

Seed production in Blackgram

Name of the Farmer : **Mr. C.Selvaraj**
S/o. Chinnakkannu
Kodayankuppam,
Mavalapadi (P.O), Vandavasi (T.k),
Thiruvannamalai District–635 703.
Mobile No: 9944006819.

Background

Mr.C. Selvaraj, aged 48, is a farmer's club member and contact farmer of KVK in Kodayankuppam village of vandavasi taluk. He owns 5 acres of land and cultivates mainly Paddy, Groundnut, Blackgram, Greengram, Bittergourd, Snakegourd, Brinjal and Chillies. He used to cultivate locally available blackgram seed with conventional practices. As a result, there is a total failure of the crop for two years consecutively and the return per unit area has drastically reduced. It was during that time of 2014 when KVK selected his village as operational area and he was chosen as a beneficiary for the technological intervention.

Intervention process

Our KVK scientist had a detailed focus group discussion about the village and analysed their problems. After a detailed field assessment, it was concluded that, most of the farmers are growing with very old variety, use of their own seed with poor management practices are the primary reason for the total loss.

Intervention technology

During the kharif 2013-14 and rabi 2014-15, the blackgram VBN-6 was demonstrated in this village with an extend of four hectare each. Among them Mr.C.Selvaraj also one of the beneficiary. Besides, he showed keen interest in adopting the new technologies. With the technical back up of KVK scientist, he laid the demonstration with new technolgies viz., VBN-6 seed, bio fertilizer and bio agents applciation, foliar spray of pulse wonder, soil test based nutrient application and proper weed management in blackgram cultivation.

As a result of adoption of new variety with new technologies, he obtain a better yield of 9.83 Q/ha. This was 37.04 percent higher as compare to yield

obtained during the previous year and other varieties. In addition to that, he was observed that significant cost reduction in plant protection measures.

Impact on horizontal spread

Since the farmer is also an active president of farmers club, he motivated the fellow farmers of the club to cultivate the variety. So far, he produced the blackgram VBN-6 seed and supply to 29 village farmer, which covered four districts and fetched high return when compared to grain price.

Impact on economic gains

He obtained an average net income of Rs. 78750.00 per hectare during the past two seasons. He is selling the seed at a cost of Rs. 150/kg. By seeing the economic benefit of this farmer, others also come forward to adopt the new technology and register them for seed production.

Conclusion

The farmer is well known seed supplier to the neighboring villages, which resulted in enhance the socio economic status of this family. Besides, he motivated the club members and involved them in seed production for other crops viz., greengram and paddy.