

INNOVATION OF FARMER IN HAVERI DISTRICT

Compiled by: KVK, Haveri

COCCINIA - A NATURAL SHADE FOR VERMICOMPOST PIT

a. Description of innovation

Farmer is practicing agriculture in 1.5 acres of land by growing crops like cotton, maize, redgram, horsegram from past 4 years. Available land of about 10 guntas adjacent to his house is utilized efficiently by using IFS concept. In which he is growing coconut and drumstick as border crops and rearing two cows, 20 giriraja birds along with four vermicompost pits (40'x8'). Vermicompost pits are provided with natural shade by growing three Coccinia plants in the vermicompost pit itself. Among the three one is grown at the centre and two on either sides of the vermicompost pits. Plants are placed in such a way that they can be easily detached while collecting the vermicompost and are replaced without harming the plant root system. With these three plants farmer is earning an amount of Rs. 500/- per week by selling 40-45 kg Coccinia. It gives continuous weekly income for 4 – 5 years without any additional expenditure and also adds one quintal of leaf as raw material for vermicompost. To train the Coccinia plants cement pillars are raised on the pits for which thatching is done with 2'' width GI wire.

(II) PROBLEM STATEMENT

a. Nature and intensity of the problem addressed :

Farmer has discussed and observed the activities of vermicomposting practices with fellow farmers and has come to a conclusion of facing the following problems by using asbestos and other thatching materials for shade.

- Asbestos sheets were not advantageous during windy days
- Temperature and aeration was not congenial for vermicompost production with the use of asbestos sheets.
- Thatching material used other than asbestos sheets require frequent change and repair as they get mutilated.
- Investment was more on thatching material.

b. Genesis of idea : Self

c. Sources of information relevant to the innovation : Nil

d. Original innovation or modification of any existing technology : Original innovation

(III) PROCESS OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

- a. **Conceptualization of idea:** Thatching material purchased from the market is costly and doesn't yield any economic benefit.
- b. **Scientific rationale about the innovation:** Eco friendly, easily adoptable, environmentally and economically sustainable
- c. **Experimentation / trial conducted:** Trials are conducted since June 2007
- d. **Technical support during the experimentation period:** Nil
- e. **Supporting data for the innovation:** Nil
- f. **Any resource mobilization from outside for the development of innovation:** Nil
- g. **Relative advantages of innovation :**
 - **Adoptability** -Easily adoptable as it doesn't require any special skill/ investment and management.
 - **Eco friendliness** – Natural source of shade and mutually depending.
 - **Sustainability** - Plant sustains for minimum of 4-5 years.
 - **Gender friendliness** – People of any age / any gender can take up the activity.
 - **Economic viability** – Zero investment with maximum benefit.
 - **Benefit Cost ratio** – Vermicompost pit along with coccinia plants as a unit, farmer is getting Rs. 3/- benefit for every Rs. 1/- invested.

(IV) REPLICATION AND PROMOTION

- a. **Horizontal spread of innovation and No. of farmers adopting :** About 10 farmers from different villages like Biranakoppa, Siddapura, Hirehalli, Chikkerur have adopted the same technology and expressed satisfaction regarding adoption of the same.
- b. **Socio-economic implications:** The innovation made by the farmer has improved his socio economic status with the help of publicity through University of Agricultural Sciences, Krishi Vigyana Kendra, State departments and mass media. The economic status of the farm family has been benefited by the additional income.
- c. **Presentation of innovation in scientific forums :** Farmer has presented his innovation in many scientific forums of horticulture department, Raitha Samparka Kendra, Krishi mela and district level seminar / workshops.
- d. **Publication on the innovation in farm journals :** Nil
- e. **Media coverage of the innovation – TV, newspaper, radio talk, etc.:** News papers like Kannada prabha and Kourava have covered his success story in their

dailies. He has participated two times in All India radio programmes for sharing his innovation. E TV Kannada has also telecasted his innovation in their programmes.

f. Display of innovation in exhibitions/kissan melas etc : Nil

g. Income generated out of this innovation by the innovator : Farmer is earning approximately Rs. 500/- per week by selling coccinia which accounts to Rs. 8000-10000/- in a year in addition to the income earned through the sale of worms (Rs. 20,000 -25,000/- @ Rs. 200/- per kg) and vermicompost (Rs. 40,000-50,000/- @ Rs. 300/- per quintal)

h. Feedback from farmers and other agencies: Farmers who have adopted and following the technology are satisfied.

(V) RECOGNITION:

- a. **Institutional acceptance of the innovation :** Nil
- b. **Recognition in the form of Honours/certificates/awards etc :** Received a certificate for participating in the programme of “farmers to farmers” in Krishi Mela of 2007.

(VI) SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- a. **Action photographs:** Enclosed
- b. **Printed material/electronic materials like CD, video clipping etc.:** Nil
- c. **Copy of certificate of honour:** Enclosed

(VII) PROFILE OF FARMER :

- a. **Photograph of the farmer:** Enclosed
- b. **Name and address :** Sri. Hemanna Barangi
Hireanaji “At post”
Byadgi Taluk, Haveri District
- c. **Phone number:** 9008533873
- d. **Age(as on March 31, 2010) :** 40 years
- e. **Educational qualification :** Illiterate
- f. **Landholding :** 0.6 ha
- g. **Farming experience :** 4 years
- h. **Name of crops/livestock/ other enterprises adopted by the innovator:** Cotton, maize, redgram, horsegram, coconut and drumstick, two cows, 20 giriraja birds
- i. **Social recognition :** Member of Savayava Krishi Parivar



