Carbon Inventory Methods in Indian Forests - A Review

Akhlaq A. Wani1,2,*, P. K. Joshi3, Ombir Singh1, Rajiv Pandey4

1Silviculture Division, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun 248006 India
2Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pombay, P.O. Gopal Pora, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, J&K, 192233, India
3Department of Natural Resources, TERI University New Delhi, 110070, India
4Department of Forestry, Post Box No: 59, HNB Garhwal University Srinagar Garhwal Uttarakhand, 246174

Abstract Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), participating countries are required to report national inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions or uptake. The current challenge is to reduce the uncertainties in producing accurate and reliable activity data of Carbon (C) stock changes and emission factors essential for reporting national inventories. Improvements in above ground biomass estimation can also help account for changes in C stock in forest areas that may potentially participate in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), REDD plus and other initiatives. The methods adopted for such estimations vary with respect to geography, objective of the study, available expertise, data and scientific excellence adopted. However the current objectives for such estimates need a unified approach which can be measurable, reportable, and verifiable. This might result to a geographically referenced biomass density database for tropical forests that would reduce uncertainties in estimating annual biomass increment and forest aboveground biomass. In the light of above requirements, this paper intends to present an overview of the methodologies adopted in India from local to country level estimates to assess C sequestration potential in different forest components. The paper also discusses remote sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) initiatives taken in this field and the possibility of adopting an integrated approach for reliable, accurate and cost effective estimates.

Keywords Carbon Inventory Methods, Forests, Biomass, CDM, REDD Plus

1. Introduction

At the first Conference of Parties (COP), which took place in Berlin in 1995, the parties agreed that the specific commitments of the convention for the Annex I parties were not adequate because they were too vague and after two and a half year of intense negotiations, the Kyoto protocol was adopted at the third COP on 11 December 1997 in Japan. This protocol is the first international implementation of a cap and trade scheme. Kyoto Protocol in its Article 12 of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) allows Annex I countries to achieve “additional” emissions and reduction in non-Annex I countries. Forests play a critical role[1] in stabilizing CO2 concentration for it acts as significant source of global CO2 and also provides opportunities to act as sink through soil, vegetation and wood products.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) provides us the guidelines for estimation of Carbon (C) inventory for land use change and forest sector[2] and for agriculture, forest and other land uses[3] and good practice guidance for land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector[4]. Adoption of C inventory methods and guidelines should lead to accurate, reliable and cost effective estimates of C stocks and changes for a given land use system and period[5]. Implementation of sustainable C forestry and C storage led forest management in India warrants for specific research support for status monitoring and technology generation. Considerable variations in terms of assumptions and estimates on C sequestration call for standardization of estimation of C estimation emissions for forest and other resources and land-use changes[6]. Worldwide numerous ecological studies have been conducted to assess C stocks based on C density of vegetation and soils[7,8,9]. The results of these studies are not uniform and have wide variations and uncertainties probably due to aggregation of spatial and temporal heterogeneity and adaptation of different methodologies[10].

Five pools have been identified in Marrakech Accord viz. above ground biomass, below ground biomass, soil carbon, dead organic matter and litter. Among these only those pools need to be measured and monitored under CDM which are most likely to be impacted by the project activities. Various methods are available for estimation of carbon and flux in these pools but these methods vary on account of accuracy, precision, cost and scale of application. The broad categories of programmes requiring carbon
inventory[5] are for national greenhouse inventory, climate change mitigation projects, Clean Development Mechanism projects, projects under the global environment facility and forest grassland and agroforestry development projects. Hence, it becomes extremely important for a developing country like India where there is an excellent opportunity of having 26 million degraded land as a potential storage for carbon to evolve and refine the methodology as per the objectives. The present paper gives an insight into the varied methodologies adopted by different workers as per their objectives of study for estimations at various levels related to carbon in India. India having diverse vegetation coupled with variation in climates, the inventory experts need to explore all sources of information from all local sources and create data bases on the basis of inventory parameters (pools) and factors like growth rates, wood density etc. to improve the quality of carbon inventory.

2. Biomass Carbon

Biomass is defined as the total quantity of live and inert or dead organic matter, above and below the ground, expressed in tones of dry matter per unit area, such as hectare. (Biomass carbon = above ground biomass carbon + below ground biomass carbon + dead organic matter). Above ground biomass is the most important visible and dominant C pool in forests and plantations, although not in grasslands and croplands5.

2.1. National Level Estimates

A study was conducted[10] to estimate contribution of India’s forests from 1995 to 2005 towards C sink using secondary data of growing stock from various sources. Suitable biomass increment values (expansion and conversion for calculating total tree above ground biomass) and the ratio of below and above ground biomass (for calculating total tree biomass above and below ground) as available in different studies covering a range of forest types of the country were used with a conservative value of C 40% and 20% of moisture content on dry basis (mcdb) for realistic estimations[11,12].

