

BEST OF SUBJECT CATEGORY AWARD ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES – DELHI NATIONAL FAIR

Coir Industry Waste For Revegetating Dry Lands.

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The **Coir Pith** that forms the produce waste from the coir industries are **heaped** along the sides of the roads and burnt. This practice pollutes land and air. Out of **6.6 lakh tonnes** of coir pith from coir industries in **India, Tamil Nadu** alone contributes **26%**

Two PVC pipes of the same size and length are filled with red soil of the same weight. The second pipe is further filled with a bed of coir pith. Both of them are watered till saturation soon after the excess water has dripped down, both of them are weighted, seeds are sown in them.

The Seeds are allowed to grow. Each day the weight of the samples are noted and tabulated. The **wilting point** of the plant in both the samples are observed.

It is inferred that the plant in the red soil wilts earlier but, the plant in the soil **with coir pith bed retains water** for a **longer period** enabling the plant to **survive better**.

Using coir pith as a media, the water retention capacity of the soil is increased. Hence **coir pith** when applied to **barren lands** can **facilitate easy retention of water** of any means to promote a **greener path of earth**.