

Impact of Eei (Extension Education Training) On Successful Implementation of Organic Farming by Andhra Pradesh Farmers- Success Stories

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Abstract: Extension education institute disseminates useful and practical information relating to agriculture for better results and increased income of farmers. As a part of their training programmes, farmers of Andhra Pradesh were imparted training on organic farming and allied areas. This paper presents the success stories of Andhra Pradesh farmers who attended the training on Organic farming and implemented the knowledge to increase their income levels

I. Introduction

Extension education is a applied behavioral science the knowledge of which is applied to bring about desirable changes in the behavioural complex of human beings usually through various strategies and programmes of change and by applying the latest scientific and technological innovations. The dissemination of useful and practical information relating to agriculture to enable farmers farm more efficiently to increase incomes. The practical application of useful knowledge to farm and home. It encourage farmers to grow their own food, eat well and live well. It also helps rural, people appreciate opportunities, beauties, and privileges of rural life and the world around them promoting better social, cultural recreational, intellectual and spiritual life among rural people. It develops citizens proud of their occupation, independent in thinking constructive in outlook, capable, efficient self-reliant and patriotic. And the main objective is to improve all aspects of the life of the rural people within the framework of the nation's socio-economic policies.

The Extension Education Institute, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad established in 1962, is a premier regional institute for training middle level extension personnel in Southern India financed by the Directorate of Extension, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the administrative control of ANGR Agricultural University (ANGRAU). Extension Education Institute (EEI) has emerged as one of the India's four Regional training institutes for extension education, to a notable premier training provider in Southern India with efficient, reliable and cost effective solutions to meet the emerging challenges in agriculture and allied sectors within a span of half a century. EEI designs and fine tunes need based training programme for the line department officials of its client states that enable to capitalize on their strengths and work towards facing the current challenges in the respective fields. As a part of training programme it EEI has given training to farmers on Organic farming

II. Organic Farming

Organic farming is a form of agriculture that relies on techniques such as crop rotation, green manure, compost, and biological pest control. Depending on whose definition is used, organic farming uses fertilizers and pesticides (which include herbicides, insecticides and fungicides) if they are considered natural (such as bone meal from animals or pyrethrin from flowers), but it excludes or strictly limits the use of various methods (including synthetic petrochemical fertilizers and pesticides; plant growth regulators such as hormones; antibiotic use in livestock; genetically modified organisms; human sewage sludge; and nanomaterials.^[2]) for reasons including sustainability, openness, independence, health, and safety.

Organic farming methods combine scientific knowledge of ecology and modern technology with traditional farming practices based on naturally occurring biological processes. Organic farming methods are studied in the field of agroecology. While conventional agriculture uses synthetic pesticides and water-soluble synthetically purified fertilizers, organic farmers are restricted by regulations to using natural pesticides and fertilizers. The principal methods of organic farming include crop rotation, green manures and compost, biological pest control, and mechanical cultivation. These measures use the natural environment to enhance agricultural productivity: legumes are planted to fix nitrogen into the soil, natural insect predators are encouraged, crops are rotated to confuse pests and renew soil, and natural materials such

as potassium bicarbonate and mulches are used to control disease and weeds. Hardier plants are generated through plant breeding rather than genetic engineering.

Success Stories Of Andhra Pradesh Farmers Who Received Eei Training

Case Study 1

A field visit was made to a farmer's field of Nachugunta village, Unguturu, mandal, west Godavari district. The farmer Mr. B.RamaKrishna Raju is practicing organic farming in 25 to 30 acres of his land in the crops paddy and green gram. The farmer acknowledged the name of Shri L.B.V. Sathyanarayana, Asst Director of Agriculture, Bhimavaram of West Godavari.



The farmer is guided to use pheromones, fluorescence, Panchagavya, jeevamruth, beejamruth and chaturgavya, vermicompost, Nadep compost. He is also raising green manuring compost and green manuring crops. His land. His total land has completely become organic. It was observed that there were 4 to 5 earth worms per cu ft of soil. The farmer is selling organic rice one kg @ Rs 50/- and is getting an income of Rs 20000 to 25000 additional income on organic rice. He is an inspiration to the neighbouring farmers also. The farmer also got organic farming certification under conversion for the third year. The farmer had 35 deshi cows and is preparing medicines from deshi cow urine and is selling. The farmer is appreciating the encouragement given by the ADA and in turn Mr.Sathyanarayan appreciated the efforts of EEI behind his success. He informed that he was enlightened on various aspects of organic farming after attending a workshop at EEI on “**Advances in Organic farming**”.

Case Study 2

Mr.V.Manohar Reddy, resident of Gangadevipally, Thondur mandal, YSR district was successful in his venture on mini dairy. He was inspired by the support provided by Dr. N.Venugopal Reddy, VAS, Thondur.



The farmer was advised by the VAS, to start a mini dairy in view of his interest. The farmer had 5+5 buffaloes with him which yields 40 ltrs per day. His monthly net income is Rs 23000/- @ Rs 30 per litre. He is following organic farming methods for milk production. B.RamaKrishna Raju appreciated the efforts of Dr. N.Venugopal Reddy, VAS and acknowledged him as the man behind his success. He claimed that all the technical support for the mini dairy related to the clean milk production, fodder cultivation, treatment, vaccination was taken care of by the doctor says Mr. Manohar Reddy, Thondur. Dr.Venugopal Reddy informed that he was highly influenced by EEI during the training programme “**Emerging challenges in Animal Husbandry in the wake of WTO**”

Case Study 3:

Sri Pendyala Upender Rao , S/o RangaRao of China Pendyal (V),Station Ghanapur(m) is growing paddy in 7 acres of land. In view of the problems such as labour shortage and high labour wages Smt. D.Usha ,ADA ,who attended training programme at EEI, Rajendranagar encouraged him to use farm implements. The farmer is using the drum seeder to sow paddy, thus he saved Rs.2850/- per acre and Rs.19950 /- in seven acres and also he got an income of Rs.3200/- for hiring out the drum seeder to his neighboring farmers. @ Rs.200/- per day.



Case Study 4:

Sri Gummadi Rajender Rao s/o Dasarath is a resident of Srimannarayana Puram(v),Raghunadhapalli(m) is growing paddy , tomato, brinjal, bhendi, mango, banana, jasmine in ten acres of land. He also has four buffaloes and one cow. He is getting 32 litres of milk per day .He is getting an income of Rs.28800/- per month. He established two vermi hatcheries ,he is using cow dung and crop residues in vermi compost preparation . He is using vermi compost in his farm and selling the left over vermi compost, each 50kgs bag @rate of Rs.150/- He is getting two lakh rupees per hatchery. In addition to that he is getting Rs.10000/- per month by hiring out the tractor to other works. He motivated the fellow farmers to form into RMG's in Raghunadhapalli and neighbouring villages. Through RMG they got a Seed cum fertilizer drill on 100% subsidy from Department of Agriculture and they are using it on custom hiring basis . Ms.D.Usha, ADA, Mrs .Usha was motivated after attending the work shop at EEI on “**farm mechanization**” and thus encouraged and motivated the farmers by providing necessary guidance & technical support, forward and backward linkages in starting the integrated farming.



III. Conclusion

There is every need to take follow up activities to find out the utility of knowledge and skills learnt in the field situation or in the organizations. Analysis of reasons for non-utilization of knowledge and skills acquired by the participants will help to provide reinforcement for application as well as refining training programmes. The feed back obtained from the follow up visit taken up in Andhra Pradesh gave several valid suggestions for improvement.

References

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