

Zero budget natural farming promoted under *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav* programme at Kankatti, East Champaran

In view of the harmful effects of modern farming (inorganic input intensive agriculture), nowadays organic farming is emphasized, however, if farmers depend on purchased inputs from market, organic farming may even prove costlier than modern farming. In the country like India, where there is predominantly small and marginal farmers, practicing "Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)" is advocated which will be sustainable on long term basis. ZBNF is a method of farming that eliminates the dependence of farmers on market purchased inputs like fertilizers and pesticides. It incorporates locally available natural biodegradable materials and combines the scientific knowledge of ecosystems and modern techniques with traditional farming practices. It harnesses the naturally occurring biological processes. While modern farming uses synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, the ZBNF encourages use of natural mulches, soil safety techniques, natural fertilizers and insecticides. These measures use the ecological engineering principles which encourage beneficial microbes and pest predators to take care of crop health and productivity. Natural plant leaves like neem, karanj, aak, dhatura, lantana, catnip etc. and the cow based products like cow dung, cow urine, milk, curd, ghee are backbone of ZBNF. Dr. Vinod Kumar at NRCL is currently studying effect of various plant leaf extracts such as neem (*Azadiracta indica*), catnip or catmint (*Nepeta cataria*), karanj (*Pongamia pinnata*), goma or thumba (*Lucas aspera*), aak (*Calotropis procera*) etc. to manage Alternaria disease of litchi.

With this background, Dr. Vinod Kumar and his team (Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Shri Prabhat Kumar along with young professional, Shri Ajit Kumar Dubedi Anal) conducted scientist-farmers interactive meetings on 17th February 2017 and 10th March 2017 in the village Kankatti (Kothia Hariram), an adopted village in East Champaran district under *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav* programme. They were made not only aware of the benefits of ZBNF, but also the scientific principles through talk and video show in Hindi and local languages. Method of preparation and application of various products viz., *Panchgavya*, *Jeevamrit*, *Beejamrit*, *Amritpani* and plant extract based biopesticides were demonstrated to farmers on 29th March 2017. A group of identified farmers are applying these products in vegetable crops like, brinjal, lady's finger, cucumber, bittergourd and pointed gourd besides litchi in the current season and efficacy will be monitored in due course. Application of 'NRCL Trichoderma' for crop health was also emphasized to the farmers for a holistic impact on crop health and productivity in these meetings.



Scientists interacting with farmers



Video show in progress on various products under ZBNF practices



Method demonstration of various products used in ZBNF

किसानों को जीरो बजट में जैविक खेती के सीखाएं गुरु

भास्कर न्यूज़ | मेहसी

मेरा गांव मेरा गौरव कार्यक्रम के तहत मेहसी के कनकटी गांव में कृषि वैज्ञानिकों के दल ने किसानों को प्रशिक्षण दिया। उन्हें जीरो बजट में जैविक खेती करने की जानकारी दी गई। राष्ट्रीय लीची अनुसंधान के तत्वाधान में कृषि वैज्ञानिक डॉ. विनोद कुमार व डॉ. संजय कुमार ने किसानों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि पंचगव्य एक अत्यधिक प्रभावी जैविक खाद है।

जो पौधों की वृद्धि एवं विकास में सहायता करता है। उनकी प्रतिरक्षक क्षमता को बढ़ाता है। पंचगव्य का निर्माण सूर्य नाड़ी वाली गाय अथवा देसी गाय के पांच उत्पादों दूध, दही, घी, गोमूत्र व गोबर से होता

है। पंचगव्य की 3 प्रतिशत मात्रा को पानी के साथ मिलाकर खेतों में प्रयोग किया जाता है। इस दौरान उन्होंने जैविक कीटनाशी की विधि को समझाया।

इसे नीम के पत्ते, मदार, छाछ, पानी से बहुत ही सरल विधि से बनाया जा सकता है। अपने फसलों को कीट एवं रोगों से बचाने के लिए जैव आधारित विभिन्न कीटनाशी का उपयोग करने की सलाह किसानों को दी। मौके पर राष्ट्रीय लीची अनुसंधान केंद्र के वैज्ञानिक डॉ. विनोद कुमार, डॉ. संजय कुमार सिंह, डॉ. प्रभात कुमार, अजीत कुमार द्विवेदी अनल, किसान गणेश कुशवाहा, होरिल राम, ईश्वर चंद, रफीक अहमद सहित कई किसान शामिल थे।

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