

Project Update: July 2019

The young trees in the plantation site have been growing beautifully. About 80% of the seedlings survived the transplanting stage. Although the rainfall pattern has been erratic since 2018, the good maintenance culture of the farmers and the young trees' ability to withstand unfavourable weather conditions have led to the current good state of the young trees. In June 2019, the farmers replanted the seedlings that did not survive in the 2018 planting phase. The 2019 planting exercise started in the first week of July with about 7000 teak seedlings supposed to be planted by the end of July.

Since July we received rain only five times at the project site, the planting exercise did not go as expected, but we are still hoping to plant the rest in August with any chance of rain that we will have. In 2018, we used stumps of the seedlings for transplanting but this year we switched to the use of polypots for raising the nursery. Although, using polypots is more expensive than the normal stumps, the survival rate of polypot seedlings is higher than that of stumps, especially this time that the rainfall pattern is poor. Predicting from our current progress, we are hoping to plant at least 10000 teak seedlings by the end of 2019 if we receive some more rain.



Left: Month old seedlings. Right: Transporting mature seedlings to project site.



State of young trees.