

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY M.S.

G.O., No. 709

Dated 27-6-99

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Coming to the S.G. proposed
circulating with remark, to the Officers
concerned reports furnished by the Con-
servators of Forests as to the most
suitable plants & shrubs for fencing in
connection with public buildings.

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BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

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Public CURRENT No 1795

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1899} of Madras. PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd.

Regd.

1899.

Enclosures.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1426 W., 3rd June 1899.

Order no. 709 of 27-6-99.

JUNE.

*Communicated to
the Surgeon General.*

Cs. 24.6.99. Ar. 26/6/99. P. 27/6/99.

20th Surgeon General (Sec.)

27/6/99. Issue on 27-6-99.

Plants and Shrubs for Fencing

Reports furnished by the Conservators of Forests as to the most suitable — in connection with public buildings, circulated, with remark, to officers of the Public Works Department for information and guidance.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 1179, dated 6th April 1899.

Read—again the following paper :—

Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 3234, dated 16th November 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating to the Collector of Ganjam Government Order sanctioning, with remarks, the estimate of Rs. 800 for substituting plain wire for barbed fencing round the Collector's office at Chatrapur, and requesting the Conservators of Forests to state their views as to the most suitable plants or shrubs for fencing public buildings in different localities in the Presidency.

Read—also the following papers :—

From E. D. M. HOOPER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Puliramudugudem, 9th January 1899, Dis. No. 582.

Replying to Board's Proceedings, No. 3234, of 16th November 1898, I would advocate stone walls being built around public buildings in the Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur districts as well as in the inland taluks of the Kistna district, where the trespass of cattle is otherwise impossible to prevent and tree growth is uncertain from short rainfall.

In the Northern Circars, I would advocate closely planted hedges of henna (*Lawsonia inermis*) and *Dodonaea viscosa* or *Inga dulcis*, but they all require very careful training if they are to become thick hedges.

In the case of large compounds I would advocate aloe hedges provided they are grown on banks and are well drained.

From J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 8th February 1899, No. 908.

[Reference—Board's Resolution, Mis. No. 3234, dated 16th November 1898.]

With reference to the above, I have the honour to inform you that, in my experience, korakapuli (*Inga dulcis*) and casuarina are the best suited, in the coast districts, for the fencing referred to. As regards the inland and upland districts, I consider that the *Balsamodendron berryl* and the *Funeroja* aloe would be the best. There are others such as the *Opuntia*, aloe varieties and *Lantana*, but they are very difficult to keep within bounds and are liable to harbour snakes, &c.

2. Whatever plant is used, I consider that it will be necessary to protect the hedge, while young, with a wire fencing, to ensure a regular and dense growth.

3. I have been in correspondence with the Honorary Secretary, Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras, and the Superintendent, Mysore Botanical Gardens, on the subject, and enclose copies of their replies. They give a number of plants more or less used for fencing.

ENCLOSURES.

From A. G. BOURNE, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras, to the Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, dated Madras, 9th December 1898, No. 1687.

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, No. 1196 A, I herein give you a list of the hedge plants from Dr. Cleghorn's Forests and Gardens of Southern India with our remarks thereon and further list of suitable plants :—

<i>Opuntia Dillenii</i> ...	Effective, but difficult to keep within bounds.
<i>Agave Americana</i> ...	Makes good hedge, but takes too much space.
<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> ...	Makes dense hedge, grows up to 8 or 10 feet and cattle will not eat.
<i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i> ...	Prickly, but slow growth.
<i>Cassalpinia sepiaria</i> ...	Very prickly, makes long shoots, difficult to keep in order.
<i>Goulandina bondue</i> ...	Impenetrable, but makes wild growth.
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i> ...	Not much used for hedges.
<i>Morus Indica</i> ...	Will make good hedge, but no use against cattle.
<i>Inga dulcis</i> ...	This is the plant used in Madras, effective if kept in order by clipping, should not be over-shaded by trees.
<i>Vachellia farnesiana</i> ...	Not very effective as a hedge.
<i>Epicarpurus orientalis</i> ...	A low tree would make a thick hedge if pruned well.
<i>Hemicyclia sepiaria</i> ...	Do. do.
<i>Jatropha curcas</i> ...	Quick growth of no use against cattle.
<i>Pisonia aculeata</i> ...	One of the best plants, would be very effective.
<i>Capparis sepiaria</i> ...	Awkward grower, makes long shoots.
<i>Scutia Indica</i> ...	Not very suitable, prickly, rather a wild grower.
<i>Azima tetracantha</i> ...	Good, wants clipping severely.
<i>Gmelina Asiatica</i> ...	Do. do.
<i>Balsamodendron berryl</i> ...	Very hardy, but makes slow growth.
<i>Toddalia aculeata</i> ...	The best plant of all, perfectly impenetrable.
<i>Bambusa arundinacea</i> ...	Makes good fences, but with rather tall and unsightly habits.
<i>Do. spinosa</i> ...	
<i>Do. nana</i> ...	Does not make good hedge, cannot be trimmed.
<i>Dendrocalamus tulda</i> ...	
<i>Pandanus odoratissimus</i> (new list) ...	Makes a good and ornamental hedge, but wants clipping down severely to keep it in order.
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i> ...	A thorny plant used in North-West Provinces for hedges.
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i> ...	Makes evergreen hedges, no use against cattle.
<i>Vitex Negundo</i> ...	
<i>Clerodendron inerme</i> ...	Well-known for hedges. Will make ornamental fence if planted in 4 or 5 rows and clipped into shape.
<i>Do. Sp.</i> ...	
<i>Casuarina</i> ...	A good hedge plant.
<i>Lawsonia alba</i> ...	A good hedge plant, but spreads itself about.
<i>Lantana Indica</i> ...	Makes a good hedge, with places to be avoided.
<i>Agave vivipara</i> ...	

