

A CASE STUDY ON MIXED CROPPING

Farmer's name:- Mahadev Hansda
Age:-58 years
Number of family members:-4 adults
Address:- Village- Mahulbana, P.O.- Lara,
P. S.- Kashipur
Area of cultivable Land:- 1 Bigha
Time of cultivation:- Pre Kharif season



He was already inspired to do organic farming. After getting training on capacity building and on agriculture from DRCS he has incorporated the mixed cropping process in his farming. He started vegetable cultivation commercially following mixed cropping since two years.

He has a piece of land of 1 bigha in which he has cultivated Sesame and Mung in 7 Katha area and in rest of the land (13 Katha) he has cultivated vegetables like cucumber, pumpkin, cowpea, gourd and ridge gourd. Thus, mixed cropping has been done successfully in the piece of land in this pre kharif season. He has only used cow- dung as organic fertilizer to increase the productivity of the land and gomutra (cow- urine), amritpani as insecticides. The source of water for the irrigation process of the land is a Hapa.

Production: Mung and sesame cropping has already been completed. He has sold 27 kg of sesame and 10 kg of mung in the market. In a season from this mixed cropping cultivation process he is able to get a good amount of profit.

Expenditure:

Item	Expenditure (in Rupees)
Cow- Dung	150 (30 baskets)
Seed	400 (2kg Mung of Rs. 300 and 1kg Sesame of Rs. 100) 500 (rest of the seeds)
Labour (own contribution)	1800 (12labours)
Total	2850

Income:

Name of the Product	Total Production (in Kg)	Income (total production* Selling rate per kg in rupees)

Sesame	27 kg	27* 100= 2700
Mung	10 kg	10* 150= 1500
Cowpea	250 kg	250* 20= 5000
Cucumber	80 kg	80* 22= 1760
Pumpkin	65 kg	65*20= 1300
Bitter gourd	50 kg	50*40=2000
Ridge gourd	70 kg	70* 20= 1400
Leafy green vegetables	50 kg	50*10= 500
Total		16160

Till now in this pre kharif season his total profit from the mixed cropping is of Rs. (16160-2850) = Rs. 13310. The vegetables are generally consumed by the family and the excess production is sold in the market. Irrigation is a problem due to irregular rainfall as stated by the farmer.

Remarks:-

Previously he used to cultivate mustard seed in the whole piece of land. But after the intervention of DRCSC he started to practice mixed cropping as it decreases the risk of monocropping. Varieties of chemical free vegetables can be cultivated throughout the year. Quality of soil and space management also improved in the process. All these reflect in the profit- making scenario. After fulfilling the need of vegetables in his own family he used to sell the excess production in the market. The intervention has helped Mahadev Hansda to improve his agricultural practices to a greater extent.