

**NIRD FOUNDATION DAY SEMINAR**  
**ON**  
**RURAL TECHNOLOGY FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION**  
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*Concept Paper  
and  
Abstracts*

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*Azolla*



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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## **B4. AZOLLA – A SUSTAINABLE FEED SUBSTITUTE FOR LIVESTOCK**

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*Azolla*, a algae like fern, provides the carbon source for the fast growth of the green algae *sombaet*. The paper presents the results of a few studies on the economic usefulness of *Azolla*. *Azolla* is found to be rich in minerals like iron, calcium, and appreciable quantities of vitamins 'A' and Vitamin B12. The methods of *Azolla* cultivation, harvesting, processing and nutrient enhancement are examined in detail. The food value of *Azolla* for the dairy and poultry have been discussed. The paper also presents the economics of *Azolla* as a commercial product. *Azolla's* multi purpose use is examined.

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