

EVALUATION OF FUEL WOOD CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME DECIDUOUS TREES AND SHRUBS OF THE KASHMIR REGION

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Abstract: Fuelwood characteristics viz. Calorific value, Density, Ash content (%), Moisture content (%) were evaluated for 11 deciduous trees viz. *Robinia pseudoacacia* (Black Locust), *Prunus armeniaca*(Wild apricot), *Morus alba* (Mulberry), *Quercus rober*(Oak), *Ulmus villosa* (Elm), *Salix alba* (White willow), *Melia azedarach*(Drek), *Ailanthus ultissima* (Tree of Heaven), *Populus nigra*(Black Poplar), *Albizia julibrissin* (Siris), *Fraxinus floribunda*(Ash tree) and two shrubs namely *Amorpha fruticosa* (Desert false indigo) and *Parrotia jacquemontina* (hatab) of Kashmir region. The results showed that fuel wood potential of the different tree and shrub species is in order as *Parrotia jacquemontina* (hatab) > *Prunus armeniaca*(Wild apricot) > *Robinia pseudoacacia* (Black Locust) > *Albizia julibrissin* (Siris) > *Amorpha fruticosa*(Desert false indigo) > *Ulmus villosa* (Elm) > *Quercus rober*(Oak) > *Fraxinus floribunda*(Ash tree) > *Ailanthus altissima*(Tree of Heaven) > *Morus alba*(Mulberry) > *Melia azedarach*(Drek) > *Populus nigra* (Black Poplar) > *Salix alba* (White willow),

Keywords: Calorific value, Firewood, Fuelwood value index (FVI), Deciduous trees and shrubs, Kashmir

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