



Better Farming by Every Farmer

e-Bulletin



Agripreneur

A Virtual Experience Sharing Platform

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

Agripreneurs in 'Agriculture Technology Week' - 2013 at Krishi Vignan Kendra, Durgapur, Maharashtra



Agripreneurs, Smt. Sangita Sawalakhe and Mr.Vinod Singh Killedar sharing the successful business models at Agricultural Technology Week-2013, KVK, Durgapur, Maharashtra

Krishi Vignan Kendra, Durgapur (Budnera), Amaravati District, Maharashtra, in association with Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Amaravati, has organised a Agricultural Technology Week 2013 during 18-22 February 2013 at their campus.

As a part of the Agricultural technology Week, a technical programme on “ A successful step of Agri Entrepreneur in Agricultural Development” was organised. The programme was attended by 600 participants comprising of 150 Agri professionals, who have undergone Agri Clinics and Agri Business Centres (AC&ABC) training and established their ventures and also by women entrepreneurs trained by KVK under MSME schemes.

Smt Sangita Sawalakhe, Vidarbha Biotech lab, Yeotmal and Mr. Vinod Singh Killedar, Panacea, Paratwada, Amaravathi, both successful Agripreneurs, were invited as guest speakers to share their experiences in establishing the Agriventures, the business models they have adopted in running their ventures profitably and the role of extension activities in promotion of Agriculture development.

The procedural issues and constraints faced in availing bank loans, as raised by the Agripreneurs, were answered by speakers from Banks, NABARD and MANAGE. The deliberations of the technical workshop resolved to take follow-up action by all the stake holders to facilitate timely credit to the Agripreneurs to establish their ventures.



National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management



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



National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Mr. S. Chandrabanu – in propagation of Hi-tech Horticulture

Green house technology is one opportunity where the micro climate of the unit can be regulated to obtain maximum yield with good quality and even break the seasonality, where a farmer can fetch more for his uniform and quality produce. Mr. Chandrabanu has shown keen interest to propagate this technology. His post graduation in Agricultural



Science has enabled him to learn the art and science of Green House Farming. He joined the AC&ABC training at University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru and decided to become an Agripreneur in the area of Poly-house construction. With an urge to become an entrepreneur, he decided to learn, understand, appreciate and use this technology on a large scale in farming. In addition, the activities of National Horticultural Mission, National Horticultural board and State Horticultural Department facilitated him to develop deep interest and opportunity to excel in this profession. As a visionary entrepreneur, he explored and started lot many business opportunities in this activity. He also detected that a lot of unscrupulous businessmen were involved in green house construction without any technical background. Consequently, he

decided to support the farming community with better technical guidance and to construct green houses. During the past 5 years, he has completed construction of 100 acres of Poly-houses and Shade-nets too.

Services of Mr. S. Chandrabanu include:

- Construction of Poly-house for high value crops such as Gerbera, Carnation, Coloured Capsicum and high-tech nursery.
- Construction of moist chambers.
- Construction of Shade-net house for cultivation of vegetables and nurseries.
- Supply of plant material for green house cultivation crops such as Carnation, Gerbera, Anthurium and Coloured Capsicum.
- Supply of greenhouse materials like Poly-film, Shade-net and Aluminum springs.
- Consultancy services.

He has employed sixty people and trained them in all activities of Poly-house construction. After construction of Poly-houses, he tied up with farmers in developing the market linkages for their product. His annual income began with Rs: 5 lakhs per annum with this project and reached to Rs: 20 lakh with an annual turn over of Rs. 4 Crore.

He opined that AC&ABC Training offered him a boost in his Agri business potential and also to contribute his bit for propagation of Technology among potential farmers.

