

Wood Specific Gravity of Trees Outside Forest in India: A Review

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ABSTRACT

Wood Specific Gravity (WSG) is one of the most important and significant parameter for accurately estimating the aboveground biomass and carbon stocks of trees. In India, estimation of Biomass and carbon stocks for Trees Outside Forest (TOF) often rely on generalized or international WSG databases, leading to significant uncertainties in national carbon inventories. This study addresses this gap by developing the first comprehensive, national-level WSG inventory specifically for TOF in India. Through a systematic review of 103 peer-reviewed articles and 3 grey literature reports, we compiled an extensive database of WSG values. The resulting inventory covers 216 tree individuals belonging to 120 species, 86 genera, and 37 families, categorized by TOF system (agroforestry, urban plantations, rural plantation and mixed systems), growth stage (juvenile and mature), and geographical location. Our results reveal substantial WSG variability, with values ranging from 0.20 (*Ailanthus excelsa*) to 0.96 (*Hymenodictyon excelsum*). Variations were observed between TOF categories and, critically, between mature and juvenile growth stages, with mature trees generally exhibiting higher wood density. The compiled data demonstrates that using context-specific WSG values from this inventory can substantially reduce errors compared to using generic values. This dataset provides a critical resource for improving the precision of biomass and carbon accounting for India's TOF, thereby supporting national climate change mitigation strategies, REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, with conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) reporting, and sustainable land management policies.

Key words: Biomass Estimation, Carbon Stock, Climate change, India, Trees Outside Forest, Wood Specific Gravity

INTRODUCTION

Trees Outside Forest (TOF) in India, as in many other countries, are trees in landscapes located outside the national recorded forest area (RFA) recognised by the Ministry of Forest, environment and Climate Change (Anonymous 2023). They include agroforestry systems, orchards, and urban and peri-urban trees (Skole et al. 2021, Thapa et al. 2021, Tamang et al. 2021, Tassew 2017, Tewari et al. 2014). Incorporating TOF into India's National Biomass and Carbon Inventory within MRV systems and the REDD+ mechanism (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, with conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) advances a more comprehensive and fairer climate framework that recognises the ecological value of all trees (Anonymous 2023, Shrestha et al. 2019). Biomass and carbon of TOF are commonly estimated non destructively by multiplying allometric/volumetric

equations with Wood Specific Gravity (WSG) (Sylvain and Narendra 2024). WSG, the ratio of oven dry weight to green volume is fundamental because it tracks organic matter and carbon content (Mihriemate et al. 2020, Baqir et al. 2017). Although many TOF biomass studies exist (Pati et al. 2024, Jeevan et al. 2025, Tamang et al. 2021, Nandal et al. 2019, Flora et al. 2018, Haghparast et al. 2013), Indian work often applies generalised or foreign WSG values (Zanne et al. 2009, Chave et al. 2006, Reyes et al. 1992), overlooking climate, soil, maturity, and vegetation effects (Sylvain and Narendra 2024, Babita et al. 2024, Ramesh and Rao 2016). Species specific WSG data are frequently absent in herbal gardens, roadside plantations, and urban landscapes, prompting use of congeners or omission (Veeranjaneyullu et al. 2023, Pati et al. 2022, Mihriemate et al. 2020). Such substitutions can overestimate aboveground biomass by 150 million megagrams at state scale and 660 million megagrams nationally; habitat specific WSG is urged

for mature and juvenile trees. Building on WSG compilations that reduced forest carbon errors (Pati et al. (2025), Pati et al. (2022)), this study aggregates scattered WSG values for trees outside forests to lessen biomass and carbon bias in non forest environments.

METHODS

Study design and scope

This study aimed to establish a comprehensive inventory of wood specific gravity (WSG) values for trees outside forests (TOF) across diverse regions of India. The scope included species from urban

plantations, rural plantations, agroforestry systems and scattered Trees Outside Forest (Mixed TOF). It emphasized both mature and juvenile stages to reduce error in biomass estimations, particularly in the context of climate-specific and Trees Outside Forest-Categories-specific variations.

Literature collection and screening process

A systematic literature review (Fig. 1) was conducted following protocols adapted from Pati et al. (2025, 2022) and Gargaran et al. (2024), integrating both peer-reviewed articles and grey literature. The search was performed across multiple databases including Scopus, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and

