

(53) Green Gold: unleashing prosperity through organic input sales

Story of Shri Govind Prataprao Deshmukh from Washim district of Maharashtra

Background

Shri Govind Prataprao Deshmukh is a farmer from Washim district. Since 2015, he is actively involved with various activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) to have profitable farming. However, his farming journey has been marked by numerous challenges, including low crop yields and poor level of income. In spite of these challenges, unwavering commitment of Shri Govind to farming helped him overcome these obstacles.



Training & Motivation

In a quest to overcome the challenges faced, Shri Deshmukh enrolled for a skill based training program on Organic Farming conducted during 5 – 11 January 2023 by KVK under the STRY. The program proved to be a game-changer for him as he was introduced to the concept of organic farming and various benefits offered by it. The realization that organic farming offered significantly lower production costs compared to conventional chemical farming, which he had been practicing earlier, convinced him to embrace this sustainable approach.

Socio-economic impact of program

- The implementation of the acquired skills helped Shri Deshmukh increase his annual income to over Rs. 3.0 lakhs from Rs 2.30 lakhs, utilizing the same existing resources more effectively.
- In collaboration with fellow farmers, Shri Deshmukh established the Nav Chaitannya Farmers Producer Company. Together, they make available products such as vermibed, vermiwash, vermiculture, and gokrupa culture for sale during various exhibitions organized by their FPO, thereby promoting organic farming practices.

Contribution of the program

- Shri Deshmukh embraced various techniques to enhance his organic farming practices, focusing on key areas such as vermicomposting, bulb treatment, pest management, and nutrient application.
- In order to ensure the sustainability of his farming endeavour, Shri Deshmukh implemented systematic recycling of crop residues and farm waste to maintain soil fertility. He also introduced desi cows and bullocks to his farm, utilizing their

contributions to composting and cow urine for organic farming. This helped reduce input costs and enhance soil nutrient content.

- In order to reduce reliance on external sources, Shri Deshmukh began producing his own organic inputs, including vermicompost, go kripa amrut, waste decomposer, and dashparni ark. This not only lowered expenses but also allowed him to control the quality of inputs used in his farming practices.

Awards & Recognition

Shri Deshmukh was honoured with the Innovative Farmer Award by KVK Washim on the occasion of the ICAR Foundation Day Program. Additionally, the ATMA Washim has also recognized his outstanding contributions to organic farming.



Influence on other Farmers

- By observing success of Shri Deshmukh in terms of growth in income through organic farming, many farmers have shown interest in following the same path.
- Success and dedication of Shri Deshmukh has positioned him as a trailblazer in the realm of organic farming, inspiring fellow farmers to explore environment friendly practices.



Training Coverage

The training program covered a wide range of topics related to organic farming, including the introduction and need for organic farming, its social and market aspects, the importance and preparation of organic fertilizers, microorganism management, soil composition and characteristics, integrated pest and disease management, treatment measures for seeds, seedlings, and soil, and the feasibility of relying solely on organic sources.

STRY Team

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