

Seed Production & High value crops: A way forward for economic improvement

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Dhal

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Brief About Successful Venture:

Mukesh Kumar Dhal, a 28 years old young and dynamic farmer involved in agriculture as part of his family venture. Previously he was growing rice for consumption purpose in 9 acres of land with which he was able to meet the food demand of his family and surplus was sold as grain at a very low price. He has one underutilized pond of 2.0 acre. His destiny has been decided for something else. His thirst for higher income from agriculture dragged him to KVK, Kendrapara for consultation. After being well trained by KVK on pond based integrated farming system with rice seed production scientifically instead of growing only rice for grain purpose. He has now become a leading registered seed grower of rice and fish fingerling producer of the district. Since 2019, He is practicing rice seed production programme (Foundation Seed to Certified Seed) in an area 5.5 acre of land during Kharif season. He is now able himself to select good quality seed, preparation of improved nursery bed (Dapog method) for production of quality seedling, use of mechanical rice transplanter, proper herbicide for weed management, STBR of fertilizer with right source and right method of application, maintaining proper isolation distance and doing rouging at proper time, following need base plant protection measures and proper harvesting and safe storage of seed with appropriate moisture level. He is also producing improved quality fingerlings along with high value vegetable crop Capsicum under poly house. In the past he was able to get only Rs 2,82,000/- as net profit from farming but now there is realization of Rs 6,30,000/- annual net profit from rice seed production, fish fingerling production and capsicum under polyhouse.



Contribution of KVK:

Mr Dhal was one of the participants in the rural youth training programme on rice and fish seed/fingerling production during 2019-20 of KVK, Kendrapara. He was trained on scientific rice seed production, fish fingerling production, scientific cultivation capsicum under poly house. Also he is a regular



visitor to KVK Kendrapara for any technical guidance. He is also a beneficiary of OFT and FLD programmes of KVK. KVK, Kendrapara also facilitated procurement of foundation seed from OSSC Ltd, Govt of Odisha and helped him during registration process for seed production programme. A poly house has been sanctioned by Deptt. of Horticulture, Govt. of Odisha and technical support was provided by KVK, Kendrapara.

Coverage and Impact of training:

After receiving the training on scientific rice production, Mr. Dhal is now able to distinguish between good quality seed and poor-quality seeds. He is emphasizing now on use of seed treating chemical for seed treatment before sowing. He is using both organic manure and chemical fertilizer in balanced manner. He is also capable of identifying off types and doing the necessary rouging for maintenance of quality of the produced seed. He is practicing scientific pond management for fingerling production and capable of growing good quality capsicum under poly house.

Horizontal spread of the successful case:

Mr Dhal has become an example and inspiration for the others in the locality. He has mobilised 4 farmers in his neighbouring field to start with seed production of rice and fingerling production of fish from this year. By his venture, more than 150 farmers of his locality are benefited by getting good quality seeds of rice and fish for their production purposes.

Concluding assessment of the successful case:

A young farmer like Mr. Mukesh Kumar Dhal has become an example for others by converting himself from a normal farmer to rice and fish seed grower along with cultivation of high value vegetable capsicum under poly house. Now his economic conditions improved and he is expecting to expand his area to create employment for local people.

Action photographs

