

Agripreneur

A Virtual Experience Sharing Platform

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Kaushal Vikas Se Krishi Vikas

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare organized one day National Skill Development Workshop on “**Kaushal Vikas Se Krishi Vikas**” on 05th January 2017 at A.P. Shinde Symposium Hall, NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi. The stakeholders from National Institutes, ICAR, Private Agribusiness companies, National Training & Research Institutes and farmers participated in the workshop. In the Inaugural Address, Shri. Radha Mohan Singh, Hon’ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GOI, specified that, “Employment opportunities have been generated for the skilled youth in the fields of agri-warehousing, cold chains, supply chains, dairy, poultry, meat, fisheries, horticulture, agricultural mechanization as well as micro-irrigation”. Two Agripreneurs trained under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business centers Scheme were invited to the workshop. Sh. Adesh Kumar, Agripreneur from Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, shared his experience and his success as an Agripreneur in the Agriculture sector. Sh. Adesh Kumar is involved in production and marketing of bio-products. In addition, he is actively involved in creation of awareness regarding use of bio-products in crop production. Sh. Adesh has created 1500 jobs for rural youth in Agriculture through his initiative. Smt. Sunila Jakhar from Karnal, Haryana, briefed about her skills developed in Apiary. Smt. Sunila is involved in manufacturing of Bee-hives and consultancy on Apiary. Smt. Sunila has trained around 100 rural women in Apiary and about 400 farmers from 30 villages are benefited through consultancy. Smt Sunila extended employment to 40 rural youth from her village. Sh. Deepak Mendiratta, Nodal Officer, Jubilant Agricultural and Rural Development Society, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh shared his experiences in implementing the training under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers scheme. Sh. Mendiratta articulated that the idea to hire a Mobile Van for trainees is highly effective, as it enabled the trainees to experience live demonstrations on different crops.



“KRUSHIK” enabling Agripreneurs with high Agri-technologies

Agricultural Development Trust’s Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati is associated with MANAGE, Hyderabad to impart the training under the centrally sponsored Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers scheme since 2006. Agricultural Development Trust’s Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati had organized a 3 days event named “Krushik Expo”, where farmers, Government officials, agri-professionals, agri-companies, and social institutions came together and exchanged knowledge, ideas and expertise. The 2nd edition of KRUSHIK 2017- Live Demo & Agri Expo was held from 19th -22nd January 2017 at Baramati, Pune, Maharashtra. The exhibition was held at Agricultural Development Trust’s Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati from 19-22 Jan 2017 in 110 acre area. The main theme of the exhibition was live demonstration of crops. A total 91 crop demonstrations were displayed by various companies and 102 Agri-companies displayed their technologies through stalls. There were 17 machinery and irrigation companies demonstrating their machinery. Around 32 different types of animal breeds were displayed through the animal show. There were value addition food stalls represented by women self-help groups. Technology information was displayed through boards, sessions of scientists and group discussion of farmers were arranged. More than 2 lakh farmers visited the exhibition. Agripreneurs trained under the Agri-Clinics and agri-Business Centers scheme at Krishi Vigyan Kendra worked as volunteers and got exposed to different high-technologies in Agriculture. MANAGE extends best wishes.



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Harvest Green at Home

Urban agriculture is playing an important role in contributing to household food security in times of crises or food shortage. Vegetables specially have a short production cycle; some can be harvested within 60 days of planning. Growing food in our own backyard means we can produce fruits and vegetables the chemical-free way and save money, too. Keeping in view the importance of urban agriculture, an initiative has been taken by Mrs. M. Saritha Reddy (Agripreneur) who organized a one day seminar on “Advance Organic, Urban, Terrace and Home Gardening” at Navaratna Crop Sciences Pvt. Ltd., Cherlapally, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, India. Twenty participants from Hyderabad participated in the seminar. Dr. G. Chandra Sekhara Rao (Agronomist), Vice President of Navaratna Crop Sciences Company, covered the complete package of practices on Soil Less Gardening and Indoor plantation. “I keep hearing urban agriculture helps one can grow our own food to eat healthy, avoid pesticides and chemicals etc. This one day complete package on soil-less gardening helps me to grow my food and I am looking forward to start gardening” said one of the participants. For more details please contact Navaratna Crop-science Pvt. Ltd. Plot No.101/B, Phase-II, IDA Cherlapally, Ranga Reddy District –500051, Telangana State, India. Ph: +91 4065143358, M:+919010111139, email:navaratnacropscience@gmail.com, www.navaratnacropscience.com



