

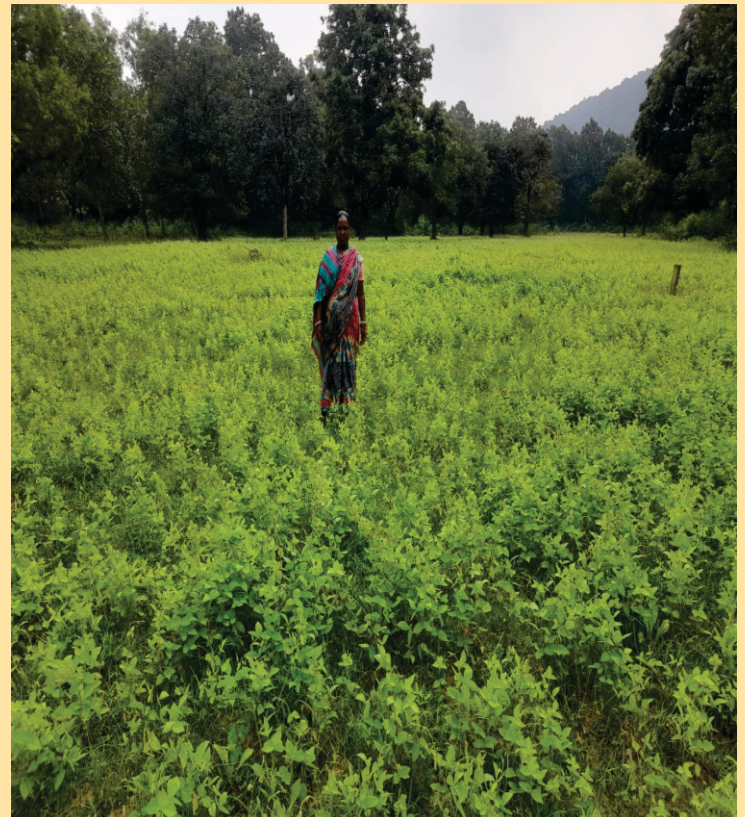
Rabi Season Crops for Higher Profit



from an acre. By deducting the cost of cultivation, there may be a profit of about seventy thousand per acre. Capsicum can give an yield of about 80 quintals per acre, which can earn a gross return of Rs 1,20,000 in the market. This will result in a profit of Rs 8,000 from one acre area. A good crop of carrot can provide an estimated yield of 100 quintal per acre, which will provide a net profit of about Rs 70,000 per acre. Watermelon can be taken up with assured irrigation facility. This crop can give a minimum yield of 100 quintal per acre. Calculating with a conservative price of Rs 10 per kilogram, the gross return will be on lakh rupees from one acre area. After deduction of expenditure for cultivation, the net profit will be nearly Rs 70,000.

The rabi or winter season has already started. We have to plan for cultivation of profitable crops during this season. We should select the crop based on its profitability and market demand. Under irrigated situation, we may go for cash crops, vegetables and floriculture to fetch good price. Some of these crops may be sweet corn, capsicum, carrot, pea, beans, broccoli, water melon, marigold, etc. In rainfed areas; mustard, linseed, horsegram, bengalgram, etc. can be taken up with residual soil moisture.

Under irrigated situation, profitability should be the foremost criteria for selection of crop. Sweet corn cultivation can accommodate about 25000 plants in one acre area. If one plant produces one corn and each corn is sold at a price of four rupees, one can get one lakh rupees



Growing of these crops is not very difficult for the farmers of our area. A farmer acquainted with tomato cultivation can easily take up capsicum crop. Similarly, the cultural practices of radish and carrot are similar. The package of practices of broccoli is similar to that of cauliflower. Depending upon market demand, one can go for marigold cultivation with scientific package of practices. Staggered planting will be useful for incessant supply of flowers to the market. However, it requires proper planning to take up the crops based on resource base and potentiality of farmers.

Bibhu Kalyan Pratibha Samman Utsav

The Bibhu Kalyan Pratiba Samman Utsav is going to be organized on 26th October 2024 at Dhalabani of Jashipur block in Mayurbhanj district. This is being organized in memory of late Dr Bibhu Kalyan Mohanty, one of the founder of Sambandh. There will be participation of about 200 farmers, farm women, agri-preneurs, SHG office bearers, FPO members, representatives of Vaidya Sangha, etc. in the programme. Besides, officials of various departments will discuss about different aspects of organic farming, millet cultivation, preservation of traditional seeds, etc. Individual farmers and Self Help Group will be felicitated for their remarkable contribution in organic farming, soil & water conservation, animal husbandry, millet production, etc.

