

## Oyster Mushroom Cultivation

Mr.S.Selvakumar aged 33 from Abdhulapuram village Vembakkam block. He is a landless labour and works as a casual labour at Cheyyar SIPCOT and depends majorly on seasonal enterprise. As a result he is not satisfied with his irregular income for meet out his family needs. He wants to get additional income by doing additional regular enterprise and with his intension he attended KVK's training on "Oyster mushroom cultivation" during September 2012.



After drawing inspiration from the training, he started cultivation of oyster mushroom in small scale. Due to the better quality and market demand, he erected one new thatched shed near his house. The size of the unit is 6' X 20' and made a temporary separation by coconut leaves mat.

He regulates the units in following ways good quality of raw materials to be used, processing of straw, bed preparation, maintenance of beds, shed temperature maintenance and humidity, controlling of pests and diseases and harvesting methods.



He adopted systematic cyclic production of beds. Now, he supplies regularly to hotels, super markets, bakery, vegetable shop etc., the price of one Kilo gram mushroom I Rs.150/-. The average production capacity of the unit is 5 kg per day. He is earning an amount Rs.13000/- per month as net income from his small unit.

Mr.Selvakumar regularly visits the KVK and updates his knowledge in the newer aspects of cultivation in terms of cost reduction and maintenance of the unit.