Assessment of Assisted Natural Regeneration in Anuradhapura District, Sri Lanka

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Assisted natural regeneration (ANR) is one of the best practices for forest restoration, which accelerates the natural succession processes in abandon or cleared lands. In Sri Lanka, department of forestry started the ANR programme Island wide however, success of the project is unknown. Therefore, this study was aimed to assess present status, success rate, and species suitability for ANR at Palugaswewa beat of Kekirawa forest range in Anuradhapura district, Sri Lanka. Four ANR sites, which are categorized as replanted and maintain sites, were examined. Sampling plot was laid at the dimension of 20m $\times$ 20m square plots. Sampling plots were selected at three zones based on the distance from forest boarder such as short (0-500m, 1-3 plots), middle (1000-1500m, 3-7 plots), and long (>1500m, 7-10 plots) where tree height and diameter at breast height (DBH) were measured. A total number of trees (height 5 m and DBH10 cm), saplings (height 0.6- 5 m, DBH