Growing stock total = growing stock tree + growing stock other vegetation
Growing stock tree = volume above ground + volume below ground
Volume above ground = growing stock commercial (bole up to 10 cm) x expansion factor
Volume below ground = volume above ground x R (root shoot ratio)
Growing stock other vegetation = growing stock tree + ratio of other forest floor biomass to growing stock of tree
Biomass (mt) = growing stock total (m³) x meanwood density
Carbon biomass = biomass x (1 - mcdb) x proportion of carbon content

Spatial data bases of climatic, edaphic, and geomorphologic indices, and vegetation were used to estimate the potential carbon densities (without human impacts) in above and below ground biomass of forests in 1980. All data were processed in GIS environment[13]. Land use data and carbon estimates for South and Southeast Asia were collected and analysed to help reduce the uncertainty associated with the release of C in the atmosphere caused by land use change. The database was developed in Lotus 1-2-3 TM using a sequential bookkeeping model. The source data were obtained from historical and geographical documents (Fig. 1)[14]. The total amount of C sequestered in live vegetation of each ecological zone for 1880, 1920, 1950, 1970 and 1980 was calculated using the equation as

\[ TC_i = \sum_{j=1}^{J} L_{ij} A_{ji} \]  

Where total C stock of vegetation at time i (TCi) is calculated based on Lij which is the total C (above and below ground) in vegetation type j at time i. Aij is the area in vegetation of type j at time i and n is the total number of land use categories within the zone.

![Figure 1. Flow sheet illustrating spreadsheet methodology used in analysis of changes in land use changes and C (Source: Richards and Flint[14])](image-url)

Accordingly[14], the actual C stock of a given vegetation class is calculated as the product of its potential maximum C stock (M) and two fractional multipliers which quantify the estimated reduction of M by environmental limitations (E) and degradation (D). CPH = M x E x D. Similarly[15,16] a book keeping model was developed that tracks the C content of each hectare disturbed by human activity.

In another study[17] estimated forest cover, growing stock and biomass for the year 1984. This was done at state level for the entire country using information available from the vegetation maps, thematic maps and ground forest inventory collected by Forest Survey of India (FSI). For this purpose all the states and union territories were divided into grids of 2.5° x 2.5°. Data was collected for parameters related to growing stock from 170000 grids. The growing stock of each state was estimated by calculating the number of grids for each combination of density and forest composition. The volume per ha (termed as wood volume factor) for a particular combination of density and forest composition was generated using data of forest inventory.
surveys. Three wood volume factors were calculated for each stratum and density class for each map sheet for each state. The estimated volume (or growing stock) was converted into biomass by using specific gravity[18,19] of dominant tree species in each grid and C stock was computed employing the formulae, Biomass(t) = Volume m³ × Specific gravity and Carbon (t) = Biomass(t) × Carbon(%).

A study was conducted[20] to estimate C flux through litter fall in forest plantations in India. Data on 24 species from 82 stands was tabulated so as to cover the entire country. Mean litter fall (total and alone) from the plantation was computed. A C fraction of 0.45 was used for converting litter fall to C flux. Above ground biomass was recorded at the site for shrubs and grasses whereas standard relationship was used to record tree biomass at the site in arid and semi arid areas of Rajasthan and 0.48 part of C was assumed in vegetation on dry weight basis[21]. In another study CO₂ FIX a stand level simulation model[22] was used to quantify the carbon storage and sequestration potential of selected tree species in India using published data on growth rate and biomass with a carbon factor of 50%.

Allometric equations[23] (models) have been suggested for national level studies in estimating Above ground tree biomass (AGTB) developed[24] on the basis of climate and forest stand types. Biomass stock densities are converted to carbon stock densities using the default carbon fraction[2] of 0.47. Furthermore root-to-shoot ratio value[25] of 1:5 was suggested to estimate below-ground biomass as 20% of above-ground tree biomass. Carbon sequestration projected[26] up to year 2050 has been calculated for forestry options under different land use scenarios in India from standing biomass, wood products and fossil-fuel use and the equation used is carbon = carbon in standing biomass + carbon in wood products + carbon in fossil fuel. Carbon in standing biomass is determined by multiplying the area of each land use category by its average biomass and then multiplying the sum by the carbon content of biomass, which is assumed to be 0.5. If there is an insufficient amount of fuel wood in the project region, the model automatically begins to burn fossil fuel which results in increasing carbon emissions[26]. The model estimates the amount of carbon sequestered by approximating land use and relative biomass changes in the landscape over time.

