

Reaping a Good Harvest with Improved techniques – Story of Mr.Bhonu Maurya, Vegetable Farmer, Varanasi

Mr.Bhonu Maurya s/o Mr.Heeralal, a marginal farmer of Tikri village of Kashi Vidhyapeeth block, Varanasi district used to cultivate bottle guard every year in my farm. He used to get 45-55 Quintals of bottle guard in half-acre land by following traditional method of farming.



After being acquainted with NAF through trainings programs, he was able to gain knowledge on improved techniques of farming and was impressed with the information and recommendations being offered to the farmers in his village. They provided information about the various technical methods of farming and gave recommendations about increasing the production as well as profit, hence he decided to take these suggestions and implement it in his vegetable farm.

He established a demo plot in 75% of his land and retained the 25% as control plot, on which he continued using his traditional farming knowledge. NAF had encouraged him to undertake the comprehensive soil analysis for his demo plot through which he came to know of the lack of various nutrients in his land and was given recommendations to improve the soil fertility through application of micro nutrients in specific amounts. Earlier, he used to apply nutrient mixtures indiscriminately without having a proper understanding of this process. NAF established pheromone trap and yellow sticky trap in the demonstration plot; this ultimately reduced the usage of pesticides. The cost of pesticides and insecticides used in the demo plot was INR 1,235 where as in 25% control plot it was INR 420.

His demo plot was frequently visited by NAF Agro experts and regular advice and recommendation was provided periodically. He was also given Panchagavyam to spray and attributes this to increasing the production of bottle gourd crop in his farm.

Once my bottle gourd fruits had started dropping, NAF experts advised to undertake hand pollination, a method he has employed for the first time in his farm.

He received an abundant yield at the time of harvest to the tune of 5625 kg of bottle guard from demo plot with the input cost of INR 23,620 rupees and 1437 kg of bottle guard with input cost of INR 7,312 from 25% of control plot.

“The income I got after selling the demo produce is INR1,12,500 and INR 28,750 from control plot. Overall, I generated a profit of INR 88,880 from demo plot and INR 21,438 rupees from control plot. I got 30% increase in yield and 38% increase in profit in demo plot when compared to control plot. In conclusion, I found that agricultural crop improvement technologies are very beneficial for farmers and surely, they will increase the yield and profit by good margin. I am very thankful to National Agro Foundation for their remarkable work for the farmers in my community and village”.