

Fortune of the farmer changed with transition from Mono cropping to Multiple cropping

Sri. Y. Naga Lakshmi Reddy, aged 45 years is a resident of H.Kottala village (Bethamcherla mandal, Nandyal district.) and a Big farmer with 5.6 ha of land under farming with bore well irrigation. He used to cultivate Redgram and Groundnut crops in his total land of 5.6 ha as rainfed Kharif crop for the past 10 years. He drilled two bore wells in his field during 2018-19 and got good water (2.5 inches). From then onwards, he thought of diversifying crops and approached KVK for better planning of crops. KVK scientists suggested him to take up Redgram, Groundnut, Chillis, Onion and some vegetables and flower crops as a mix or in sequence.

Technological interventions recommended by KVK :

In Redgram, high yielding, variety LRG 52 and LRG 41 were recommended with IPM for Maruca and Pod fly which were hampering the yields in recent times in that area. Also recommended to take up seed treatment and soil application of Trichoderma towards management of wilt disease.

In Groundnut crop, new high yielding variety Kadiri Lepakshi was introduced during 2018 which is of about 120 days duration. IPDM for spodoptera and Leaf spots were also suggested to manage these recurring problems in groundnut in that area. Also suggested to go for mechanized metered seed drill for this variety, as it requires more spacing.

In Dry Chillis, raising seedlings and transplanting is recommended over popular practice of direct seeding in that area. IPM is stressed for viral disease complex management with seed treatment, border crops, trap crops, sticky pads, prophylactic spray of Neem and Pongam oil based botanicals, use of bio pesticides viz. Beauveria and Verticillium and finally need based chemical pesticides. All the bio rational products were supplied through KVK.

In Onion, high yielding varieties released by NHRDF viz., ALR for Kharif and Red 4 for Rabi are recommended with ICM package. Seed treatment and Soil application of Trichoderma is recommended for managing bulb rots and installation of Sticky traps and use of Neem oil and Stickers in pesticide sprays suggested for effective management of thrips, the prime problem of onion production. Frequent use of Pseudomonas along with sticker is suggested for better management of Purple blotch, Twister blight and Stemphylium blight. Need based chemical pesticide sprays recommended for managing the problems if they exceed the ETL.

Vegetables like Dolichos bean and Beet root and flower crops like marigold were also suggested as alternate crops for Rabi under irrigation facilities available for better income. Other better technologies like Green manuring, application of bio enriched compost, Micro irrigation, Fertigation, Mulching, Raised Bed method etc. were promoted in all possible crops he undertook.

Crop based advisory is being given to the farmer through Mobile Short Messaging at frequent intervals. Hand holding support is extended by KVK wherever needed for quick redressal of the field problems through direct field visits and social media.

Details of yield and economics

Crop	Before Intervention (2016-17)				After Intervention (2021-22)				% Increase over base	
	Area (ac)	Production (Q)	Gross Income (Rs.)	Net income (Rs.)	Area (ac)	Production (Q)	Gross Income (Rs.)	Net income (Rs.)	Production	Income
Redgram	10	55	247500	137500	8	60	354000	246000	9.1	78.9
Groundnut	4	36	144000	74000	2	26	132600	77600	-27.7	4.9
Chillis	-	-	-	-	2	54	702000	462000	-	-
Onion	-	-	-	-	2.0	210	378000	238000	-	-
Dolichos	-	-	-	-	1	51.64	118790	97364	-	-
Marigold	-	-	-	-	2.5	128	384000	135000	-	-
	14			211500	17			1255964	-	493.8



Conclusion : The farmer after adopting multiple cropping system in his field, with efficient utilization of all the resources could able to get an income of Rs.12,55,964/- during 2021-22 which is 438.4% more than his base year net income i.e Rs. 2,11,500/- when he was growing only 2 crops in his field without bore well. Thus, the interventions and handholding support by KVK helped the farmer to realize his dreams of getting handsome income from his farm land.