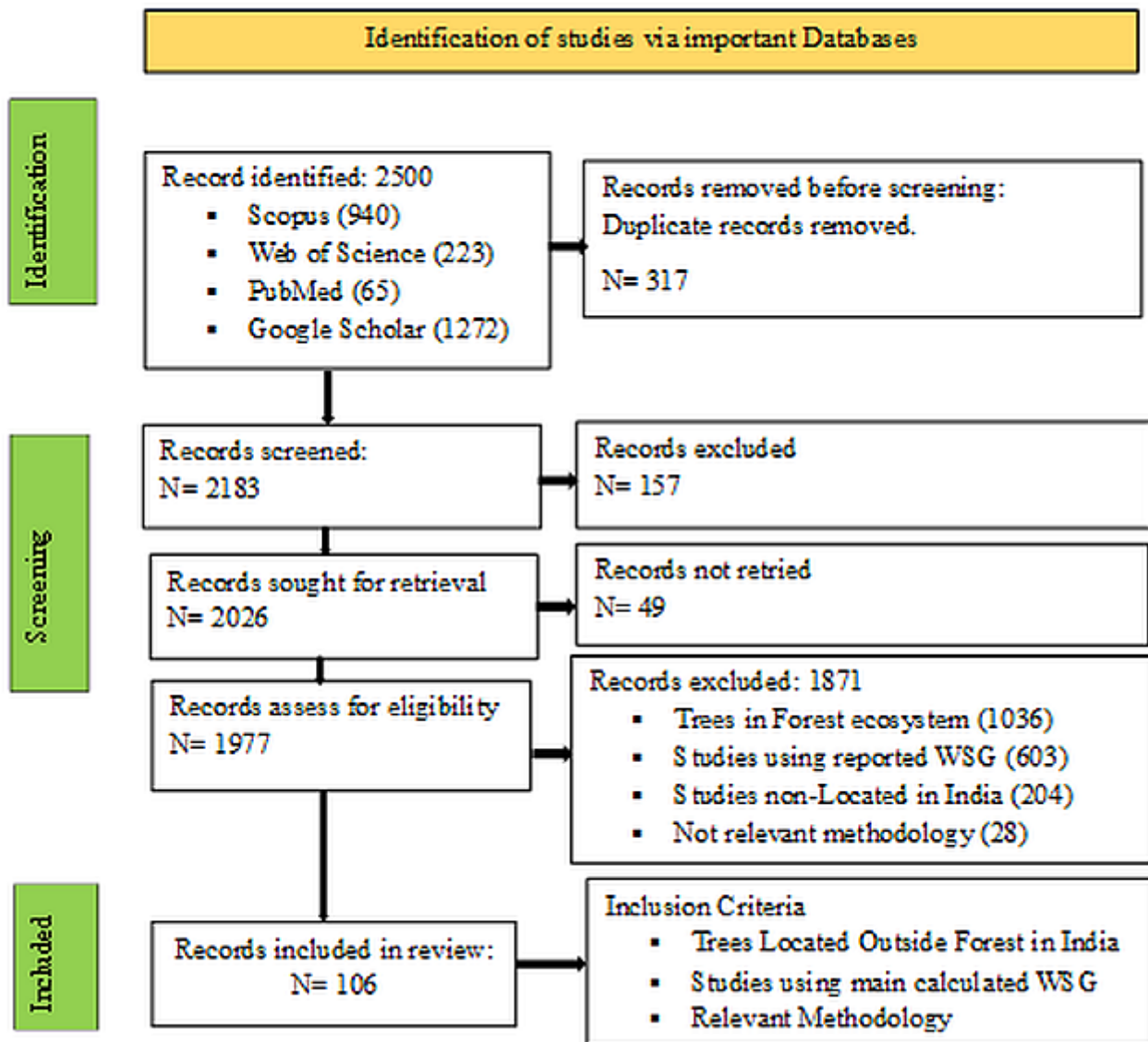


Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram for the identification of studies for inclusion in systematic review of WSG inventory of Trees Outside Forest in India

university repositories using combinations of keywords such as “wood specific gravity”, “biomass estimation”, “TOF India”, “carbon stock”, “non-forest trees”, and “functional traits”. Boolean operators were used to narrow the scope, and inclusion was limited to studies conducted within India and reporting direct or calculated WSG values. Out of 2500 initially identified records, a total of 2183 articles were screened based on titles and abstracts, and 1977 full texts were assessed for eligibility. Studies using only reported or default WSG values without field validation were excluded, yielding a final dataset of 103 peer-reviewed articles and 3 grey literature report, including research trials and regional biomass assessments.

Classification and metadata compilation

Data were extracted and compiled into Microsoft Excel. For each species, the following metadata were recorded: Botanical name (Genus, species, family); Stage of development (juvenile or mature); WSG values; Area location (district, state, agro-climatic zone); Category of TOF (rural and urban plantations, agroforestry trees, Mixed TOF); Method of WSG determination, Reference and publication year.

Determination of WSG of TOF in India

Sample collection and processing methods

In India, two main sampling methods are predominantly used to collect wood samples for specific gravity estimation: the disk method and the increment core method. Early studies often adopted the disk method, which involves cutting cross-sections (disks) from the bole or branches at different heights. While this approach allows for comprehensive intra-tree analysis (radial or axial variations), it is destructive as it requires felling of trees or large branches. More recent investigations employ the increment core method, which uses increment borers to extract cylindrical wood cores from standing trees. This method is non-destructive and suitable for long-term monitoring of sample trees. It has gained popularity in India for assessing wood specific gravity in agroforestry trials, plantation forestry, and clonal selection programs. In the study by Pande and Singh (2005), increment cores were taken from *Dalbergia sissoo* clonal ramets at Dehradun and Haldwani, which were then

analyzed for WSG. SriLakshmi and Rao (2004) extracted increment cores from *Eucalyptus tereticornis* clones in Karnataka. Meena et al. (2016) also followed core-based sampling for *Tectona grandis* in Maharashtra. Sharma et al. (2023) used cores and cross-sections from *Pinus roxburghii* to assess oleoresin production and wood density. Processing methods generally involve drying samples in an oven at $103 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ until constant weight is achieved, followed by measurement of either green volume or dry volume, depending on the method of WSG estimation.

