

Copy of letter No. P5 44369/dt. 1-10-1981 from Chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum (D) to the Conservator of Forests, Working Plan and Research Circle, Trivandrum and copied to the Conservator of Forests, Trichur.

Sub: - Trials on cover crop – ‘Mueuna Eraetesta’ suggestion regarding.

Ref: - Nil

The Rubber Board has recently introduced a new cover crop which is a legume named ‘Mueune Braetesta’ which is not browsed or grazed by cattle. The species is also quite resistant to drought and has good nitrogen fixing capability. It is easily propagated by rooted cuttings and the V.P. materials are available from the different distribution centers of the Rubber Board.

2. It is not known whether this new cover crop could be established under a tree crop with partial shade. However it will be quite interesting to study the possibilities of raising this cover crop in selected forest areas like Vanalakshmi A and plantation sites selected for raising species like Rubber etc. The possibilities for establishing such a cover crop for keeping down weeds and thus reduce the weeding and maintenance cost will also have to be experimented with. You are required to issue suitable instructions on this matter for taking up trials by the Silvicultural Research Officer.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(M. Sivarajan)
Chief Conservator of Forests (Dev.)

Endt. VC./16875/81 dt. 14-10-1981 (L.Dis)

Copy to all Divl. Forest Officers for information.
Copy to VC Stock file

for Conservator of Forests,
Trichur.