and potential of agroforestry are not being underestimated due to its multifarious benefits in term of socioeconomic, food and climate improvement. However, agroforestry helps in maintaining overall farm productivity, improve soil health and quality through fertility enhancement, and mostly delivering the various others ecosystem services like improving phytoremediation function, watershed protection, climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and overall natural resource management. Moreover, the practices of different agroforestry systems not only help in resource management but also targeting the forest covers to reach 33 percent

forest cover given by national forest policy. Therefore, involvement of rural people, government agency, institutions, NGOs along with effective policy will help in strengthening the adoption of different agroforestry models in varying Agroclimatic zones of the tropics.

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