Methods adopted for determining wood specific gravity in India

Two principal techniques are used in Indian research for calculating Wood Specific Gravity (WSG):

a) *Forest Products Laboratory Method* (Anonymous 1952)

$$\text{WSG} = D / V$$

where D is the oven-dry weight (g) and V is the green volume (cm^3), measured either by water displacement or dimensional method ($V = \Pi/4 \times D^2 \times L$).

b) *Maximum Moisture Content Method* (Smith 1954)

This method uses the weight of saturated and oven-dried samples, avoiding the need to measure volume.

$$G_f = 1 / ((M_m - M_o)/M_o + 1/G_{so})$$

where M_m = saturated weight, M_o = oven-dry weight, and G_{so} (Basic specific gravity) = 1.53. This method is convenient but requires proper saturation to avoid errors.

RESULTS

WSG values in Indian TOF communities

A survey of literature for wood specific gravity (WSG) in Indian Trees Outside Forests (TOF) communities revealed that WSG values of 216 tree individuals belonging to 120 species, 86 genera, and 37 families are available for Indian TOF communities. Among these, WSG values for 52 woody species were reported for mature growth stages, 17 woody species for juvenile stages, and 51 woody species for which the growth stage was unspecified (Fig. 2).

The TOF categories with the highest number of species were found in Agroforestry Trees and Urban

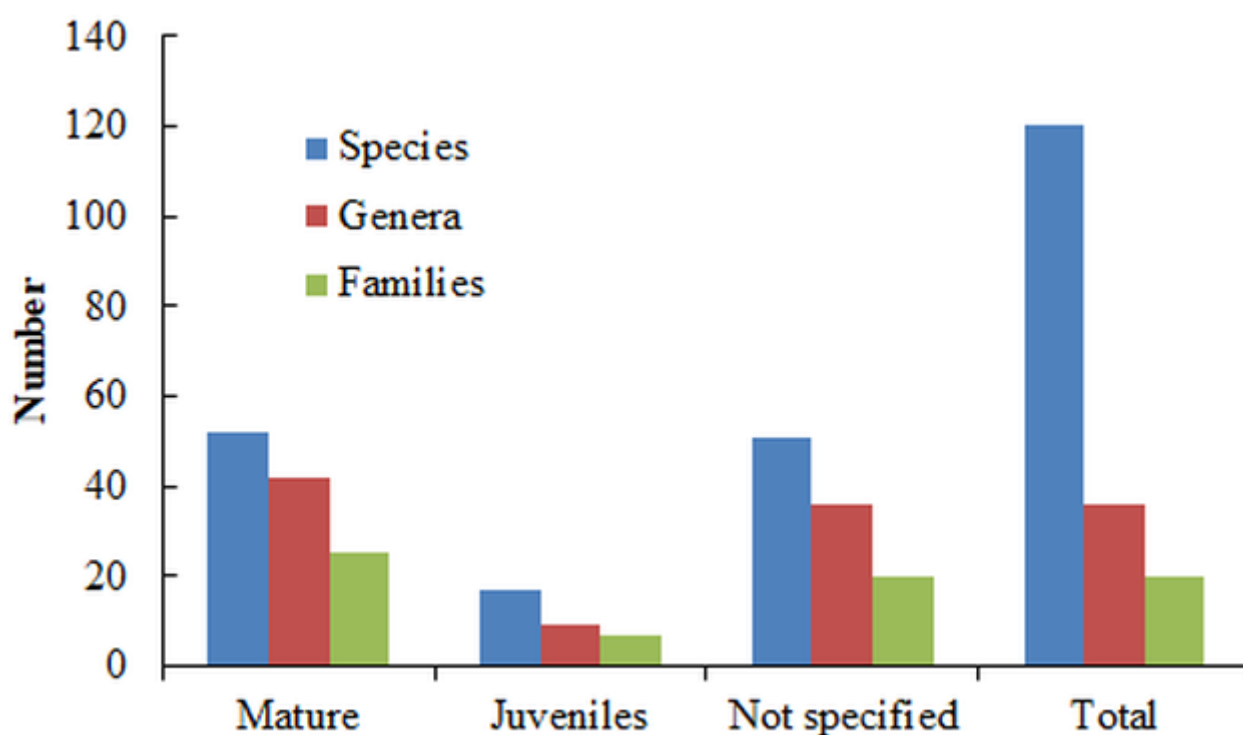


Figure 2. Number of species, genus and families for which WSG values available in Indian TOF communities

Trees Plantations, both Mixed TOF and Rural Trees Plantations had fewer species (Fig. 3). For mature individuals across all TOF categories, the highest WSG was observed for *Hymenodictyon excelsum* (0.96) in Urban Trees Plantations, and the lowest for *Bombax ceiba* (0.26) in Agroforestry Trees. For juvenile individuals, the highest WSG was reported for *Casuarina equisetifolia* (0.82) in Urban Trees Plantations, and the lowest for *Ailanthus excelsa* (0.200-0.292) in the same category (Table 1).

