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# "LANTANA CAMARA: TURNING GREEN TROUBLE INTO GREEN TREASURE"

## Introduction

*Lantana camara, a flowering plant native to the American tropics, is known for its vibrant flowers and its status as an invasive species in many parts of the world. However, it also presents several opportunities for 'waste to wealth' initiatives, turning what is often considered a problematic weed into a valuable resource*

*Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Katia, Sitapur has used the wood of Lantana camara in many areas to make furniture and handicrafts. The flexible, strong, and lightweight nature of its wood makes it suitable for making chairs, baskets, and other decorative items. This not only helps in controlling its spread but also provides economic opportunities to local communities.*

## Status of commercialization

The technology has been commercialized.

## Salient Features

- **Abundance and Easy Growth:** Lantana camara is known for its rapid growth and ability to thrive in diverse environments, which leads to the production of a significant amount of biomass. This biomass can be used for various purposes.
- **Handicraft Material:** In some regions, the woody stems of Lantana camara are used to make furniture and handicrafts. This not only provides a source of income for local communities but also helps in controlling the spread of this invasive plant.
- **Ornamental Use:** Despite its invasive nature, Lantana camara is also valued for its ornamental properties. Its colorful flowers can be an asset in gardening and landscaping, potentially creating economic value.

## Benefits

- **Environmental Management and Conservation:** Utilizing Lantana camara for various purposes can aid in controlling its spread, thereby protecting local ecosystems from its invasive impacts. This helps in maintaining biodiversity and preserving native flora and fauna.
- **Economic Opportunities:** Transforming Lantana into valuable products can create new economic opportunities, particularly in rural areas. This includes the potential for new industries and markets, such as bioenergy, handicrafts, and natural remedies, leading to job creation and income generation.
- **Waste Reduction:** The waste-to-wealth approach with Lantana reduces environmental waste and pollution by converting what is essentially a biological waste into useful products.

## Training

Training is imparted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II, Sitapur, U.P

## Developer

**Shailendra Kumar Singh, Reema Devi, Sachin P Tomar, Shishir Kant Singh, Anand Singh**

**Contact Details** Krishi Vigyan Kendra-II, Vill- Katia, Po- Ulara (Manpur), Block- Biswan, District- Sitapur 261145 U.P