Lec4. Classification of Agroforestry systems

Nair (1987) has classified the agroforestry systems based on the following four criteria.

1. Structural Basis
2. Functional basis
3. Socio economic Basis
4. Ecological basis

1.   STRUCTURAL BASIS

a) Nature of Components
b) Arrangements of Components

a) Nature of Components

1.   Agricultural systems
2.   Silvopastoral systems
3.   Agrosilvopastoral systems
4.   Other systems

1.   Agricultural systems

i.   Improved fallow species in shifting cultivation
ii.   The t.aungia system
iii.   Multispecies tree gardens
iv.   Alley cropping
v.   Multipurpose trees and shrubs on farmlands
vi.   Crop combinations with plantation crops
vii.   Agroforestry fuel wood plantations
viii.   Shelter belt s
ix.   Wind breaks
x.   Soil conservation hedges

2. Silvopastoral systems

i)   Protein bank

ii) Live fence of fodder trees and hedges

iii) Trees and shrubs on pastures

3. Agrosivopastoral systems

  i) Home gardens

  ii) woody perennials for browse, mulch, green manure, soil conservation

4. Other systems

 i) Apiculture with trees

 ii) Aquaforestry

 iii) Multipurpose wood lots

b) Arrangement of components

  1.   Spatial arrangement

  2.   Temporal arrangement

   2. FUNCTIONAL BASIS

      i)   Productive functions

      ii)   Protective functions

      i) Productive functions

      Food

      Fodder

      Fuel wood

      Cloths

      Shelter

      NTFPs

      Protective functions

      Wind breaks

      Shelterbelts

      Soil conservation

      Soil improvement

      Shade

3. SOCIO ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION

i)   Commercial systems

ii) Intermediate systems

iii) Subsistence systems

4.   ECOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

i.   Humid / sub humid

ii. Semiarid / arid

iii. Highlands