

Title of success story

Title : “Improved Snake gourd cultivation in Pandal system”

Name of the Farmer : C.Selvaraj, S/o. Chinnakkannu
Kodayankuppam, Mavalapadi post,
Vandavasi Taluk,
Thiruvannamalai district
Mobile No. 9944006819

Background

Shri Selvaraj S/o. Chinnakkannu aged 47, is a farmers’ club volunteer and contact farmer of KVK in Kodayankuppam village of Vandavasi taluk. He owns 4 acres of land and cultivates mainly pandal vegetable crops such as snake gourd, bitter gourd. He used to adopt conventional crop production technologies, as a result the net returns per unit area has started declining due to higher cost of cultivation. It was during that time in 2013 when KVK selected his village as operational village and he was chosen as a beneficiary for the technological interventions.

Intervention process

He was interested in social work from the beginning and effectively associated in all the activities of KVK in the village, he is also a chief volunteer of Farmers’ club of Kodayankuppam village funded by NABARD. He was one of the successful beneficiaries to undergo training on precision farming in cucurbits and other pandal vegetable related trainings conducted by KVK. The trainings strengthened his knowledge and confidence.



Intervention technology

During the year 2013-14, Mr.Selvaraj cultivated CO2 variety of snake gourd in one acre of his land. With the technical back up of KVK scientists, he adopted new technologies viz., Integrated Plant Nutrition system, IPM with major emphasis on pheromone traps, yellow sticky trays, foliar nutrition, sex regulation in snake gourd cultivation.

As a result of adoption of improved technologies, better resource use efficiency and compatibility with good market demand, he obtained a bumper yield of 443.60 q/ha. This was 34.07 % higher as compared to yields obtained by other farmers in the locality.

Impact of horizontal spread

By seeing the bumper harvest and economic return obtained by Mr.C.Selvaraj, other farmers in the village and locality have started cultivating cucurbits in pandal system. At present 250 acres of land area is under the cucurbits cultivation in the village and it is expected to increase further.

Impact of economic gains

He obtained an income of Rs. 5,32,350/- per hectare during the year 2014 in snake gourd cultivation. The net return was 2,79,070 per hectare. By seeing the economic benefit reaped by this farmer, other farmers in the locality started adopting the new technologies adopted by Mr.C.Selvaraj.

Impact of employment Generation

The farmers in the Kondayankuppam village have started cultivating cucurbits on large scale by seeing the economic return obtained by Mr.C.Selvaraj, an innovative farmer of the village. As a result, 475 man days of additional employment is generated for each hectare increase in area.