WSG range distribution analysis showed that for mature individuals, the majority of species had WSG values between 0.61-0.80, while the fewest species fell in the 0.20-0.40 range. For juvenile individuals, most species had WSG values between 0.41-0.60, with very few in the 0.81-1.00 range (Fig. 4). Analysis of WSG range distribution among TOF categories indicated that while Agroforestry Trees exhibited the widest range of WSG values, the Rural Trees Plantations showed the narrowest range (Fig. 5). The highest mean WSG was observed in Mixed TOF and the lowest was in Urban Trees Plantations (Table 1). Overall, the study highlights that WSG values vary significantly depending on the TOF category and growth stage, suggesting that

environmental and management factors influence wood density in non-forest tree systems.

WSG values from different categories of TOF

Agroforestry Trees

Agroforestry Trees represent a significant component of TOF in India, integrating trees with agricultural systems. WSG values for mature trees in that category ranged from 0.20 (*Ailanthus triphyssa*) to 0.889 (*Anogeissus pendula*). For juvenile trees, the range was 0.418-0.500 (*Melia dubia*). The highest WSG for mature trees was observed in *A. pendula*, while the lowest was in *A. triphyssa*.

Urban Trees Plantations

Urban Trees Plantations are critical for urban greening and ecosystem services. WSG values for mature trees ranged from 0.26 (*Bombax ceiba*) to 0.96 (*H. excelsum*), while juvenile trees ranged from 0.20-0.292 (*A. excelsa*) to 0.82 (*C. equisetifolia*). The highest WSG was recorded for *H. excelsum*, and the lowest for *B. ceiba*.

Mixed TOF

Mixed TOF includes trees scattered outside traditional forest areas. WSG values for mature trees

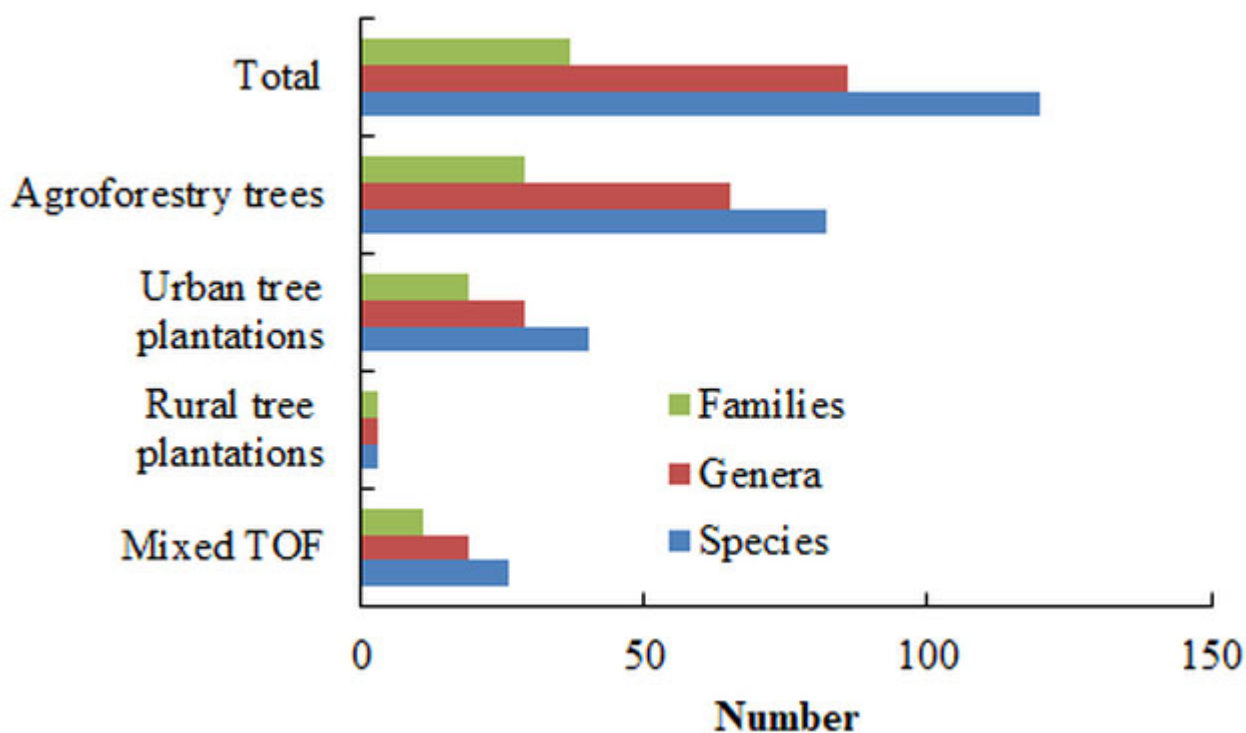


Figure 3. Number of woody tree species studied for their wood specific gravity in each TOF categories

