



Better Farming by Every Farmer

e-Bulletin



Agripreneur

A Virtual Experience Sharing Platform

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A Decadal progress of Agri Clinics & Agri Business Centres Scheme



Successful Agri Ventures Under AC & ABC Scheme



“ Agripreneur is a virtual platform to share the experiences of Agripreneurs, Bankers, Agribusiness companies, Nodal training institutes, Extension functionaries, Academicians, Researchers and Agribusiness thinkers in the country working for promotion of Agri Entrepreneurship development”.

The Agri Clinics and Agri Business Centres (AC&ABC) Scheme is a central sector scheme launched by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, in the year 2002 to supplement the efforts of public extension by providing extension services to the farmers at their door step through Agricultural professionals, and to create self employment opportunities for unemployed Agri professionals through development of Agri and Allied sectors. The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, is the nodal agency responsible for implementing the scheme throughout the country.

Since inception of the AC&ABC Scheme, 32,683 Agri professionals have been trained through a network of 88 Nodal Training institutes (NTIs) spread across the country, and 12,992 Agripreneurs have established Agriventures. Of these 12,992 established Agriventures, 1,822 units are Agri clinics and 755 units are Veterinary Clinics, whose prime concern is delivering Agricultural extension services. Out of the rest, 5,215 units are Agri Business Centers, 2039 units belong to the streams of Dairy, Poultry, Piggery and Goatery and the remaining 3,161 Agriventures cover other activities such as Farm machinery units, Agro eco tourism, Fisheries, Horticulture clinics, Seed processing units, Mushroom production, and floriculture units etc. AC&ABC units have availed a subsidy component of Rs.1857.17 lakhs from NABARD till 31st March, 2013 for their establishments since inception.

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National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management



Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture.



National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Mr. Shrishal Somapur - Seedman to ensure quality seeds to farmers

Mr. Shrishal Somapur hails from Bijapur District of Karnataka state. Born in an Agricultural family, he is of the opinion that quality seed is the first crucial step; its suitability to the location and its quality play a major role in crop productivity.

Soon after completion of his graduation in Agriculture from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, in the year 1990, he joined Indo American Hybrid seeds (India) Pvt. Ltd. in the seed production wing, and worked in various parts of the country such as Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, as in-charge of seed production for 15 years, where he practically worked with field crops and horticultural crops in production of open pollinated and Hybrid seeds. With his efforts, he rose to the level of a Manager and received the best performance award. He was inspired by the AC&ABC Scheme and has undergone training at the Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (CED), Hyderabad. He resigned his job, having gained experience and enough confidence in his technical and entrepreneurial skills, and started a Seed production unit under the name Maxima Seeds – Seeds for Better Future, which is equipped with sophisticated Research and Development facilities in a 10 acre farm, processing and packing facilities such as Grader, Gravity Separator, De-stoner, Treater, automatic weighing and bagging unit, with 9000 sft. storage facility on NH -7 bypass Road at Shadnagar, Mahaboobnagar district, Andhra Pradesh.



Mr. Shrishal Somapur with farmers and his Seed production unit

Services under Maxima seeds:

- Open pollinated and Hybrid seed production of vegetables and field crops
- Conducts method demonstrations on new varieties and cultural practices for farmers
- Conducts Regular field visits to deliver timely technical advice to the needy farmers
- Provides Advisory services on plant protection measures and best practices in field crops and horticultural crops
- Provides Advisory services on market linkages

He has provided employment for 30 skilled and unskilled workers. Maxima seeds is extending its services to more than 1000 farmers in 100 villages with a turnover of Rs.1.2 Crores and a net profit of Rs.20 Lakhs. Maxima seeds was supported by Canara bank for credit facility. Mr. Shrishal would like to expand his venture towards bio-pesticides and production unit which is the next crucial step to take care of sustainable agriculture.

