

Inspection Note of Conservator of Forests,
Central Circle, Trichur dated 27-11-1969.

1) 1969-70 - Teak and Elavoo Nursery:

Vazhachal Range

Inspected the Nursery (100 big beds Elavoo and 100 beds Teak) on 27-11-69. The germination of Teak in some of the Nursery beds is poor. Many seeds have not germinated. The stocking in the rest of the seeds is good. The seedlings in the Elavoo beds have all shed their leaves some days ago. Many of the seedlings show signs of dryage of the terminal bud. It appears to me that the seedlings must have suffered from damping off during heavy rains. Spraying Bordeaux mixture at that time should have had the desired effect. The Ranger will note this for future guidance. Most of the seedlings however seem to recover and are putting for the new leaf buds. If necessary the beds will have to be watered during the summer month. Wild bear and Elephants have damaged half a dozen beds. Some thing should be done to scare away the animals at night so that future damage is avoided.

2) 1969 Teak and Elavoo Plantation

Vazhachal Range

Inspected the Plantation on 27-11-69. Teak and Elavoo have been Planted in, alternate lines in an espacement of $8\frac{1}{2}' \times 8\frac{1}{2}'$. It is desirable to have the species of as $2\frac{1}{2}' \times 2\frac{1}{2}'$ M. hereafter instead of $8\frac{1}{2}' \times 8\frac{1}{2}'$. The Taungya crop of Paddy has been harvested a few days ago, but no weeding is seen done. If the Taungya-dars (Co-operative Societies) do not intend to raise a crop of grave or gingely it is better that a weeding by knife is got departmentally and the cost recovered from the leasees. Steps must be taken in this direction without delay. The Teak Plants do not seem to have lifted themselves up above the level of paddy at any time. Many of these seem to have suffered on account of suppression by the paddy crop falling over. The average height of Teak Plants will not be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ M. and many of them are less than $\frac{1}{2}$ M. The growth of Elavoo Plants is also not appreciable and being $\frac{1}{2}$ M. is of height. With the weeds and remnants of the paddy it is not easy to discern the percentage of survivals. Paddy crop in this area seem to have been so luxuriant that the Plantation, in general has suffered. It is pointed out by the Divisional Forest Officer that this will effect of the Taungya can be, to a large extent, got over by allowing Tapioca crop; one stump in between 4 plants, during the First year itself. During the next year one or two sub coupes can be put under Tapioca instead of paddy and the results watched. It is also seen that in the case of Elavoo transplants it is often the case that the planting material is not an entire seedling but one with the root portion cut off to fit with the depth of the crowbar hole. The optimum size of naked tray to is about $\frac{1}{2}$ M. in height. It is also worthwhile selec-

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3) 1966 Grewellia Robusta Plantation:
Vazhachal Range

Inspected the Plantation on 27-11-69. The plantation presents a good appearance with the weeding recently done. The growth of the plants and stocking is impressive. The taller plants reach up to a height of 30' and a girth of 16". On a comparison with the plantation raised at Thundathil in the same Division during 1966 it is seen that there is a remarkable difference in the growth rate and vigour. Vazhachal is certainly better suited for this species than Thundathil where the elevation is much lower and where many plants have already died out. It will be useful to have a small plot of $\frac{1}{2}$ hectare laid out as a sample plot, and the growth measurement recorded periodically.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Chalakudy.

Copy to Range Officer, Vazhachal.

Copy submitted to Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum.

Copy to Conservator of Forests' personal file.

Copy to P.O. section for further action.

K.S./16-12