### 2.2. Regional Level Estimates

Carbon mitigation potential[27] and cost effectiveness of different tree of medicinal importance of Haryana have been estimated for a period of 30 years (2008-2038) using spreadsheet model (PRO-COMAP), acronym, Project Based Comprehensive Mitigation Assessment Process. The model uses data on selected carbon pools as collected from the field, viz. above ground biomass, below ground biomass, soil carbon and woody litter along with data on costs and benefits. Above ground biomass was calculated by laying quadrates and Mean Annual Increment (MAI) was calculated using volume equations as given in Forest Survey of India publication[28]. Below ground biomass has been calculated using IPCC default value which is above ground biomass x 0.27 and carbon[2] sequestered was obtained after multiplying the biomass with 0.45. For soil organic carbon three samples were taken from each quadrant and samples were collected at the depths of 15 cm, 30 cm and 45 cm and Walkley’s method was used for estimation of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC). A similar study[29] was carried out to estimate eligible carbon pools under CDM for medicinal trees of Haryana in which observations on growth (height, girth and crown cover) of selected plantation interventions was taken as per the structured data sheets.

For calculation of Mean Annual Increment (MAI) of plantation intervention on private lands restricting to bund plantations, it was assumed that the farm size will be 0.25 ha (50 x 50 m) and 32 trees would be planted at a spacing of 7 m as commonly practiced in that area. Biomass expansion factor and wood density have been used as per good practice guidelines by IPCC. Default value of 0.27 has been for below ground carbon and SOC has been calculated as per Walkley’s method. Spreadsheet model PRO-COMAP was used for data analysis.

### 2.3. Local Level Estimates

A study[30] was conducted to evaluate C sequestration through community based forest management in Sambalpur Forest Division Orissa. Two villages with total area of 200 ha were selected on the basis of number of years for which the allotted peripheral reserved forests have been protected. Quadrates were laid and observations were recorded for girth and height for each species of trees, shrubs and herbs. The data collected during 1997-98 was used for the estimation of growing stock and other indices. The growing stock was calculated using the regression equation[31] as

\[
\text{Standing Woody Biomass (tonnes/ha)} = -1.689 + 8.32 \times \text{BA}.
\]

Sequestration potential of natural forests in seven village forests of Chindwara Forest Division of Madhya Pradesh was estimated for different density classes using harvested method of stratified tree technique. Quadrates were laid and sample trees were felled and roots excavated for determination of above and below ground biomass. The whole tree biomass without foliage was recorded for different components viz. twigs, branches, bole and roots and presented on oven dry weight basis[32]. In a study carried out to find[33] C content of some forest tree species the plant samples of various parts were subjected to oven drying. Calcium was estimated by flame photometer and C was carried out using Walkley and Black’s rapid titration method and regression equation method developed between Calcium and C of various tree components. Ash content method was also used to estimate C. In another study[34] to access carbon sequestration potential under agroforestry in Rupnagar district of Punjab PRO-COMAP (Project based Comprehensive Mitigation Analysis Process) model was used for the period (2005-2030) as also suggested by
of stand biomass without destructive sampling. Equations of wide applicability to obtain reliable estimates. Technique is the best but urged to develop estimating forest ecosystem it was concluded that stratified tree methods for estimation of biomass in a forest ecosystem. It was used to prepare the forest cover density map and plot interpretation methods. Field measurements of height and girth were taken to calculate volume of sample plots of 0.1 ha using the site specific volume equations provided by FSI. Volume was multiplied with specific gravity to obtain biomass and later the results of biomass were extrapolated in the stratified forest type map. Carbon from biomass was calculated and the minimum value of 48% was adopted as the conversion factor. All above ground woody components have been assumed to have 47-50% organic carbon.

Carbon allocation in different parts of three year old agroforestry species was studied adopting destructive method of sampling. Field measurements taken were fitted into regression equation with a general form factor of 0.5 regardless of the actual form or taper. The carbon and nitrogen content percent in each plant component was estimated on CHNS analyser. Similarly destructive sampling was adopted to assess carbon sequestration potential of selected bamboo species of Northeast India. Total dry biomass of sample component was calculated by multiplying weight of oven dry sample with total fresh weight of plant component and divided it by fresh weight of plant sample component taken. The total oven dry weight of each component was then multiplied by the total number of plants in that category. Carbon content was estimated by indirect method using a factor of 0.48.

3. Remote Sensing and GIS Based Estimates

A study was conducted on biomass distribution of natural and plantation forests of humid tropics in northeast India using GIS and different types of forests were mapped using IRS LISS III imageries through supervised classification and a forest type map within the study area was prepared. Sampling of vegetation in the two forests was carried out by belt transect method. Because of high species richness in tropical forests, it is difficult to use species-specific regression models, as used in the temperate zone. Therefore, mixed species tree biomass regression models (Table 1) were used for AGB estimation of natural and plantation forests.

