

# BENEFITS OF AGRO FORESTRY

**Agroforestry includes all practices that deliberately combine trees and shrubs with agricultural crops and/or livestock.**

## FOOD SECURITY

In the absence of good yield by crops, the fruiting trees and vegetable laden plants ensure the basic nutritional requirement of the farmer is met.

Agroforestry trees support food production by providing shade and support for shade loving crops; support animal production by providing fodder and improve soil fertility by adding nitrogen to the soil.



**Because agroforestry systems have more than one production component are structurally and functionally complex, they tend to be more resilient than most mono-cropping systems.**

## BIO FENCING

Thorns and shrubs keep cattle and deer away from the crop land.

They are less expensive than metal wire and wooden fencing.

Trees prevent the entry of dust.



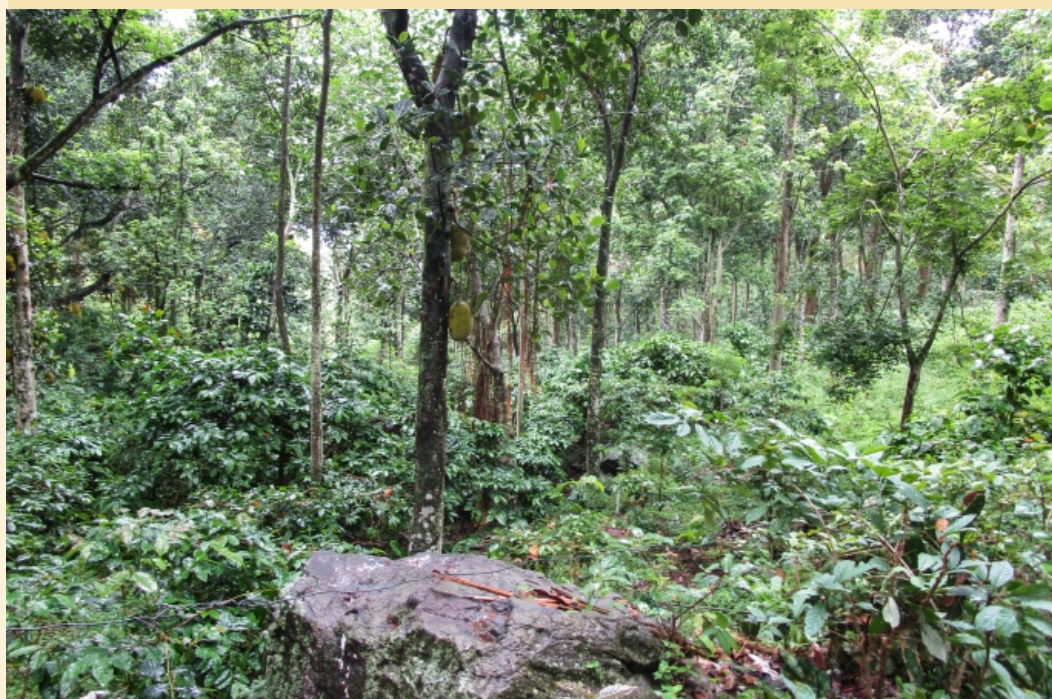
## EFFICIENT LAND USE

- Using the margins of the crop land, trees are planted which act as a windbreak to prevent soil erosion of fallow land.
- Fruits and vegetables may be obtained from these margins to provide additional income to the farmer.
- Medicinal plants are also grown which help in maintaining the health of farmers.



## CREATING ANALOGUE HABITATS

- Analog Forestry (AF) is a system which seeks to mimic or copy forest ecosystems on a small scale using multispecies layers-shrubs, herbs and trees.
- AF is about increasing the resilience and biodiversity of a landscape by making use of natural ecological succession processes.



## POLLINATOR'S HABITAT

- Flowering plants and fruiting trees provide for a niche for bees, bats and birds to forage and in the process pollinate.
- Bats and birds also use the trees for refuge and building nests respectively.



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