Bee Buzzing Success

Tejas Apiary, is popular around Jind area in Haryana, and offers bee keeping training to farmer, rural youth and women as well as honey manufacturing and sale in the brand name of APIS honey. Mrs. Sunila Jakhar (40) who has a doctoral degree in (Agronomy) from Jind, Haryana and is the founder of 'Tejas Apiary' argues that, "Bees play an important and irreplaceable role as pollinators in the environment. Honeybees are the most efficient pollinators not only vital for honey production, they also cause manifold increase in crop productivity through pollination. Pollination can significantly increase the yields of fruits and vegetables". Three years ago, Mrs. Sunila took up two month residential training course under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers (AC&ABC) Scheme at Indian Society of Agribusiness Professional (ISAP) Karnal, Haryana. During training, she visited an established Apiary, and found that, the cost to start beekeeping business is not particularly high as compared to many small business. Besides, one can harvest the honey within six week. Mrs. Sunila has a dreamed herself as well-known honey-maker. 'Tejas Apiary' is a registered beekeeping unit involved in Bee boxes manufacturing, honey processing and training center. Tejas apiary has trained more than 400 farmers from 30 villages, and grouped farmers in 20 Farmers Interest Group which have registered for Beekeeper. "As part of our operations, we meet farmers in rural areas and provide them with bee boxes and free training. Then, once they start bee-keeping, we buy back the honey at a pre-determined price. Ours is a not-for-profit outfit, and we generate income by selling this honey to retailers under our own brand Apis," says Mrs. Sunila. Tejas Apiary has an annual turnover of over Rs.60 lakh and has created employment for 40 skilled persons from the Jind area. Mrs. Sunila's message to budding agripreneurs, "Be like Bee, hardworking bee is able to collect honey also from bitter flowers".



Mrs. Sunila Jakhar

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Smart Farming enabling Smart Living

Farm mechanization creates unemployment. The myth has been broken and it has been observed that, agricultural mechanization besides increasing production and productivity, also generates income and employment opportunities. Kerala state is facing labour shortage. To overcome this problem, I decided to train the farming community in farm mechanization and precision farming. Smart farm machines can help farmers to boost farm output, raise farmers' income, and promote sustainability in farming", said Shri Ramachandran Pillai (59) a retired Agriculture Officer from State Department of Agriculture Kerala. Shri Pillai was trained under the Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme at Kerala Agricultural University, Trissur, Kerala. Soon after training, Shri Pillai submitted a detailed project report to State Bank of Travancore, Kollam branch, Kerala. After a long struggle, he could convince the bank officials and get finance of Rs.20/-lakh. Shri Pillai established "CTDS Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Center", at Pattazhy a remote village in Kollam District, 40 kms from the District Headquarters, an area predominantly inhabited by small and marginal farmers. The training center is associated with Central Travancore Development Society, a Non-Governmental Organisation functioning in the area. The firm is run as single proprietorship, managed by Shri C. Ramachandran Pillai with the help of 11 skilled persons. Enabling with mobile input services, Shri Pillai is providing on-campus and off-campus agri-consultancy services on quality agri-inputs, package of practices on crops, soil and water testing, plant protection with special emphasis on vegetable and coconut, precision farming, landscaping, tree rejuvenation etc. Almost 1150 farmers from 14 villages have been trained in the center and have adopted mechanized farming. Shri Pillai is earning net profit of Rs. 60,000/- per month.

Turning Seaweeds into Plant Growth Regulators

Haridas Shivaji Kumbhar, Sangli, Maharashtra

Plant growth regulators have been used as a tool to obtain vegetative and productive growth for many years. Today, there are many fascinating and innovative ways to manufacturing plant growth regulators. Plant growth regulators are now being used as seed soaks, bulb dips, media sprays and controlled residue. Shri Haridas Shivaji Kumbhar (34) residing at Sangli, Maharashtra developed a unique PGR product and branded as “MULTIEXCEL” a total crop solution and vital for soil health treatment. For over seven years, Mr. Haridas searched in understanding how to ensure sustainable harvest seaweed culture into high-value nutrients for plants. MULTIEXCEL is developed from the mixture of extract from *Ascophyllum Nodosum*, *Sargassum* and *Laminaria* based seaweeds. The compositions of the product are Soluble Potash, K₂O (16.00% min) and Organic matter (50.00 % min). The product is used as plant growth regulator and crop bio-stimulant. More than 1500 farmers from two districts of Maharashtra have used the product and revealed that the yield has increased by 30%. Drenching is the most common method of applying plant growth regulators. Drench applications usually provide longer lasting, more uniform control of plant height than spray applications and typically use a larger, more diluted volume of solution than sprays, said Haridas. Mr Haridas Kumbhar is available at Akshara Agro, Post-Yelavi, Tq. Tasgaon, Dist, Sangli, Maharashtra state. e-mail- haridaskumbhar5099@gmail.com Mobile; +91 9860075009.

Cost Efficacy Rs. 9000/- per acre for all types of crops.



www.agriclinics.net is the portal providing information about Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme. The portal gives updates on eligibility criteria, training institutes, training progress, handholding activities, finance options and subsidy to the prospective Agripreneurs. The website also provides information on details of established Agriventures, pending projects, relevant schemes etc., and other information useful for State governments, Agricultural Universities, Banks, Training Institutes and Agripreneurs.



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