Geospatial technology was used to estimate C stock in natural forests of Eastern Ghats Tamil Nadu. IRS 1D LISS III digital data and Survey of India toposheets were used to prepare the forest cover density map and plot sampling technique was followed to estimate the stand density. Volume of about 1000 trees was estimated using Smalian’s formula by Chaturvedi and bi-variate equations were derived using calculated volume, girth at breast height (gbh) and height for different girth class. Volume was multiplied with wood density to obtain biomass. C was obtained following standard methodology by with 49.1 as the conversion factor.

On the basis of thematic maps prepared by FSI and survey done by FSI for forest inventory, growing stock, ground biomass and C stock was determined for the assessment years 1979-1981 and 1994-1995 for a particular combination of density and forest composition in Ranchi district. Estimated volume of growing stock was converted to biomass based on specific gravity of dominant tree species in each grid and dry biomass was multiplied by the factor 0.48 for estimating Carbon. Similarly satellite data was used in a study to estimate carbon pool in Govind Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park to generate forest type and density maps by visual and digital interpretation methods. Field measurements of height and girth were taken to calculate volume of sample plots of 0.1 ha using the site specific volume equations provided by FSI. Volume was multiplied with specific gravity to obtain biomass and later the results of biomass were extrapolated in the stratified forest type map. Carbon from biomass was calculated and the minimum value of 48% was adopted as the conversion factor. All above ground woody components have been assumed to have 47-50% organic carbon.

Table 1. Regression models run to obtain best fit for estimation of biomass in natural and plantation forests of northeast India

| Model       | Regression Equation | \( R^2 \) | Plantations |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| FAO. 3.2.3. | \( Y = 42.69 - 12.800(D) + 1.242(D^2) \) | 0.87 | 0.84 |
| FAO. 3.2.4. | \( Y = \exp{-2.134 + 2.530 \times \ln(D)} \) | 0.8 | 0.83 |
| FAO. 3.2.5. | \( Y = 21.297 - 6.953(D) + 0.740(D^2) \) | 0.87 | 0.84 |
| Brown et al. | \( Y = \exp{-3.114 + 0.972 \times \ln(D) + 0.873 \times \ln(D)^2} \) | 0.87 | 0.65 |
| Brown et al. | \( Y = \exp{-2.409 + 0.952 \times \ln(D) + 0.873 \times \ln(D)^2} \) | 0.88 | 0.67 |
| Chave et al. | \( Y = \exp{2.00 - 2.42 \times \ln(D)} \) | 0.82 | 0.76 |
| Chambers et al. | \( Y = \exp{-0.37 + 0.33 \times \ln(D) + 0.933 \times \ln(D)^2 + 0.122 \times \ln(D)^3} \) | 0.93 | 0.91 |
| Brown and Iversen | \( Y = 1.276 + 0.034(D^2) \times \ln(H) \) | 0.86 | 0.63 |
| Brown et al. | \( Y = 38.4908 - 11.7883(D) + 1.1926 D^2 \) | 0.88 | 0.85 |

Source: Baishya

Forest Biomass and net assimilation of carbon of Rajaji National Park Uttar Pradesh (Now Uttarakhand) was mapped and assessed using IRS-1A and assessed using IRS-1A, LISS I digital data for the year 1988. The classified forest types were sub-classified into crown cover levels of 20 percent interval and calibrated through field checks. The crown cover for various forest types was related with the stand biomass (above ground) and the relationship was used mean biomass was computed for each class which when multiplied with the respective aerial extent gave total biomass of the content. Below ground biomass was assumed to be 23% of the above ground.
In a review work[57] biomass distribution in a forest ecosystem was described as the function of vegetation type, its structure and site conditions. Phenology plays an important role in using satellite data for estimating qualitative and quantitative characters especially in deciduous vegetation as similarly reported[58] that SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) being sensitive to moisture, temperature, branch architecture, biomass, age classes, girth, canopy density etc. can provide us with species based forest stratification in areas with perpetual clouds. Spectral response modelling[59] was applied to estimate per unit biomass values of sample plots in homogenous vegetation strata. The results when extrapolated to the entire area generated biomass map of the Madhav National Park. It was further reported that a combination of various forest parameters like trunk, branches, basal area, soil etc. show better relationship with biomass coupled with merged data of optical (Landsat TM, and IRS LISS II and III) and SAR-X band sensors makes way for better enhancement techniques and mapping.

