M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	350	Press
B.P. No.		~~Mis.~~
Dated	17 - 3 - 1874	~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 152. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th January 1874, No. 134, Forest No. 5 :—

Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Inspector of Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 24th December 1873, No. 1,974 :—

With reference to paragraph 6 of the G. O., No. 1,417, of the 13th December 1873, I have the honour to inform you that information of this nature must be carefully collated over considerable tracts and during a series of years to be really of much practical value, and I much fear that most of our Officers and Overseers in the fuel districts are deficient in the training and knowledge that is necessary for work of this nature.

2. I annex a list of all the principal fuel trees and shrubs growing in the reserves in our railway districts (Cuddapah, North Arcot, South Arcot, and Salem). Nearly all of these (at least one of each genus) have been described in the "Flora Sylvatica," a work now complete and in the hands of all our Officers, and the native names have been given where known, though these latter differ much sometimes in the same district and are not always to be relied on. The genera marked with a cross are those known to yield good fuel, those marked with two crosses are exceptionally good. Statistics as to the rate of growth of these, those which spring most rapidly from the stool after being cut (like *Albizza amara* and *Alangium*), those that grow best from seeds (like *Acacia* and *Bauhinia*) or best from cuttings (like *Ficus*), those least liable when seedlings to the attack of rats and other vermin (like *Strychnos*), those that require most moisture (like *Pongamia*), and those that succeed best in the driest localities (like *Albizzia amara*) and those that will grow best under shade, etc., would all be of considerable value, but this information must also be accompanied with full data as to soil, situation, and other circumstances of growth and character of the season, etc.

3. I think that our Officers might from time to time collate much information of this nature, and we already have small mixed plantations for similar experiments, in the books of which are entered particulars as to rate of germination, growth from coppice, etc., etc.

4. Experiments also as to the caloric power of each different timber would be of great value. *Acacia Arabica* (Babul), *Cassia florida*, and *Casuarina* are known to rank very high in this respect.

Communicated to all Collectors, who should instruct their Forest subordinates to keep books in which the particulars referred to in paragraph 2 are entered in full detail.

2. Those in whose districts the "mixed plantations" referred to in paragraph 3 are situated should examine the "books" and submit a précis of any information which seems to be of value.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th March 1874.

No. 153. ORDER THEREON, 17th March 1874, No. 350.

Forests, No. 4. RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

FOREST No. 5.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th January 1874, No. 134.

Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Inspector of Forests, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 24th December 1873, No. 1,974 :—

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COMMUNICATED to all Collectors, who should instruct their Forest subordinates to keep books in which the particulars referred to in paragraph 2 are entered in full detail.

Govt. off. 1874. Wdms.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated March 17th.

Read.

G. O., 17th March 1874, No. 350.

MARCH.
Nos. 152-153.

Railway Fuel-reserves.—Records Board's Proceedings communicating instructions to all Collectors on the subject of information to be recorded by forest officers regarding—.

2. Those in whose districts the "mixed plantations" referred to in paragraph 3 are situated should examine the "books" and submit a précis of any information which seems to be of value.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

A Brodie
Secretary.

To all Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" to the Inspector of Forests.

Ext. A. S. Rodgers.

Revenue 1874. Depte

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

No 764

Proceedings, 27th January 1874, No. 134.

Dep? 6th March 74.
Encl.

Received 7

JANUARY.

Forest No. 5.

Railway Fuel Reserves—Government forests, etc.—Letter from Inspector of Forests reporting on subject of information to be recorded by Forest Officers with reference to —, communicated to all Collectors with necessary instructions.

No 350
Recorded
GM
17th March 1874