

ABSTRACT

The study describes the difficulties faced while for restoring a rare remnant of natural forest by setting up a demonstration site. The forest selected for restoration is not demarcated neither its vegetation was ever described and the surviving relict trees are in degraded state. In order to select a demonstration site for restoration a workshop was arranged with the forest officials to clarify the legal status of the forest. Vegetation of the forest was described by using phytosociological method. The results show that it is *Butea-lantana* community. It was further divided into variants showing degraded and intact stands. Current status of the surviving remnant trees was evaluated by devising an indicator based on the growth of the trees and a survey with the local people and the market was carried out to evaluate the potential ethnobotanical value of the *Butea* forest. The market survey indicates that it has high productive value and community survey indicate that it has high consumptive value.

The overall result indicates the forest can be restored and conserved if the department of forestry can make the boundary of the forest and enforce laws that can protect the forest from overexploitation.