4. Soil Organic Carbon

After careful comparison of the different international standards to be followed for forest carbon estimation, the carbon fraction (CF) 0.47 default value[2] is proposed to convert the biomass value of standing trees into carbon fraction (CF) 0.47 default value[2] is proposed to standards to be followed for forest carbon estimation, the

| Methods / values for estimation | IPCC (2006)[3] | Pearson et al (2007)[62] | MacDicken (1997)[25] | VCS (2007)[63] and CCB (2008)[64] |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Criteria for stratification   | Climate zone, ecotype, soil type, management regime within land-use types | Vegetation, soil, topography | Land-use, vegetation, slope, drainage, elevation, proximity to settlement | According to the guidance provided by IPCC |
| Carbon pools to measure       | Above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass, dead wood, litter, and soil organic matter, as well as emissions of non-CO2 gases | Above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass, dead wood, litter, soil organic carbon, and woody products | Above-ground biomass, necromass, below-ground biomass (tree roots), soil carbon and standing litter crop | Consider the same pools covered under the IPCC guidelines |
| Allometric equations for trees | Equation for moist climate, annual rainfall (1,500 – 4,000 mm)  
\( y = 38.4908 - 11.7833 D + 1.1926 D^2 \) Root : Shoot ratio = 0.01 or 0.15 Carbon content = 0.5 (50% of total biomass) | Equation for dry forest (0.56 for < 20 tons  
\( AGB/ha = 0.28 \) for > 20 tons AGB/ha Carbon Fraction (CF): 0.47 (default value for all parts) | According to the guidance provided by IPCC |

Source: Gunung[61]
In a similar study[53] an integrated approach was used to assess carbon pool. The soil samples (0-3 cm) within each clustered plot were collected and analysed for organic carbon and calculated with the same formula. In another study[66] regarding soil organic carbon in different land use systems in Giri catchment of Himachal Pradesh soil samples were collected from all land uses by digging a pit of 30 cm, 30 cm and 45 cm width, depth and length respectively. Bulk density was calculated using standard core method[67]. Soil organic carbon was calculated by standard Walkley & Black method[68]. All the methods used in this study are in accordance with[10] Ravindranath & Ostwald (2008). The data for SOC pool was calculated by using the following equation as suggested by IPCC Good Practice Guidance[3] for LULUCF:

\[
SOC = \frac{\sum_{Horizon \ 1}^{Horizon \ n} SOC \ Horizon}{n} = \frac{[SOC \times \text{Bulk density} \times \text{depth} \times (1 - C \ frag.)]}{\text{Horizon} \ 1} \times 100 \text{Horizon}
\]

Where, SOC = Representative soil organic carbon content for the forest type and soil of interest, tonnes C/(ha)\(^1\), SOC = Soil organic carbon content for a constituent soil horizon, tonnes C/(ha)\(^1\), (SOC) = Concentration of SOC in a given soil mass obtained from analysis, g C/(kg soil)\(^1\), Bulk Density = Soil mass per sample volume, tonnes soil m\(^3\) (equivalent to Mg m\(^3\)), Depth = Horizon depth or thickness of soil layer, m, C fragments = % volume of coarse fragments/100.

In another study[69] to estimate soil organic carbon pool under different land uses in Champanawat district of Uttarakhand the same methodology and equations were used. In an experiment to assess carbon sequestration potential in Himalayan region of Himachal Pradesh, split plot design[70] was adopted to assess carbon sequestration potential in Himalayan region of H.P. using six land use systems viz. natural grassland, Hortipastoral, Agriculture, agri-horticulture and agri-horti-silviculture each system replicating thrice. Agroforestry system formed the main plot and soil sampling depth as sub plot. The soil organic pool expressed as Mega grams ha\(^{-1}\) for a specific depth was computed[71] by multiplying the soil organic carbon (g kg\(^{-1}\)) with bulk density (g cm\(^{-3}\)) and depth (cm). A study[9] was carried out in India’s forests for the assessment of forest carbon stocks using primary data for the soil carbon pool. The study covered a total of 571 samples in forest area and 101 additional samples in the nearby non-forest areas collected from a pit of 30 cm wide, 30 cm deep and 50 cm in length. Soil organic carbon was estimated by standard Walkley and Black method and bulk density was estimated using standard Clod method.

5. The Way Forward

Worldwide numerous ecological studies have been conducted to assess carbon stocks based on carbon density of vegetation and soils[6,7,8]. The results of these studies are not uniform and have wide variations and uncertainties probably due to aggregation of spatial and temporal heterogeneity and adaptation of different methodologies[9]. A participatory approach for forest boundary delineation should be adopted by involving GIS experts, forest technicians, and members of community forest user groups (CFUGs). High- resolution satellite images printed on a large scale can be to find the different land cover and natural boundaries and to trace individual forest blocks easily. For establishment of baseline scenario of the area local socio economic situation and regional economic trends should be taken into consideration. To create uniformity in estimations the IPCC Good Practice Guidelines 1996, 2003 and 2006 must be adopted as per requirement; however an integrated approach to combine various methods is necessary for specific studies for which guidelines are not addressed. It is further reported[10] that IPCC guidelines till now do not provide guidance on certain methods and parameters. The use of GIS technology offers an approach to develop a biomass map of forests. It can be extended to areas in which data are not available because consistent patterns of biomass density frequently result from similar biophysical characteristics in the study area. A geographically referenced biomass density database for tropical forests would reduce uncertainties in estimating annual biomass increment and forest aboveground biomass.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are highly thankful to the concerned persons to allow reproducing the tables from their works in the present study and to the anonymous reviewers for their useful comments.

