

# *Success Story*

## **Tribal Sub Plan**

(2013-2016)

**S. Hazarika, S. K. Das  
and S. V. Ngachan**



**ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region**

Umroi road, Umiam, Barapani  
Meghalaya- 793 103, India





## Organic mushroom cultivation improves nutritional and economic security of farmers in Sikkim

**M**ushroom represents one of the world's greatest untapped resources of nutritious and palatable food. It is a unique non-traditional cash crop and excellent source of protein, vitamins, minerals and folic acid. In the recent years, mushroom cultivation has become an important income generating activity. Sikkim, being the distinctive hotspot of rich biodiversity, is the habitat of a wide variety of mushroom species. The climatic conditions here are such that mushroom cultivation can be done throughout the year. Mushroom production has tremendous potential in Sikkim because of its favourable climate (tropical to alpine) and availability of low-cost waste materials. Mushrooms are also integral part of

dietary intake of all populace of Sikkim. Since long, mushroom has been considered as a delicious and preferred food item among the indigenous communities of Sikkim, but its commercial cultivation has not yet been popularized. There is potential for mushroom industry to thrive in the state and provide job opportunities especially to the rural youths and farm women to generate additional income. Realizing the importance, ICAR Sikkim centre took initiative to popular mushroom cultivation in the state. Trainings on organic mushroom cultivation and spawn production were conducted at ICAR Sikkim Centre and at Passingdong, Hee-Gyathang, Dzongu in North Sikkim and at Sadam in South Sikkim. More than



**Demonstration on preparation of bedding material to mushroom growers**



**Theme IV : Improvement of livelihood of tribal farmers through bee keeping and mushroom farming**



**Spawn production in farmer's house**



**Demonstration on mushroom production**

700 farmers from North, East and South districts were benefited from the training and demonstration programmes on mushroom under TSP. Four low cost mushroom houses were provided to the farmers. Two Self Help Groups (SHGs) from Dzongu (Gnon and Nam Panong) areas were

provided with necessary infrastructure facilities for spawn production to supply mushroom spawn to remote areas of Sikkim. The members of the SHGs actively involved in production of oyster mushroom as well as mushroom spawn. SHGs earns Rs. 30000/- per month with the net profit of Rs. 18, 390/-.



**Contributor:**

*R. Gopi, H. Kalita, R. K. Avasthe and Ashish Yadav, 2017. Organic mushroom cultivation improves nutritional and economic security of farmers in Sikkim. In Success Story Tribal Sub Plan (2013-2016), Edited by S. Hazarika, S. K. Das & S. V. Ngachan.*

**Success Story**

**Tribal Sub Plan (2013-2016)**

ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya-793 103