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Organic Farming: The Need of the Hour

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ABSTRACT

India has been practising organic farming method from olden days, but due to the invasion of modern technologies and industrialisation along with overpopulation the trend of organic farming slowly began to decline and met a huge loss to mankind. The effect was some deadlier and degenerative diseases. The use of large amount of pesticides and fertilizers for over growth of food grains and to yield a good income within a limited time, people ran behind modern farming methods where they were gifted with incurable diseases such as cancer. This article explains the need and importance of organic farming

Key Words: Farmers, Manures, Pesticides, Fertilizers, Organic Farming

INTRODUCTION

Modern agriculture has completely excluded the “emotional” part of farming where the love and communication between humans and plants are of great importance. Agriculture has become a form of mechanics, where you deal with life as if it were inanimate (Youngsang Cho, 2016)

India’s backbone is purely based on agriculture and it is the top most producers of many crops including wheat, rice, fruits, vegetables and milk. Here in India even though the country is gifted with surplus of land and varied climate for farming, farmers in some areas face problems in lack of organic manure and inadequate storage facilities.

Due to lack of organic manures farmers tend to use pesticides for good yield; at the same time these pesticides make the soil to lose its fertility. These are harmful to the crop as well as to humans. Considering the effect of artificial fertilizers, Sikkim became the first state to be the organic foods producing state. Now most of all the Indian states have started producing organic foods.

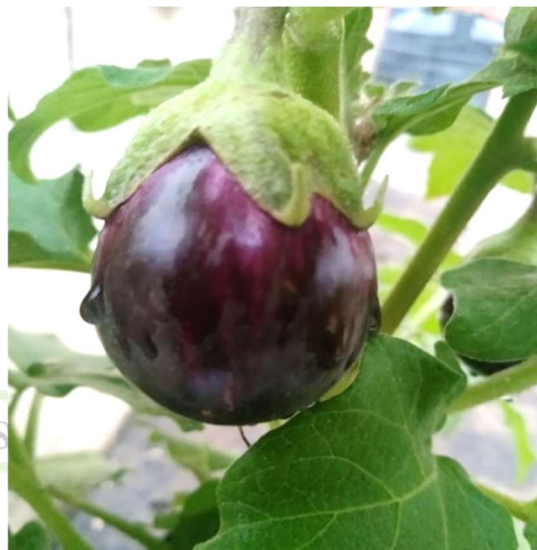
Organic farming in India represents one positive step toward reforming industrial agriculture and ensuring a healthier, more sustainable future for all of us, producers and consumers around the world alike (Sapna E Thottathil, 2014)

DEFINITION

Organic farming is a technique of farming method avoiding pesticides and fertilizers which are chemical oriented and using only manures which are naturally obtained, decomposed easier and keep the fertility of the soil.



Mint



Brinjal (Oval)



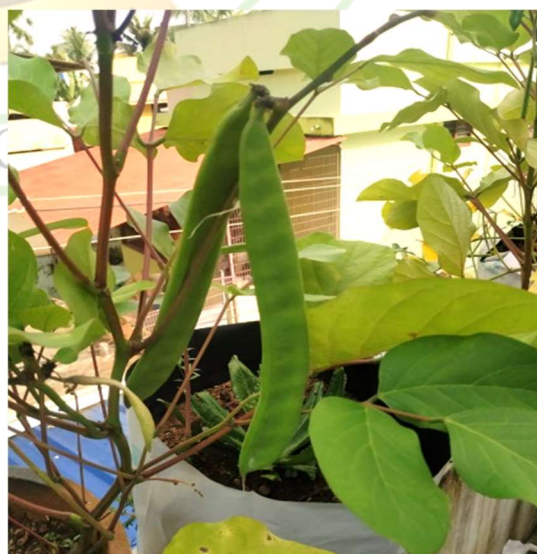
Ladies finger



Gourd



Green Chillies



Beans



Passion Fruit



Tomatoes



Green Chillies (Small)



Capsicum



Brinjal (Cylindrical)



Spinach

DIFFERENT KINDS OF MANURES USED IN ORGANIC FARMING

LIVESTOCK MANURE:

Every farmer has their own animal husbandry in their farm. Livestock include cows, buffaloes, goats, sheeps, and poultry. They yield milk, meat and egg which can be used as food. At the same time the excreta produced by the livestock can be made in to good organic manure for the growth of plants to yield good variety of fruits and grains.

GREEN MANURE:

Green manure is the manure prepared by the leaves and sticks of certain medicinal plants like neem, tulsi, etc., .These get decompose itself and after a week these are collected and spread to the farming area to kill insects and pets.

VERMICOMPOST MANURE:

It has been estimated that the average earthworm population is 50,000 per acre (4000 square metres). As earthworms are killed off by various fungicides, pesticides, herbicides, soil fumigants and unsuitable conditions created by synthetic fertilizers that acidify soil, earthworm numbers would be greatly reduced on most cultivated land today (Lyn Bagnall, 2009).

Vermicomposting is a method of preparing manure using earth worm. These earthworms eat the manures and expel their excreta as vermicasts which are rich in minerals and these minerals have the quality of enhancing the soil.

ADVANTAGES OF ORGANIC FARMING

1. Organic farming is economical when compared to other types of farming method, since cow dung, green manure, livestock manure, dry leaves, vermicomposting are used as fertilizers.

Farmers who are interested in organic farming never use fertilizers

2. Food items produced through organic farming methods ranks for a first options because they are more nutritious, tasty and healthier
3. In organic farming no genetically modified crops are encouraged
4. Since cultivated naturally without using artificial, chemical fertilizers and pesticides they have a high demand in market. Organic farmers like to sell their products with organic label and to know that consumers can buy their food as organic far too often they have to sell their products in the conventional market quite often. This means that they get a higher price (Jon Newton, 2004)
5. Most people hailing from villages and even in cities prefer foods grown in organic farming rather than modern farming
6. It acts as a source of income generation to farmers
7. Organic farming method of cultivation never harms the soil and the environment. They keep the purity of the soil.

CONCLUSION:

Organic farming provides safety from farm to plate due to its healthier and nutritious choices. The fame of organic foods is being highlighted day by day in every moment of life. People all over the world prefer organic foods if available at their end. Let's work together focusing in organic food and make the world a better place to live in.

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