REFERENCES

[1] Ravindranath, N. H., Murthy, I., Sudha, P., Ramprasad V., Nagendra, M., Sahana, C., Srivaths, K., and Khan, H., Methodological issues in forestry mitigation projects: a case study of Kolar district. Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change. Springer, 2007, 12(6), 1077-1098.
[2] IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change): Revised guidelines, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1996.
[3] IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change): Guidelines for National Greenhouse gas inventories. Vol. 4. Agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Haryana, Japan, 2006.
[4] IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change): Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, published by the institute for Global...
Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan for the IPCC, 2003.

[5] Ravindranath, N. H. and Ostwald, M., Carbon Inventory Methods: Handbook for Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Carbon Mitigation and Round wood Production Projects, Springer Publications, 2008.

[6] Melkania, N. P. Carbon Sequestration in Indian Natural and Planted Forests, Indian Forester, 2009, 135 (3): 380-387.

[7] Atjay, G. L., Ketner, P. and Duvigneaud, P., Terrestrial primary production and phytomass In: The Global Cycle. (Eds.: Bolin, B., Degens, E.T., Kempe, S. and Ketner, P.), John Willey & Sons, Chichester 1979, pp. 129 – 181.

[8] Olson, J. S., Watts, J. A. and Allison, L. J., Carbon in Live Vegetation of Major World Ecosystems. Oak Ridge National Laboratory ORNL -5862, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, 1983.

[9] Saugier, B. and Roy, J., Estimations of global terrestrial productivity; converging towards a single number? In: Global terrestrial productivity: past, present and future. (Eds.: Roy, J.; Saugier, B. and Mooney, H.A.), Academic Press, New York, 2001.

[10] Kishwan, J., Pandey, R. and Dhadwal, V. K., India’s Forest and Tree Cover: Contribution as a Carbon Sink, 130 Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Bulletin- 23, 2009.

[11] Leach, G. and Gowen, M., Household Energy Handbook. World Bank Technical Pap. 67, World Bank, Washington, D.C, 1987.

[12] Hall, D. O.; Rosillo-Calle, F. and Woods, J., Biomass utilization in households and industry: energy use and development. Chemosphere, 1994, 29: 1099–1119.

[13] Brown, S., Iverson, I. R., and Prasad, A., Geographical Distribution of Biomass Carbon in Tropical Southeast Asian Forests: A Database. ORNWCDIAC-119, NDP-068. Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, U.S.A, 2001, pp. 75.

[14] Richards, J.F. and Flint, E. P., (1993). Historic Land use and Carbon Estimates for South and South East Asia: 1880-1980. ORNL/CIDAC-61, NDP-46, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, 1993, pp. 404.

[15] Houghton, R. A., Hobbie, J. E., and Melillo, J. M. Changes in the carbon content of terrestrial biota and soils between 1860 and 1980: A net release of CO2 to the atmosphere, Ecological Monographs, 1983, 53: 235-262.

[16] Houghton, R. A., Hackler, J. L., Continental Scale Estimates of the Biotic Carbon Flux from Land Cover Change: 1850-1980, ORNL/CIDAC-79, NDP-050, Tennessee, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 1995, 144.

[17] Sexana, A., Jha, M. N., Rawat, J. K., Forests as carbon sink- The Indian Scenario Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (6) 807-814.

[18] Rajput, S. S., Shukla, N. K., Gupta, V. M., and Jain, J. D. Timber Mechanics: Strength Classification and Grading of Timber. ICFRE Publication, 38, ICFRE, Dehradun, 1996, pp. 103.

[19] Limaye, V. D. and Sen, B. R., Indian Forest Records: Timber Mechanics: Manager of Publications, Govt. of India, Delhi, 1956.

[20] Raizada, A., Parandiyal, A. K. and Ghosh, B. N. Estimation of Carbon Flux through Litter Fall in Forest Plantations of India, Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (7) 881-894.

[21] Singh, G., Bala, N., Chaudhuri, K. K. and Meena, R. L., Carbon Sequestration Potential of Common Access Resources in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions of Northwestern India. Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (7) 859-864.

[22] Kaul, M., Mohren, G. M. J and Dadhwal, V. K, Carbon storage and sequestration potential of selected tree species in India. Mitig. Adapt. Strateg. Glob. Change, 2010, 15, 489-510.

