

Mushroom Cultivation: A Promising Venture for Doubling Farmers Income

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture is a primitive science as well as an art being practiced since time immemorial. At present, it is facing intolerable population pressure due to its exponential growth. The production and income from agriculture is not enough to feed the growing enormous population. In this regard, Govt. of India has been focusing hard to double the farmer's income by the year 2022, to boost & uplift the agriculture sector. But it cannot be achieved only by relying on agricultural commodities. There is a need to encourage the farmers to adopt different agricultural and allied ventures and diversified farm enterprises. Mushroom cultivation is an agricultural avenue with high potential to enhance the existing income level of farmers and can be easily adopted by any category of farmers. ICAR KVK Anjaw had given various training programme and Front line demonstration to around 230 no. of farmers. To assess the social acceptability a structured interview schedule was prepared and survey was conducted. Seventy percent of the farmers have shown positive feedback and urge to adopt Mushroom cultivation for doubling their income. Economic analysis of oyster mushroom production showed that mushroom yield ranged from 55-89 kg/100 kg paddy straw and total income from 100 kg paddy straw ranged from Rs. 8250-13350 with net profit of Rs. 6000 – 9250 in one cycle.