

Foliar sampling guidelines for different aged *Acacia mangium* plantations in Peninsular Malaysia

ABSTRACT

Foliar analysis is a useful tool for evaluating the nutritional status of a crop. There are, however, no guidelines for foliar sampling of *Acacia mangium* plantations in Peninsular Malaysia. This study was thus aimed to determine the best time for foliar sampling in *Acacia mangium* plantation. The study was conducted in Kemasul Forest Reserve, Pahang. Foliar samples were collected monthly from *Acacia mangium* stands of five different ages over a period of one year. The results show that foliar sampling in *Acacia mangium* stands should be performed as follows: for one-year-old stand in January-March and June-July; for two-year-old stand in December-January and June-July; for three-year-old stand in June-July; for four-year-old stand in February-March and June-July; for six-year-old stand in February-March. In general, July is the best time for foliar sampling of one- to four-year-old stands whereas February-March would be the best time for six-year-old stands. The results are based on the fact that foliar nutrients are generally constant over these periods.

Keyword: Fertiliser; Foliar; Nutritional; Plantation; Sampling