Mr.Chandrabanu can be contacted at Mobile: 09964323268, email: shivannachandru@gmail.com



Row of Poly-houses constructed by Mr. Chandrabanu

Bojja Venkata Reddy Agricultural Foundation Consolidating Agri Entrepreneurship in Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh

Bojja Venkata Reddy Agricultural Foundation (BVRAF), a non-profit organisation registered under 'Trust Act', is having its Head office in Hyderabad and Field Office in Nandyal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh. The Foundation was established in the Year 2004 in memory of Late Sri Bojja Venkat Reddy, who was a parliamentarian. It was established to work for the empowerment and upliftment of Farming Community, which was the life long vision and goal of Sri Bojja Venkat Reddy. Sri Dasharatha Rami Reddy, son of late Sri Bojja Venkat Reddy, is the Managing Trustee of the Foundation.

Objective

The main objective of the Foundation is to work for the capacity building and empowerment of Farming Communities in Andhra Pradesh through extension services, rural education, infra structure and policy initiatives.

Activities (Other than AC&ABC)

- Conducts Training Programmes for farmers and seed assistants in production of Bengal gram and Hybrid Rice varieties
- Works for elimination of child labour through an innovative programme - 'I love my School' to educate sons of farmers and other rural house holds. It has already adopted four government-run schools in Kurnool District. Under the programme, the Foundation distributes note books and other stationery items.
- Organises medical camps in rural areas.
- Works with organisations such as CIFA and contributes in policy matters relating to agriculture; for example: Fixation of MSP for various crops and relaxation of the restrictions in inter-state movement of food grains.

Association with AC&ABC

The Foundation was selected by MANAGE as Nodal Training Institute in the year 2010 under the AC&ABC scheme. Since then it trained 152 candidates, out of which 48 have established various "Agriventures" such as Agri business centres, Seed production, Nursery management, Tissue culture and Dairy.

Hand holding Initiatives

- The Foundation has facilitated formation of an Association of AC&ABC graduates trained in their Institute, so as to help the fresh trainees under the Scheme in accessing Bank loans and in regulatory matters in establishing their ventures.
- Conducted Farmers' meet and displayed trained Agripreneurs' products, which impressed the Bankers.

Future Initiatives

- To conduct workshops and campaigns for creating awareness among different stakeholders in kurnool District for more effective implementation of the programme.
- To pursue rigorous handholding efforts for smooth sanction of Bank loans and to explore innovative Strategies for facilitating market tie up of agriproducts, produced by Agripreneurs, with private Agri input companies working in the region.



"The AC&ABC Scheme launched by MANAGE has made considerable positive impact on rural economy of India. The AC&ABC graduates are rendering invaluable agricultural extension services and motivating themselves to venture in to various innovative fields towards sustainable growth in Agriculture. The AC&ABC scheme will play pivotal role in transforming economy of rural India on par with urban economy." says Shri Bojja Dasaratha Rami Reddy, Managing Trustee of BVRAF and Chief executive of AC&ABC Scheme.

Bojja Venkata Reddy Agricultural Foundation can be contacted at:

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NABARD workshop - for the benefit of Agripreneurs, Karnataka



A State-level Workshop on AC&ABC Scheme was organized by NABARD on 14th February 2013 at Bangalore Regional Office to create awareness among and sensitize the Bankers for effective implementation of the scheme. The workshop was chaired by Mr. S.N.A.Jinnah, CGM, NABARD, Karnataka R.O., Bangalore. Mr. V. Krishnamurthy, Consultant, MANAGE, representatives from Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks, representatives from Nodal Training Institutions and successful Agripreneurs participated.

The workshop proceeded as an interactive session on operational issues with the participants and was coordinated by General Manager, NABARD. The action points that emerged from the workshop are as follows:

- The banks may consider provision of term loans for the cash credit facility provided to Agripreneurs which would enable them to create capital assets and reap the benefits of the Scheme.
- As this is a Govt. sponsored programme, the service area approach is applicable; However, it should not act as a hurdle in accessing credit by the trained graduates.

Apart from the status and operational issues in implementation of AC&ABC scheme, other important Government sponsored subsidy schemes, including animal husbandry and rural godowns, were also discussed for the benefit of the participants.

www.agriclinics.net is the portal providing information about AC&ABC 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 Agriventures, pending projects, relevant schemes etc., and other information useful for State governments, Agricultural Universities, Banks, Training Institutes and Agripreneurs.

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



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