An Unique Experience from SRI



Now-a-days, many farmers are getting higher yield by adopting system of rice intensification (SRI). Sri Rabindranath Hembram of Ramasahi village in Jashipur block is one such farmer benefitted by SRI method. He has only one acre of land for which he was not able to feed the family with his production. Last year, he got training on SRI by Sambandh and decided to adopt the technology. He had grown dhanicha as green manuring crop. Then he took up rice crop in SRI method with the variety Hasanta. He applied vermicompost, pot manure and Agneyastra for nutrition of the plants. With proper management practices, he obtained about 12 quintal rice from half acre area. It was very much encouraging, which motivated him to take up rice cultivation in one acre area under SRI method. This year there was production of 25-30 tillers per hill and he is expecting a bumper yield.

Management of Kitchen Garden during Rabi Season



Rabi or winter season is important to produce vegetable crops in kitchen garden. There should be adequate irrigation facility to take up rabi season crops. Due to excess winter, there may be delay in germination of seeds. Hence, care should be taken for germination of the seeds prior to sowing. Vegetables like potato, tomato, capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, knolkhol, radish, carrot, beet, beans, pea, onion, coriander, palak, water melon, etc. can be taken during rabi season. The planting distance for some of the crops is depicted hereunder.

Name of vegetable	Planting distance (cm)
Potato	60 x 15-20
Tomato	60 x 45
Cabbage, Cauliflower	60 x 30-45
Knolkhol	45 x 20
Pea	30 x 10-15
Beans	45 x 20-25
Capsicum	60 x 30
Radish, Carrot, Beet	30 x 10
Water melon	120 x 120
Onion	15 x 10

Tomato Cultivation for Dependable Income



Tomato crop can provide higher yield and more profit with suitable care and management. This has been proved by Smt. Rinarani Mohanta of Bakala village. Rinarani got training from Sambandh regarding scientific management of tomato crop. She could learn about growing tomato with application of vermin compost, *agneyastra* and *neemastra*. Last year, she cultivated tomato in 70 decimal area with organic package of practices and earned a profit of Rs 57,000. The profit was utilized for education of her children and savings for future.

With this success, she was motivated to go for tomato cultivation in on acre area with application of modern technical know-how. She has transplanted grafted seedlings and used mulching in the field. Till date, she has earned a profit of Rs 15000 and expected to get good income with a full bearing crop.



Evaluation of EdelGive Project Work

Ms Suprit Bajwa of EdelGive had visited the project area in Jashipur block for an overview of project activities. On 23rd July 2024, she visited



Dhalabani campus and witnessed several activities like watershed model, nutri-garden, organic matter production, medicinal plant garden, etc. Then she visited several villages like Begunia, Tulasibani, Chardipahadi,



U t t a r a s a n d Bhaliagoda. She interacted with farmers and discussed about organic agriculture, conservation of local seeds and resource utilization.

She had expressed satisfaction over seed conservation activities taken up by women in Begunia village. During the transact, she had observed nutri-garden, mudhi preparation by women self help group and vegetable cultivation. She had also discussed with programme staff about project related activities.

Do You Know

- About 65 to 70 kilogram of rice is obtained from one quintal paddy.
- Greengram contains about 24 per cent of protein.
- Groundnut is a fruit of the plant, which is developed after fertilization of flowers.
- About 70 kilogram seed kernel is obtained after



shelling one quintal of groundnut pod.

- Mustard seed contains about 32 to 38 per cent oil.
- Agriculture and allied sectors provide maximum employment in the world.
- Most of our foods are provided by agriculture and allied sectors.
- On hectare of land is 10,000 square meter.
- One hectare land is approximately 2.47 acre.

Goat Rearing : Avenue for Income Generation

Where there is a will, there is a way. This has been proved by Mrs. Ranjeeta Mohanta of Bhairanibeda village in Thakurmunda block. Her family had not enough income to fulfill the daily requirements. She was seriously thinking to do something for enhancement of family income. With a very positive hope, she joined the self help group "Laxmi Narayan SHG". Subsequently, he was involved with HEIFER International programme implemented by Sambandh. She acquired knowledge on livestock farming and kitchen garden. She started with two female goats, which increased to twenty five. Besides, she reared 73 birds under backyard system. She earns about Rs 65,000 from goat rearing and Rs 33,000 from poultry birds per annum. Ranjeeta also got an annual income of Rs 12,000 from vegetable cultivation. She is having a sewing machine at home, which provided additional income of Rs 8000 per annum. Now the economic condition of her family has improved substantially.



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