

# Assessment of conflicts between Peafowl and farmers in Coimbatore

(Project funded by Tamil Nadu Forest Department - Coimbatore Division)

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**2016**

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## SUMMARY

A short-term study was carried out in the forest fringing cultivation areas in Coimbatore District to assess the conflicts between peafowl and farmers. Questionnaire survey was used to gather data from the farmers. A total of 50 locations in 35 villages around Coimbatore were surveyed and 50 farmers were interviewed. The findings of the study are summarized below.

- i). A total 42 crops were found to be grown in the forest fringing cultivation areas of Coimbatore.
- ii) Tomato, plantain, onion, green-gram, chilli constituted the extensively grown crops.
- iii) Eighteen crops were found to be consumed by peafowl.
- iv) Peafowl were sighted in all the 50 locations surveyed.
- v) Tomato, onion, green-gram, maize and sorghum were highly preferred by peafowl
- vi) Peafowl menace in croplands reported throughout the year.
- vii) Loss incurred due to crop raiding by peafowl varied among different crops.
- viii) Farmers who grow crops such as tomato, capsicum, onion, butter bean, maize, black-gram, and sorghum suffer heavy financial loss when compared to others who grew red cow peas, plantain, ladies finger, bottle-gourd, bitter-gourd and fingermillet.
- ix) Plantain growing farmers did not report peafowl menace.
- x). Several techniques/devices were used by farmers to chase the crop raiding peafowl.
- xi) Various measures are suggested to reduce the crop raiding by peafowl.