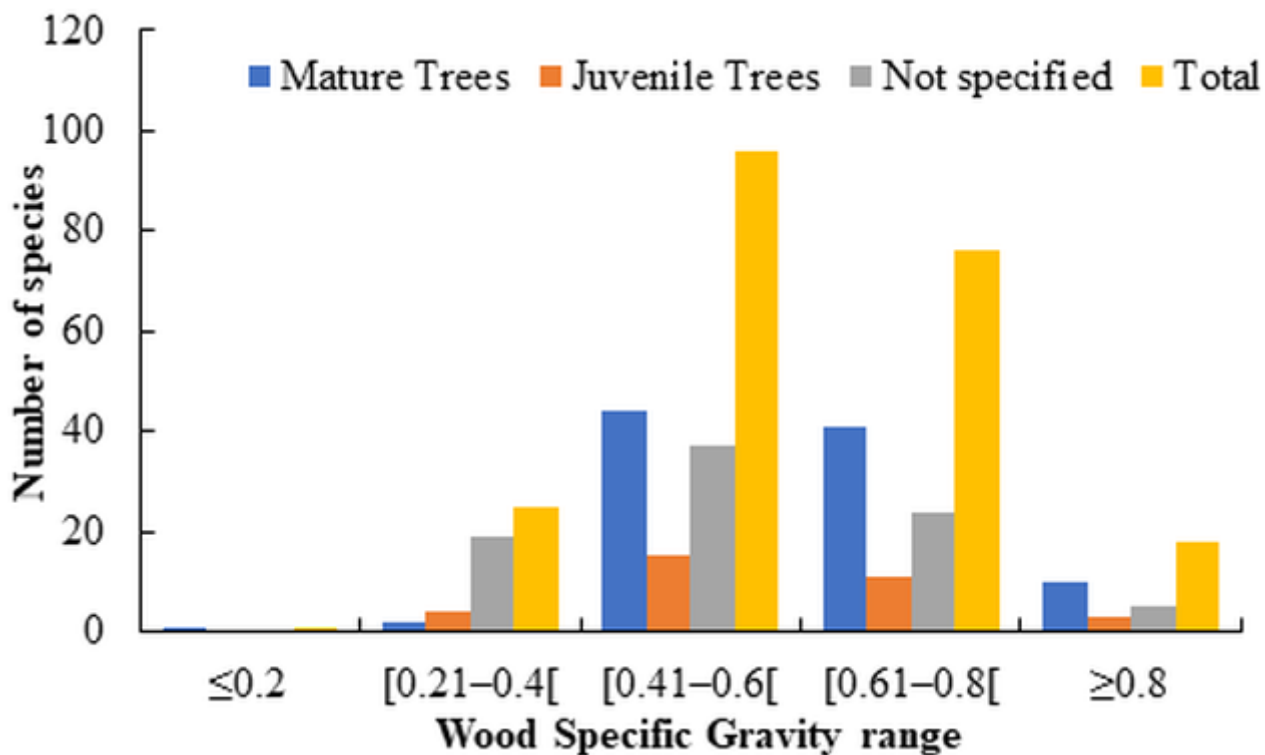


Figure 4. WSG range among different growth stages of studied species in TOF communities

Table 1. WSG values of different species of TOF for both mature and juvenile growth stages in India

Tree species	WSG value	Growth stage	Category of TOF	Location	Sources
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	0.721	Mature	AT	Jhalawar district, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.703	Mature	AT	India (NS)	Shukla et al. 2007
<i>Acacia catechu</i>	0.67	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	0.64	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	0.5	Mature	AT	Thrissur district, Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2006
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.637	Mature	AT	Thrissur district, Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2006
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.774 ± 0.095	Mature	Mixed TOF	Tamil Nadu	Sundarapandian et al. 2014
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	0.570 ± 0.025	Mature	Mixed TOF	Thrissur district, Kerala	Ramanan et al. 2018
<i>Acacia catechu</i>	0.815	NS	Mixed TOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Acacia leucophloea</i>	0.744	NS	Mixed TOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	0.63	NS	Mixed TOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Acacia senegal</i>	0.729	NS	Mixed TOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.5	Juvenile	UTP	Uttar Kannada, Karnataka	Shukla et al. 2007
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.57	Mature	UTP	Uttar Kannada, Karnataka	Shukla et al. 2007
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.62	Mature	UTP	Uttar Kannada, Karnataka	Shukla et al. 2007
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	0.8	Mature	UTP	Neyveli, Tamil Nadu	Mayavel et al. 2021
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	0.66	Mature	UTP	Uttarakhand	Sharma et al. 2016
<i>Acrocarpus fraxinifolius</i>	0.51	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Acrocarpus fraxinifolius</i>	0.51	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	0.76–0.91	Mature	MTOF	Assam district, Uttar Pradesh	Negi 1963
<i>Ailanthus triphysa</i>	0.36	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i>	0.200-0.292	Juvenile	UTP	Navsari district, Gujarat	Patel et al. 2022
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	0.598	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Albizia procera</i>	0.56	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	0.55	Mature	UTP	Tamil Nadu; Andhra Pradesh	Marimuthu 2015
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	0.58	Mature	UTP	Uttarakhand	Sharma et al. 2016
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	0.53	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	0.33	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	0.47	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Annona squamosa</i>	0.46	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>	0.832	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>	0.889	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>	0.701	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Anthocephalus cadamba</i>	0.44	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Areca catechu</i>	0.52	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	0.46	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Artocarpus hirsutus</i>	0.49	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	0.54	Mature	MTOF	Thrissur district, Kerala	Sunny et al. 2020
<i>Artocarpus hirsutus</i>	0.53	Mature	UTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Averrhoa carambola</i>	0.61–0.75	Mature	AT	Sunderbans, Bengal	Ghosh and Purkayastha 1963
<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	0.711	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	0.778 ± 0.015	Mature	MTOF	Tamil Nadu	Sundarapandian et al. 2014
<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	0.646	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Bambusa balcooa</i>	0.68	Juvenile	UTP	Mettupalayam, Tamil Nadu	Selvan et al. 2017
<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	0.26	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	0.415	Mature	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Gupta et al. 2016
<i>Boswellia serrata</i>	0.446	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Butea monosperma</i>	0.512	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Careya arborea</i>	0.52	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Caryota urens</i>	0.3	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Cassia fistula</i>	0.73	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	0.70 - 0.83	Juvenile	UTP	Karur district, Tamil Nadu	Vishnu et al. 2018
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	0.82	Mature	UTP	Sirsi, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Casuarina MTP</i>	0.54	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Ceiba pentandra</i>	0.24	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Celtis australis</i>	0.573	Mature	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Gupta et al. 2016
<i>Citrus aurantium</i>	0.71	Mature	AT	West Bengal	Negi 1963
<i>Citrus medica</i>	0.74	Mature	AT	Dehra Dun, Uttar Pradesh	Negi 1963