[23] ANSAB, Forest Carbon Stock Measurement: Guidelines for measuring carbon stocks in community-managed forests. Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), Federation of Community Forest Users, Nepal (FEFCOFUN), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) P.O.Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2010.

[24] Chave, J., Andalo, C., Brown, S., Cairns, M. A., Chambers, J. Q., Eamus, D., Tree allometry and improved estimation of carbon stocks Oecologia, 2005, 87-99.

[25] MacDicken, K. G., A Guide to Monitoring Carbon Storage in Forestry and Agro-forestry Projects. Arlington, USA, Winrock International, 1997.

[26] Bhadwal, S. and Singh, R., Carbon sequestration estimates for forestry options under different land-use scenarios in India. Current Science, 2002, 83, (11) 323-331.

[27] Gera, M. and Chauhan, S., Opportunities for carbon sequestration benefits from growing trees of medicinal importance on farm lands of Haryana. Indian Forester, 2010, 136 (3), 287-300.

[28] FSI 1996: State of Forest Report, Forest Survey of India, Nepal and Bhutan. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Kaulagarh, Dehradun, 1996.

[29] Chauhan, S. M. Gera, Carbon benefits from growing trees of medicinal importance in Punjab, Indian Forester, 2010, 136 (7) 861-876.

[30] Gera, M., Bish, N. S. and Gera, N., Carbon Sequestration through community based forest management. A case study from Sambalpur Forest Division Orissa Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (6) 735-740.

[31] Ravindranath, N. H., Community Forestry: An Ecological, Economic and Institutional Asseessment in Western Shivaltaks of J&K: Draft Report of Sampark-Centre for Development Interaction, Udhampur, J&K, 1995.

[32] Pande, P. K., Land Carbon Budget and Sequestration Potential of the natural forests of Madhya Pradesh. Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (7) 905-917.

[33] Dhand, V., Tripathi, A. K., Manhas, R. K., Negi, J. D. S. and Chauhan, P. S., Estimation of Carbon Content in some forest tree species. Indian Forester, 2003, 129 (7) 919-922.

[34] Gera, M., Mohan G., Bish, N. S. and Gera, N., Carbon Sequestration potential under agroforestry in Rupnagar district of Punjab. Indian Forester, 2006, 132 (5) 543-555.

[35] Ravindranath, N. H. and Murthy, I. K., Clean Development Mechanism and Forestry Projects: Strategy for
Operationalization in India, *Indian Forester*, 2003, 129 (6) 691-706.

[36] Negi, J. D. S., Sharma, S. C. and Sharma, D. C., Comparative assessment of methods for estimating biomass in forest ecosystem. *Indian Forester*, 1988, 114 (3) 135-144.

[37] Chauhan, S. K., Gupta, N., Ritu, Yadav, S. and Chauhan, R., Biomass and Carbon allocation in different parts agroforestry tree species. *Indian Forester Indian Forester*, 2009, 135 (7) 981-993.

[38] Butterfield, R. P. and Espinosa, M. C., Screening trial of 14 tropical hardwoods with an emphasis on species native to Costa Rica: Four year results. *New Forests*, 1995, 9, 135-145.

[39] Borah, R. P., Chandra A., Carbon sequestration potential of selected bamboo species of Northeast India. *Ann. For.*, 2010, 18 (2) 171-180.

[40] Chaturvedi, A. N., Sequestration of Atmospheric Carbon in Indian Forest. *Ambio*, 1994, 23: 460-461.

[41] Brown, S. and Schroeder, P. E., Spatial patterns of aboveground production and mortality of woody biomass for eastern US forests. *Ecological Applications*, 1999, 9, 968-980.

[42] Shepashenko, D., Shvidenko, A. and Nilsson, S., Phytomass (live biomass) and carbon of Siberian forests. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 1998, 14, 21-31.

[43] Ter-Mikaelian, M. T. and Korzukhin, M. D., Biomass equation for sixty-five North American tree species. *Forest Management*, 1997, 97, 1-24.

[44] Baishya, R., Barik S. K. and Upadaya K., Distribution pattern of aboveground biomass in natural and plantation forests of humid tropics in northeast India, *Tropical Ecology*, 2009, 50 (2): 295-304.

[45] FAO, Estimating Biomass and Biomass Change of Tropical Forests: a Primer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Rome, 1997, *FAO Forestry Paper* - 134

[46] Brown, S., Gillespie, A. and Lugo, A., Biomass estimation methods for tropical forests with applications to forest inventory data. *Forest Science*, 1989, 35, 881-902.

[47] Chave, J., B. Rikra & M.A. Dubois., Estimation of biomass in a neotropical forest of French Guiana: spatial and temporal variability. *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 17: 79-96, 2001.

