

A successful model for farm enterprise promotion

Name: Mr. Mujiber Rehaman Khan
S/O- Hidyat Khan
Village: Sahidabad
Block: Bhadrak
District: Bhadrak
Mobile No. :9238571939 Age: 52 years
Educational Qualification: BSc. Chemistry
No. of family members: 6
Resources owned by Farmer: 15 acre
cultivable land and 2 Ponds (0.40 ha)

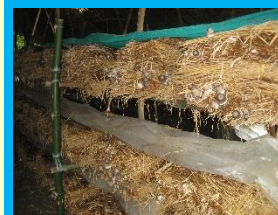


Background

In the present agriculture many farmers have accepted mushroom cultivation as their livelihood because of diminishing per capital land holding. Many of them also take up mushroom cultivation as an enterprise providing income opportunity for self as well few more numbers working in the unit, but the case of Mr. Kahn is different. He is less a farmer rather, can be branded as a farmer promoter. This seasoned Mushroom grower had started the activity 18 years back, when he was at the age of 25 years. At that time, he was searching for an occupation leaving his father's traditional paddy cultivation. He came across a mushroom entrepreneur Mr. Bichitrananda Mohanty, Balasore. Out of curiosity he visited his farm, interacted with him. Just to try out the enterprise, he started paddy straw mushroom cultivation in his backyard. With that beginning he never looked back. Utilizing his own available resources like land & raw material (paddy straw), he has taken the activity to an enterprises level.

KVK Intervention

With the continuing activity he had taken training on Mushroom Cultivation from CTMRT, Bhubaneswar in 1991 and always had a link with the eminent Mushroom Scientist Dr. Adaita Kumar Patra., OUAT Bhubaneswar. Limitations of lack of scope for continuing the enterprise round the year as well as occasional problems in availability of quality spawn did not allowed him to upscale the activity. During 2005-06, KVK Scientists came across the person. Observing his interest & potentialities KVK Scientists motivated him to expand the activity. He was trained on commercial mushroom production, value addition of mushroom, Use of poly house for off-season paddy straw mushroom production from KVK and his small farm problems were sorted out through regular visit to his farm. As on date he puts 25 beds daily & have a daily production of 30-35 kg of Mushroom form his own farm. In between with handholding from KVK. Mr. Khan had started to fetch spawn from BBSR and distributed to farmers he motivated for and again buy back mushroom and market them for some profit. KVK motivated him to do this professionally with technical support to those upcoming growers. As on date he has a network of 100-120farmers spread over all the seven blocks of this district. Without hesitation this can be well said that he is the farmer who initiated, promoted and established the enterprise in the district. KVK has always been a support of technology to Mr. Khan and his group. With development of technology on "use of low cost poly house for paddy straw Mushroom cultivation in winter" is being grown in the district throughout the year. Mr. Khan has done it successfully. After formation of mushroom grower Association with the support of KVK, on 2nd October 2010, Mr. Khan has been selected as president of "Salandi Mushroom grower. Association". This association under his leadership has become instrumental in maintaining linkages with Line department, financial institutions & KVK



Output

Mr. Khan himself putting 25 beds daily & producing 30-35kg mushroom & receiving 40-50 kg mushroom from other farmers for marketing. He also is supplying 150-200numbers of spawn to 100-120 farm families. He earn Rs.2,55,500/- from his mushroom production unit, Rs 1,09,500/- from spawn selling & Rs. 73,000/- from contact mushroom selling with total net income of Rs.4,38,000/- annually. Mr. Khan disseminating mushroom production technology to 100-120farm families covering 30 villages in 6 blocks of Bhadrak district & providing spawn to them.