Mr. Shrishal Somapur can be contacted at ph: 9440297169, email id: sompurss@rediffmail.com

Feed back from Agripreneur, Mr. Vijay Bharat, Mobile Agricultural School & Services, Jharkhand: It is great to know that some Agripreneurs visited Israel to enhance their knowledge and skill. The information is encouraging for me to visit prominent agricultural places. e- bulletin is reflecting the important activities of Agripreneurs and is doing great job to motivate Agri graduates towards Agri-entrepreneurship. I am very thankful to CAD, MANAGE, for exploring the activities of Agripreneurs. I think, in the near future, the CAD will get success to create a new line and thought of business tycoons.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, PIRENS, Maharashtra –Broadcasting an innovative tool of AC&ABC trainees

Pravara Institute of Research and Education in Natural and Social Sciences (PIRENS) is a voluntary organization established during the year 1985 by Hon'ble Padmabhushan Balasaheb Vikhe Patil. The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), New Delhi, supported establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in the year 1992 at PIRENS by appreciating their work.



Objectives of KVK

- To improve the productivity in Agriculture and Allied enterprises
- To generate employment in agro, agro-based and non-farm sector
- Socio-economic upliftment of rural community

Mandate of KVK

- To impart skills among farmers and rural youth through vocational training
- To conduct front-line demonstrations on different commodities
- To carry out on-farm testing to fine-tune the technologies based on location-specific problems
- To disseminate technologies on a larger area by providing training to the extension functionaries

Highlights in Services & Achievements:

- 90.8 MHz FM KVK PRAVARA Community Radio Station to broadcast Agricultural Technology among 8.5 lakh population
- Developed a three-tier model for Technology assessment, refinement and dissemination along with credit facilities, wherein progressive farmers, youth and women are involved
- Honored with the best KVK Award for the year 1998-99 and the Best KVK Zonal Award for the year 2010
- Honored with the best KVK Award for the year 2012

Association with AC&ABC Scheme:

KVK, PIRENS, Babhaleshwar, is associated with MANAGE and is conducting AC&ABC trainings from the year 2004. Till now 359 candidates have been trained through 12 programmes, and 180 Agripreneurs have established Agriventures of various categories comprising of Poly house cultivation, Agro service centers, Sericulture rearing unit, Dairy, Custom hiring, Landscaping services, Crop advisory services and vermicompost units, thus achieving a success rate of 50.13%.

Selection and Handholding activities:

- During the screening committee meeting, candidates along with their parents/guardians are counselled
- Trainees are reviewed after every task assigned during the training to ensure the effectiveness of training
- Bankers' meet is organized for mentoring the trainees and to resolve pending proposals
- Agripreneurs' meet is organized once in a year to create a platform for experience sharing among them



Dr. Bhaskar Gaikwad
Nodal officer

KVK, PIRENS, Babhaleshwar can be contacted at:

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Performance of AC&ABC in North Eastern States:

Five centers are actively imparting AC&ABC training to Agriculture and Allied professionals in North Eastern States under the scheme. Since inception, a total of 1049 candidates were trained and 297 of them have established Agri-clinics and Agri-Business Centres with a cumulative success percentage of 28.31. During the year 2012-13, 109 candidates were trained and 35 of them have established Agri-ventures with a success percentage of 32.11.

Annual workshops for Nodal Training Institutes:

CAD, MANAGE, organized 5 workshops on Agri Entrepreneurship Development during 2012-13 for NTIs of AC& ABC Scheme at Trivendrum, Amritsar, Maharashtra and two workshops at MANAGE, Hyderabad, wherein Nodal Officers along with AC& ABC Training Coordinators participated. The workshops emphasized on Quality of training, hand-holding and also acted as a platform for exchange of innovative ideas to improve the quality of training. In addition, one more training programme was conducted on ICT tools for NTIs to improve the ICT technical input in AC&ABC Training and Monitoring.



Dr. K. Nagabhushanam, Programme Co-ordinator, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, sharing the training innovations at Agri Entrepreneurship Development Workshop, MANAGE

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, Hand holding activities, Finance options and Subsidy to the prospective Agripreneurs. The website also provides information on details of established Agri-ventures, pending projects, relevant schemes etc., and other information useful for State governments, Agricultural Universities, Banks, Training Institutes and Agripreneurs.

For any query on Agri Clinics and Agri business Centres scheme - please mail to indianagripreneur@manage.gov.in



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