

**B-100 : EARLY PERFORMANCE OF SOME EXOTIC AND INDIGENOUS
TREE SPECIES IN REGOSOL AT VANTHARUMOOLAI**

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Four exotic (*Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Eucalyptus citriodora*, *Gmelina arborea* and *Tectona grandis*) and four indigenous (*Terminalia arjuna*, *Berrya cordifolia*, *Drypetes sepiaria* and *Azadirachta indica*) tree species were planted with the spacing of 3 m between plants in 20 m * 20 m plot at Vantharumoolai. The experiment was set up in a completely randomized design with four replicates.

Height, mortality, herbivory and disease susceptibility were recorded for five months from planting and the data was analysed statistically. The results showed no

significant difference ($p < 0.05$) in relative growth among the test species. Mortality was significantly ($p < 0.05$) higher in *E.citriodora* and *T.grandis* compared to *A.indica*, *C.equisetifolia* and *B.cordifolia*.

The investigation suggests that among the tested exotic and indigenous species *C.equisteifolia*, *B.cordifolia*, *A.indica* would be the more suitable with equivalent growth and less mortality for establishment on regosol, which is the major soil group for the Eastern region of Sri Lanka.

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