Tree species	WSG value	Growth stage	Category of TOF	Location	Sources
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.743	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.68	Mature	MTOF	Himachal Pradesh	Sunny et al. 2020
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.517–0.644	Mature	MTOF	Himachal Pradesh	Sunny et al. 2019
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.646	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.69	Mature	UTP	Uttarakhand	Sharma et al. 2016
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.429–0.596	Mature	UTP	Dehradun and Haldwani, Uttaranchal	Pande et al. 2005
<i>Dalbergia paniculata</i>	0.35	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	0.58	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Delonix regia</i>	0.42	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Diospyros montana</i>	0.44-0.81	Mature	MTOF	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Saini et al. 2024
<i>Erythrina indica</i>	0.22	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Erythrina indica</i>	0.438	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.53	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.89-0.95	Juvenile	MTOF	Bissamcuttack, Titlagarh, Odisha	Sahoo et al. 2020
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.642	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.64±0.05	Juvenile	UTP	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Dasgupta et al. 2021
<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>	0.63±0.04	Juvenile	UTP	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Dasgupta et al. 2021
<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>	0.425-0.501	Juvenile	UTP	Idukki District, Kerala	Pillai et al. 2013
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.45-0.62	Juvenile	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Parveen et al. 2021
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.5838-0.6129	Juvenile	UTP	Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana	Kamalakkannan et al. 2023
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.89 - 0.95	Juvenile	UTP	Bissamcuttack, Titlagarh, Odisha	Sahoo 2018
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.45 - 0.70	Juvenile	UTP	Navsari, Gujarat	Huse et al. 2024
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.587 -0.625	Juvenile	UTP	Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana	Kamalakkannan et al. 2023
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.66±0.03	Juvenile	UTP	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Dasgupta et al. 2021
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.570-0.624	Juvenile	UTP	Kollam District, Kerala	Pillai et al. 2013
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.815	Juvenile	UTP	Kolar district, Karnataka	Sharma et al. 2005
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	0.6003-0.6108	Juvenile	UTP	Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana	Kamalakkannan et al. 2023
<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>	0.63±0.04	Juvenile	UTP	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Dasgupta et al. 2021
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.441 ± 0.552	Juvenile	UTP	Tumkur District, Karnataka	Sharma et al. 2015
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.577-0.618	Juvenile	UTP	Mandya, Kolar, Karnataka	SriLakshmi et al. 2004
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.63	Mature	UTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha 2018
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.72	Mature	UTP	Uttarakhand	Sharma et al. 2016
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	0.822	Mature	UTP	Kolar district, Karnataka	Sharma et al. 2005
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp	0.525	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	0.39	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	0.41	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Garuga pinnata</i>	0.4	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Gliricidia sepium</i>	0.58	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	0.45	NS	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	0.36	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	0.478	NS	AT	Kerala (Thrissur)	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	0.53 ± 0.01	NS	MTOF	Uttarakhand	Bhandari et al. 2023
<i>Grewia tillaefolia</i>	0.7	NS	RTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Grewia tillifolia</i>	0.485	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Gyrocarpus jacquini</i>	0.326	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	0.648 ± 0.031	Mature	UTP	Cochin district, Kerala	Hossain et al. 2018
<i>Holigarna arnottiana</i>	0.31	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i>	0.536	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Hopea parviflora</i>	0.76	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Hydnocarpus pentandra</i>	0.53	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Hymenodictyon excelsum</i>	0.96	Mature	UTP	Kerala	Hegde et al. 2014
<i>Lagerstroemia microcarpa</i>	0.51	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Lannea coromandelica</i>	0.47	Mature	MTOF	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	0.647	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016

