

# **CURRENT STATUS OF CULTIVATION OF *Melaleuca cajuputi* Powell IN SOME LOCAL AREAS IN THUA THIEN - HUE PROVINCE**

**Le Thi Phuong Thao, Chau Thi Thanh, Nguyen Duy Phong  
Ngo Thi Phuong Anh, Pham Thi Phuong Thao**

## **Summary**

Melaleuca (*Melaleuca cajuputi* Powell) is a multi-purpose plant, especially for extracting essential oils in medicine and pharmacy. Melaleuca forests are naturally distributed in Vietnam, including Thua Thien - Hue province. Previously, Melaleuca forests were exploited unplanned and unsustainable, making the forest gradually dried up. Therefore, research on the status of cultivation of Melaleuca forests is urgent. The study showed that 30 ha of Melaleuca plantations were restored well in Quang Loi commune. However, this area was self-planted by one household in 2006, the other is the natural Melaleuca plant growing with *Acacia mangium* and on the wetlands, white sand or under low sunken areas without government attention. In Loc Thuy commune, the Melaleuca plantations have only begun in 2015, 11 ha of Melaleuca plantations from the cuttings with 18 households have been planted with tight management. Currently, natural Melaleuca forests are harvested all the year, while Melaleuca plantation is harvested twice a year, yielding the highest yield in Quang Loi commune from 10-15 tons/ha/crop and only 1.5 - 2.3 tons/ha/crop in Loc Thuy commune. Cultivation of Melaleuca forests has positively impacted the economic and social life in the study area. Therefore, it is necessary to have solutions to plant and manage in time to restore the areas of Melaleuca forest previously exploited.

**Keywords:** *Cultivation, sandy soil, material, Melaleuca cajuputi Powell, cajuput oil.*