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A Village Success Story on Dry sowing in paddy

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Introduction

Kalupur is a Village in Makthal Mandal of Narayanpet District of Telangana State, India. It belongs to Telangana region. It is located 35 KM from District headquarters Narayanpet. The gross cropped area around 1200 acres under which more than 900 acres area is cultivated Rice under rainfed condition. Shortage and timely non availability of labour during season is the biggest problem in this village. In this situation the farmers from Kalupur has taken an initiative to address this problem and adopted dry sowing technology in Paddy in 600 acres as per the advisories given by DAATT Center Mahabubnagar.

Problem:

Rice is a labor-intensive crop which requires a greater number of man days from the beginning of the cultivation i.e from nursery raising to till harvest. Among different activities in Rice cultivation, nursery raising and transplantation are the important and critical activities which consume more labour and water. This situation leads to delayed transplanting, over aged seedlings, no uniform plant population, delayed intercultural operations etc., there by increased cost of cultivation. In this situation direct sowing technology in Rice was found to be appropriate solution to Rice farmers in mitigating labour shortage, reducing time and input cost.

Technology interventions - intervention details and economics involved:

Rice farming is more water efficient using Direct Seeded Rice (DSR). DSR Technology, one of the oldest crop establishment systems, has a low input need. The traditional rice production system has a number of issues, including a declining water table, a paucity of labour for transplanting during peak seasons, and poor soil health. DAATTC, Mahabubnagar scientists and Department of Agriculture conducted several awareness programmes and wide publicity. The land was ploughed with M.B. Plough, followed by running cultivator followed by rotavator once. The farmer used the paddy variety RNR-15048 and sown the paddy by Direct seeding with seed drill at a seed rate of 12 kg/acre. Up to 30 days the farmer gave need-based irrigations to the crop by maintaining soil at saturation capacity. After 30 days the crop was converted to submerged condition by maintaining 2-5 cms of water. The farmer applied recommended dose of fertilizer. The basal dose of fertilizer was applied with seed cum ferti drill at the time of sowing. Although weed problem is the major challenge in Dry DSR technology, the farmer said that he followed the weed control measures in time i.e. especially to control the post emergent weeds which is a serious problem to control the farmer sprayed Phenoxulam 2.7% + + Cyhalofop – Butyl 5.1% 800 ml for two hundred litres of water and Counsil Activ (Triafamone+ithoxysulfuron)@ 90 g/acre at 25-40 days stage was sprayed for one acre by taking suggestions from scientists of DAATTC, Mahabubnagar and

Department of Agriculture With this they had controlled the weed effectively.

Impact of intervention: The farmers said that they could save the labour cost in sowing to an extent of 5100/- as compared to conventional method.

Testimonial from farmer: The farmers said that, by using this method the field is also pest free and sprayed the pesticide only once when compared to the previous year.

Photographs

	
Awareness programme on dry sowing in Paddy	**Field exposure visit to farmers in dry sowing paddy field**
	
Fields visit	***Fields visit***