Tree species	WSG value	Growth stage	Category of TOF	Location	Sources
<i>Macaranga peltata</i>	0.28	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Mallotus philippensis</i>	0.53	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	0.6	Mature	AT	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Kushwaha 2022
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	0.703 ± 0.076	Mature	MTOF	Tamil Nadu	Sundarapandian et al. 2014
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	0.53	NS	MTOF	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	0.601	NS	MTOF	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	0.55	Mature	RTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	0.6	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Melia dubia</i>	0.418 - 0.50	Juvenile	AT	Samraj Nagar District, Karnataka	Saravanan 2013
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	0.49	Juvenile	MTOF	Ladhowal, Ludhiana, Punjab	Meena et al. 2014
<i>Melia dubia</i>	0.45-0.60	Juvenile	MTOF	Samraj Nagar District, Karnataka	Saravanan 2014
<i>Melia dubia</i>	0.4	Mature	MTOF	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh	Marimuthu 2015
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	0.44	NS	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Shukla and Mohit 2023
<i>Melia composita</i>	0.505	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Melia composita</i>	0.35	NS	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Shukla and Mohit 2023
<i>Melia dubia</i>	0.52	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Melia dubia</i>	0.38	NS	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Shukla and Mohit 2023
<i>Michelia champaca</i>	0.52	Mature	RTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Mitragyna parvifolia</i>	0.582	Mature	Mixed TOF	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Morus alba</i>	0.54	Mature	MTOF	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Sharma 2020
<i>Murraya koenigii</i>	0.61	Mature	AT	Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Negi 1963
<i>Murraya exotica</i>	0.83–1.03	Mature	AT	Andamans; Uttar Pradesh	Negi 1963
<i>Neolamarkia cadamba</i>	0.38	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i>	0.56	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Pericopsis mooniana</i>	0.82	Mature	UTP	Nilambur district, Kerala	Anoop et al. 2016
<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	0.36	Juvenile	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Bhat et al. 2016
<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	0.496	Juvenile	UTP	Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand	Uniyal et al. 2002
<i>Pinus caribaea</i>	0.55	Mature	UTP	Kerala (Idukki)	Anoop et al. 2014
<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	0.46	Mature	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Bhat et al. 2016
<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	0.531	Mature	UTP	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Gupta et al. 2016
<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>	0.49	Mature	UTP	Himachal Pradesh	Sharma and Saurabh 2023
<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	0.59	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.32	Juvenile	AT	Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttarakhand	Pande 2012; Kothiyal 2012
<i>Populus ciliata</i>	0.38-0.46	Mature	AT	NW Himalayas	Yadav et al. 2022
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.45	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.448	Mature	AT	Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttarakhand	Pande 2012; Kothiyal, 2012
<i>Populus euphratica</i>	0.38-0.54	Mature	AT	Plains of Punjab, Ladakh	Yadav et al. 2022
<i>Populus alba</i>	0.46	Mature	AT	Lahaul, Himachal Pradesh	Yadav et al. 2022
<i>Populus nigra</i>	0.46	Mature	AT	Kashmir	Yadav et al. 2022
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.41±0.14	Juvenile	UTP	Rudrapur, Uttarakhand	Aziz 2022
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.405	Juvenile	UTP	Ludhiana, Punjab	Singh 2021
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.333	Juvenile	UTP	Rudrapur, Uttarakhand	Pande 2011
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.372	Mature	UTP	Kashmir Valley	Ahmad, Rafeeq 2022
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.42	Mature	UTP	Rudrapur, Uttarakhand	Pande 2011
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	0.513	Mature	UTP	Ludhiana, Punjab	Singh 2021
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	0.791	Mature	MTOF	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	0.736	NS	MTOF	Jalaun district, Uttar Pradesh	Chavan 2016
<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>	0.61	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>	0.14	NS	UTP	Kerala	Hegde et al. 2014
<i>Quercus dilatata</i>	0.76	Mature	MTOF	India (NS)	Rani et al. 2018
<i>Salix spp.</i>	0.76	Mature	AT	Solan, Himachal Pradesh	Sharma et al. 2014
<i>Salix alba var. caerulea</i>	0.498	Mature	UTP	Kashmir Valley	Ahmad and Rafeeq 2022
<i>Samanea saman</i>	0.4	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Santalum album</i>	0.82	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Sapindus laurifolius</i>	0.5	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Schleichera oleosa</i>	0.82	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Shorea assamica</i>	0.62	Mature	UTP	Dehradun	Bhatt and Seema 2016
<i>Shorea robusta</i>	0.75	Mature	UTP	Dehradun	Bhatt and Seema 2016
<i>Shorea roxburghii</i>	0.72	Mature	UTP	Dehradun	Bhatt and Seema 2016
<i>Shorea talura</i>	0.68	Mature	UTP	Dehradun	Bhatt and Seema 2016
<i>Spondias pinnata</i>	0.34	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003

