

Fear of Less production and unavailability of organic inputs are main hindrance in Organic Farming

Jaipur - 97.6% of farmers are aware about the hazards caused due to use of chemical based inputs but due to fear about less production transition period and unavailability of organic inputs in the market, discourage them to switch. Only 16.3% are using organic inputs in farming. NGOs play a vital role in motivating the farmers as well as consumers for adoption of organic farming and products. 95.5% consumers are also aware on ill effects of chemical based agricultural products while 88.6% consumers feel organic products are better than chemical based. Consumers of Dausa district are most aware in the state about organic products and positive health impacts.

These were the key findings of a study, shared by CUTS in a state level advocacy cum dissemination meeting on October 28, 2015 at Jaipur under its project named ProOrganic, which is being implemented with the support of Sweden based organization Swedish Society for Nature Conservation'(SSNC).

The study has conducted in 102 Gram Panchayats from 51 blocks in selected six districts of



Rajasthan. A total of 3122 sample stakeholders' feedback has been collected. Out of the total samples, 1605 were farmer respondents while 1517 consumers were interviewed. Approximately 40 percent respondents out of the total sample were women.

Lack of awareness of marketing avenues is major reason for farmers not getting good returns on their produce. Thus, the pricing support and forward and backward market linkages can encourage the farmers to adopt organic agriculture. A majority of farmers suggested that spreading awareness and the Government

wings emphasis on purchasing of organic food for army, mid-day meal and at their respective canteens are the best way to promote organic farming.

Dr Shital Prasad Sharma, Director, State Institute of Agriculture Management (SIAM), Govt. of Rajasthan shared that need of development of climate smart villages in Rajasthan to promote organic farming.

George Cheriyan, Director CUTS shared that there is a need of integrated efforts from both government and farmers side for promoting organic farming in Rajasthan.

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