[48] Chambers, J.Q., J. dos Santos, R.J. Ribeiro & N. Higuchi, Tree damage, allometric relationships, and aboveground net primary production in central Amazon forest. *Forest Ecology and Management* 152: 73-84, 2001.

[49] Brown, S. and Iverson, L. R., Biomass estimates for tropical forests. *World Resource Review*, 1992, 4, 366-384.

[50] Ramachandran, A., Jayakumar, S., Haroon, R. M., Bhaskaran, A. and Arockiasamy, D. I., Carbon Sequestration: estimation of carbon stock in natural forests using geospatial technology in the eastern ghts of Tamil Nadu, India, *Current Science*, 2007, 92, (3) 323-331.

[51] Koch, P., Consulting report: Estimates by species group and region in the USA of: (I) below ground root weight as a percentage of over dry complete tree weight and (II) carbon content of treeportions. 1989, p. 23.

[52] Gupta, H. S., Forest as Carbon sink-temporal analysis for Ranchi district *Ind. Jour. of Forestry*, 2009, 32 (1) 7-11.

[53] Kaur, R., Carbon Pool Assessment in Govind Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park, (Thesis PGD in Remote Sensing Applications in Forestry and Ecology), Forestry and Ecology Division Indian Institute of Remote Sensing Dehradun, 2007.

[54] Brown, S. and Lugo A. E., Biomass of tropical forests: a new estimate based on forest volume. *Science*, 1984, 223, 1290-1293.

[55] Singh, J. S. Tiwari, A. K. and A. K. Saxena, Himalayan Forests: a net source of carbon for atmosphere. *Environmental Cons.*, 1985, 12 (1), pp. 167-169.

[56] Tiwari, A. K., Proceedings of National Symposium on remote sensing of Environment with special emphasis on Green revolution. Indian Society of Remote Sensing Dehradun, 1995, 239-242.

[57] Roy, P. S., Saxena, K. G. and Kamat, D. S., Biomass estimation through remote sensing. *Technical Report*, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing Dehradun, 1986, 1-78.

[58] Kale, M. P., Sarnam, S. and Roy, P. S., Biomass and productivity estimation using aerospace data and Geographic Information System. *Tropical Ecology*, 2002, 43(1), 123-136.

[59] Roy, P. S. and Shrishir, R., Biomass estimation using satellite remote sensing data-an investigation on possible approaches for natural forest. *Journal of Bioscience*, 1996, 21, 535-561.

[60] Jha, M. N., Sexana, A., Kumar, R., Soil Organic Carbon Store in different forests of India. *Indian Forester*, 2003, 129 (6) 714-724.

[61] Gurung, M. and Joshi, C., Assessment of forest carbon potential of riverine forests at Khata corridor and Lamahi-Mahadervpuri complex Kathmandu: Winrock International, 2008.

[62] Pearson, T. R., Brown, S. L. and Birdsey, R. A., Measurement guidelines for the sequestration of forest carbon. U.S.: Northern research Station, Department of Agriculture, 2007.

[63] VCS, Voluntary Carbon Standard: Guidance for Agriculture and Other Landuse Projects. USA: VCS-AFOLU, 2007.

[64] CCB., CCB Project design standards. The climate, community and biodiversity alliance, 2008.

[65] Walkley, A., An examination of methods of determining organic carbon and nitrogen in soils. *J. Agr. Sci.*, 1947, 25, 298-609.

[66] Negi, S. S., Gupta, M. K., Soil organic carbon store under different land use systems in Giri Catchemnt of Himachal Pradesh, *Indian Forester*, 2010, 136 (9) 1147-1154.

[67] Wilde, S. A., Voigt, G. K. and Iyer, J. G., *Soil and Plant Analysis for Tree Culture*. Oxford Publishing House, Calcutta India, 1964.

[68] Walkley, A. and Black, I. A., An experiment of the Degtjareff method for determining soil organic matter, and a
proposal modification of the chromic acid titration method. Soil Science, 1934, 34: 29-38.

[69] Gupta, M. K. and Sharma, S. D., Soil organic carbon pool under different land uses in Champawat district of Uttarakhand. Ann. For., 2010, 18 (2), 189-196.

[70] Verma, K. S., Kumar, S. and Bhardwaj, D. R., Soil Organic Carbon Stocks and Carbon Sequestration Potential of Agroforestry Systems in H.P. Himalaya Region of India, Journal of Tree Sciences, 2008, 27 (1), 14-27.

[71] Carlos J. de M Sa., Carlos, C., Dick, C. W.A., Solismar, R. L., Filho, P. V., Marisa, C., Piccolo and Feigl, B. E., Organic Matter Dynamics and Carbon sequestration rates for a tillage chronosequence in a Brazilian Oxisol. Soil Sci. Soc. Amer. J., 2001 65 (5), 1486-1499.