

**SESSION VII: SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**

**POTENTIAL OF AGROFORESTRY IN SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT IN SRI LANKA**

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In order to meet the increasing demand of a growing population and increased aspirations, Sri Lanka has to increase and sustain production/procurement of essential items including food, energy, resources for shelter, apparels etc. Agroforestry which is a method of integration of trees and agricultural crops and/or animals can be considered an appropriate and useful method for achieving economic, environmental and social sustainability. There is an age-old agro forestry traditions in the country and numerous examples of its practices are to be found in all climatic zones. In addition to these, development of new management strategies using scientific and systematic management strategies for wider adoption have been a relatively recent approach.

This paper reviews the agroforestry interventions such as home gardens, farmers' woodlots, use of agro forestry for management of watersheds, intercropping under coconut, energy plantations under coconut and alley cropping. Physical factors and government/ institutional variables are considered as external determinants while socio-economic factors of individual farm families contribute as inputs to the operation. Recommendations are also given to further develop their systems for sustainable development.