

Rice-Blackgram Paira cropping: Converting rice-fallow to rice-pulse system

Sri Nigam Ranjan Lenka, A 35 year old young farmer of NICRA adopted village Gajapitha having 2 hectares of cultivable land, used to cultivate only rice during kharif season and the land remains fallow during rabi season as no irrigation and low residual soil moisture conditions offered little opportunity for a second crop.

As a climate resilient technology KVK, Kendrapara has transformed the rice-fallow into rice-pulse cropping system through paira cropping under NICRA project. Conventionally grown late rice variety 'MTU 7029' was substituted with shorter duration 'Bina 11'. Rice could be harvested earlier leaving adequate residual soil moisture which was utilized successfully for growing a blackgram as paira crop. It was sown in standing rice crop about 10 days before the harvest. Sri Lenka was successful in utilizing the fallow for crop intensification.

Annual net income increased from Rs.24,500/ha to Rs.46,140/ha and could utilize rice fallow for successful cropping.