From J. CAMERON, Esq., Superintendent, Mysore Government Botanical Gardens, Bangalore, to the Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, dated 12th December 1898, General No. 167.

In reply to your letter No. 1196 (c) of 1898-99, dated the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to recommend the marginally noted plants as being most suitable for hedge fencing around public buildings in the city of Madras.

From H. A. GASS, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 20th February 1899, Dis. No. 666.

[Reference—Para. 2 of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 3234, dated 16th November 1898.]

In reply to above reference, I have the honour to report that I consulted the marginally-noted District Forest-officers, and give below a brief précis of their replies:—

North Coimbatore. | Madura.
South Coimbatore. | Tinnevely.

North Coimbatore—Best fences round the houses in his division, are (1) aloes, (2) bamboos, (3) living trees of *Cratogeomys sativa* with bamboo rails. Personally he prefers the last one for public buildings though the ordinary bamboo fence is good and cheap where bamboos are easily procurable.

South Coimbatore—The principal plants used for fencing are (1) common aloe, (2) milk hedge (*Euphorbia tirucalli*), (3) prickly-pear, (4) the three-cornered *Euphorbia* (*Euphorbia antiquorum*), (5) Korakapilly (*Inga dulcis*), (6) *Albizia amara*.

The second, fifth and the sixth are excellent if kept cut, but if neglected they become stalky and leave gaps. The fourth is also a good hedge, and there is also *Dodonaea viscosa* which is not eaten by any animal, but is very hardy and takes some years to make enough wood to give strength to the hedge.

Madura—The following are used and they are all good—

- (1) *Balsamodendron berrigi*.
- (2) *Inga dulcis*.
- (3) *Euphorbia antiquorum*.
- (4) *Euphorbia tirucalli* and prickly-pear.

Tinnevely—The following are used for fencing—

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|--|---|
| (1) Mul murukku (<i>Erythrina Indica</i>) | } These three make good fences. |
| (2) Kiluvai (<i>Protium caudatum</i>) | |
| (3) Korakapilly (<i>Inga dulcis</i>) | |
| (4) Sermakattalai (<i>Agave Americana</i>) | } These make good fence, but will harbour snakes. |
| (5) Do. (<i>Agave vivipara</i>) | |
| (6) Sathurakalli (<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i>) | |
| (7) Ilakkalli (<i>Euphorbia nerrifolia</i>) | } These three make an inferior fence. |
| (8) Maruthani (<i>Lawsonia alba</i>), makes an ornamental fence. | |
| (9) Kattamanak (<i>Jatropha curcas</i>) | |
| (10) Vellai nochi (<i>Vitex negundo</i>) | } These three make an inferior fence. |
| (11) Nir nochi (<i>Vitex trifolia</i>) | |

To the above may be added *Randia*, *Thespesia populnea*, and *casuarina*.

2. The selection is large and adapted to different soils and conditions, and most of the plants named, after the necessary care in starting them, require little looking after. *Inga dulcis* is perhaps the best for universal use, but practically almost any tree may be trained to form an excellent hedge.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1179, dated 6th April 1899.

In paragraph 3 of its Order, No. 2387 W., dated 14th September 1898, Government called upon the Board to submit a note on the subject of fencing in connection with public buildings, with suggestions as to the most suitable plants or shrubs which may be used for the purpose. The order was referred to the Conservators of Forests for an expression of their opinion as to what plants or shrubs would suit the different localities in the Presidency.

2. The Conservator of the Central Circle reports that he has found from experience that korakapilly (*Inga dulcis*) and *casuarina* are the best suited for the coast districts and *Balsamodendron berrigi* and the *Funeraria** aloe for the inland and upland districts. He considers that whatever

* or *Funeraria gigantea* (Watts, Vol. I, page 137).

may be the plant used it will be necessary to protect the hedge, while young, with a wire fencing so as to ensure a regular and dense growth. The Conservator, Northern Circle, advocates the construction of stone walls around public buildings in Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur as well as in the inland taluqs of the Kistna district where the trespass of cattle cannot be prevented otherwise and the growth of plants is uncertain owing to the short rainfall, while for the buildings in the Northern Circars he would recommend closely planted hedges of henna and *Dodonaea viscosa* or *Inga dulcis*. The Conservator of the Southern Circle submits a list of plants which may be used for fencing purposes in the districts of Coimbatore, Madura and Tinnevely, but he is of opinion that korakapilly (*Inga dulcis*) is the best for universal use.

3. The reports furnished by the three Conservators of Forests are forwarded in original to Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Acting Secretary.

Endorsement thereon in the Revenue Department, dated 22nd April 1899, Mis. No. 1485.

ORDER—No. 1426 W., dated 3rd June 1899.

In compliance with paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 2387 W., dated 14th September 1898, the Board of Revenue submits the reports, furnished by the Conservators of Forests, as to the most suitable plants and shrubs for use as fencing in connection with public buildings. These reports will be printed and circulated to officers of the department for information and guidance; but care must be taken to avoid all snake-harbours shrubs, such as aloes, prickly-pear, *Opuntia*, *Lantana*, &c.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers.
the Consulting Architect to Government.
the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division.
the Public Department.
the Judicial Department.
the Ecclesiastical Department.
the Revenue Department.
the Educational Department.

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27/6 1897

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DICTO.

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