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ORIGINAL PAPER



Success story regarding organic farming in different crops by the farmer Dinesh at Machanur Village of Vellore District under Rural Agricultural Work Experience

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ABSTRACT

The students of B.Sc., (Hons.) Agriculture students of Adhiparasakthi Agricultural College, Kalavai have attended the Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) Programme at K. V. Kuppam Block. In that, the students visited different places and met the different farmers to disseminate information regarding Agricultural practices and also to get knowledge from the farmers about field cultivation aspects. As a part of this, students have been involved in the demonstrations, conducting farmers' meetings, etc., This article elaborates on the success story of the farmer met by students about Various Agricultural practices.

Key Words: B. Sc., (Hons.) Agriculture Students, Adhiparasakthi Agricultural College, RAWE programme.

INTRODUCTION

Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) is a course offered to the B.Sc., (Hons.) Agriculture students to get attached to the farming community and gain cultivation practices related to Agricultural crops. Also, the students are engaged in demonstrating the newer technology to the farmers for better exposure. This helps both the students and farmers in

sharing their knowledge and disseminating the same to other people. Here totally seven students have engaged in various practices as a part of course work.

SUCCESS STORY

We met a farmer called **Dinesh** from 'Machanur' Village belongs to the Vellore district. The farmer cultivated paddy for 2 acres by using the drum seeder method of cultivation. In his area, the transplanting of rice requires a high labor cost. The labor cost for transplanting for 1 acre is Rs7000 and for 2 acres it requires Rs14000 which is not affordable to him. So he approached his block Agricultural Extension Officer and asked for his suggestion for cultivation. The Agricultural Extension Officer suggested the **System Of Intensification (SRI) and Drum Seeder** method of cultivation. He practiced the SRI technique and the usage of Conoweeder for the control of weeds is new to him and he is not well satisfied with this method because the yield obtained by him is less than he expected. So, he practiced the drum seeder method of cultivation. The drum seeder was brought by him with the help of the Assistant Agriculture Officer in his area with the schemes provided by the government. The advantage of this method is a reduction in the cost of cultivation and the seed rate is also reduced. The major problem in this method is the control of weeds. He is cultivating rice in the organic method. So, for the control of weeds, he prepared the land by churning the soil multiple times. For that, he puddled the soil 2-3 times with the help of a rotavator and left the field as dried. After that he made wetting in the field and again churning of the soil is done and he controlled the weed by doing these practices. The yield obtained by this method is high and well satisfied.

He also cultivated Ragi for One acre in his field for his consumption. He was cultivating the crops in the organic method. He applied FYM for ragi as a basal dose. The ragi is transplanted in his field. The cultivation practices include puddling the field 2 times using a cultivator and the 3 puddlings were done by using a rotavator. He made the area into the compartment and did bedding and transplanted ragi in that field.

He also cultivated fodder crops namely Napier grass to feed the cow for 1 acre. For irrigation, he obtained a **Sprinkler gun** from the subsidy provided by the government, and the pipe was installed by his own method of idea in the convenient direction and direction of irrigation. This type of irrigation covers up to 60 feet. This crop is also cultivated organically.

He was also cultivating vegetable crops such as onion, tomato, brinjal, bhendi, pumpkin, ridge gourd, bottle gourd, and coriander. These crops were also cultivated in the organic method. He used FYM as the basal dose for the crops and also applied ASH on the leaves to avoid foliar diseases. The fruits and vegetables required for his own purpose are cultivated by him itself.



CONCLUSION

In this article we have framed out the work done by students of B. Sc., (Hons.) Agriculture 2018 Batch under the Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWEX) Programme viz., Conducting farmers meeting and meeting farmers. Through this, the students had a good experience with various practices about cultivation and meeting exposures.