Tree species	WSG value	Growth stage	Category of TOF	Location	Sources
<i>Sterculia foetida</i>	0.3	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Sterculia alata</i>	0.51	NS	UTP	Tamil Nadu	Vennila 2021
<i>Stereospermum colais</i>	0.48	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Strychnos nux-vomica</i>	0.75	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>	0.53	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>	0.53	Mature	UTP	Palakkad, Kerala	Anoop et al. 2014
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	0.53	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	0.61	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Tabernaemontana alternifolia</i>	0.39	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	0.8	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.578	Mature	MTOF	NS	Rani et al. 2018
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.684 ± 0.094	Mature	MTOF	Tamil Nadu	Sundarapandian et al. 2014
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.66	Mature	MTOF	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.623-0.691	Mature	MTOF	Kerala	Thulasidas et al. 2012
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.56	NS	MTOF	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.56	Mature	UTP	Uttara Kannada, Karnataka	Sangeetha et al. 2018
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.444-0.522	Juvenile	UTP	Nilambur, Kerala	Bhat 2000
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.619 - 0.681	Juvenile	UTP	Kerala, Karnataka	Bhat and Priya 2004
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.553	Juvenile	UTP	Nilambur	Priya and Bhat 1997
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.44	Mature	UTP	Kerala	Hegde et al. 2014
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.539	Mature	UTP	Nilambur, Kerala	Bhat 2000
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.66± 0.01	Mature	UTP	Chandrapur, Maharashtra	Narayanan 2009
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.6127	NS	UTP	Chandrapur, Maharashtra	Meena et al. 2016
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	0.655 - 0.665	Mature	UTP	Kerala, Karnataka	Bhat and Priya 2004
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	0.688	Mature	AT	Jhalawar District, Rajasthan	Meghwal et al. 2020
<i>Terminalia bellirica</i>	0.45	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	0.42	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Terminalia paniculata</i>	0.61	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	0.66	Mature	MTOF	Uttar Pradesh	Kumar et al. 2017
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	0.62	Mature	UTP	Uttarakhand	Sharma et al. 2016
<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	0.53	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Toona ciliata</i>	0.34	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Toona ciliata</i>	0.6	Mature	AT	Punjab	Chauhan et al. 2009
<i>Toona ciliata</i>	0.45	Mature	AT	Himachal Pradesh	Dhiman 2018
<i>Trema orientalis</i>	0.3	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Vitex altissima</i>	0.65	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Wrightia tinctoria</i>	0.49	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Xylia xylocarpa</i>	0.72	Mature	AT	NS	Rani et al. 2018
<i>Xylia xylocarpa</i>	0.71	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003
<i>Zanthoxylum rhetsa</i>	0.34	NS	AT	Kerala	Shanavas and Kumar 2003

NS: Not Specified; AT: Agroforestry Trees; UTP: Urban Tree Plantations; RTP: Rural Tree Plantations; MTOF: Mixed Trees Outside Forest

ranged from 0.35 (*M. dubia*) to 0.96 (*H. excelsum*), with juvenile trees ranging from 0.44 (*M. azedarach*) to 0.89–0.95 (*Eucalyptus* sp.). The highest WSG was observed in *H. excelsum*, while the lowest was in *M. dubia*.

DISCUSSION

Wood Specific Gravity exhibits significant variability influenced by genetic, climatic, edaphic, and management factors (Pande and Singh 2005, Varghese et al. 2000). In India, values range from

0.26 (*Bombax ceiba*) to 0.86 (*Acacia catechu*), as their wood composition differences such as lignin concentration (Shanavas and Kumar 2003). Precipitation and WSG relationships are complex with higher densities occurring in dry sites for species like *Tectona grandis* and *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Thulasidas and Bhat 2012, SriLakshmi and Rao 2004). While geographic variation is evident between plains and Himalayan regions (Heena et al. 2019, Bhat et al. 2016) WSG generally increases with age and diameter (Saravanan et al. 2013, Shukla et al. 2007; Priya and Bhat 1997). The different Categories

of TOF (agroforestry, urban plantations, rural woodlots, and mixed systems) show functional diversity (Shanavas and Kumar 2006, Dhaka and Prajapati 2022, Rani et al. 2018, Sharma et al. 2005). The intraspecific differences of WSG observe with global databases (Zanne et al. 2009) and regional studies (Mayavel et al. 2021, Sangeetha et al. 2018) underscore that local, species-specific WSG data are essential for accurate biomass and carbon accounting, complementing generalized tropical datasets.

CONCLUSION

This inventory of Wood Specific Gravity (WSG) for Trees Outside Forest (TOF) in India demonstrates substantial variability in WSG values across different systems, including agroforestry, urban, rural and mixed environments. The data reveal a wide range, with WSG being influenced by species, growth stage (mature vs. juvenile), and specific site conditions. Using generalized WSG values from global databases for TOF can lead to significant errors in biomass and carbon stock estimations. Therefore, a dedicated, national-level TOF-specific WSG inventory is indispensable for accurate carbon accounting.

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