

COMMUNITY VEGETABLE PRODUCTION-A SUCCESS STORY

Every one is well known the success of unity. Through the unity we can achieve the goals effectively in each sector including agriculture also. This is proven by our group resides at village Rawtepada Dahanu tehsil in Thane district. Rawtepada is a small village having 20 to 30 farm families belonging tribal community. Out of that 12 families having special spiritual background. This particular farm family's lives together with the *Swadhyaya* thoughts, of Dr. Pandurang Shastri Athawale. On the basis of these spiritual thoughts they decided to form a group and trying to do that way: is only for the God. They developed group in such a manner.

In the year 2012, the KVK, Kosbad Hill was taking survey of village Rawtepada, the group leader Mr. Rama Rawte, young and enthusiastic farmer meet KVK scientist with other farmers. On the basis of their needs KVK gave training towards community vegetable production for gaining more income in short period. The group having 12 members contacts KVK regularly. Meanwhile all the members trained in vegetable cultivation.

After getting training, the group leader Mr. Rama Rawte donated own one-hectare area, which is having proper fencing and bore well irrigation facility. All these group members decided to do work with keen interest under the leadership of Rama Rawte. KVK suggested that to take cluster bean vegetable in one ha. area. This group under the guidance of KVK scientists did planning for preparation of land to harvesting and marketing.



Co working: Preparing beds for sowing of cluster bean

Rawtepada group has spiritual discipline, believe each other so they could keep interest in cluster bean cultivation until the last operation. The entire major operations like seed sowing, plant protection was done by this group in the presence of KVK scientists.

Economics and cost benefit:

In the beginning they contribute Rs. 500/- from each member to purchase various inputs. They purchase seeds of Sharda variety of cluster bean. They followed proper packages of recommended practices. All the operations regarding cultivation



Harvesting of cluster bean crop

practices done by all members and their family's together such as land preparation, seed sowing, irrigation, weeding, plant protection, harvesting, marketing, etc. That's why the cost of cultivation was extremely reduced and earned Rs. 40000/- net profit. Interesting things of this group was that these farmers' families done in the field with discipline as a 'God' work known as '*pujari*' instead of hire labour. The cluster bean cultivation has a human touch so they could get more net profit.

Naturally, Mr. Rama Rawte and his group are all grateful to scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kosbad Hill.
