

Developing a Culture of Sustainable Consumption and Lifestyle through Organic Production and Consumption in the State of Rajasthan (ProOrganic II)

Synthesis Report



Establishing Vermicomposting Units

Year 2020-21

Importance of Vermicomposting in Organic Farming

Vermicompost (vermi-compost) is the product of the decomposition process using various species of worms, usually red wigglers, white worms, and other earthworms, to create a mixture of decomposing vegetable or food waste, bedding materials, and vermicast. This process is called vermicomposting, while the rearing of worms for this purpose is called vermiculture.



Vermicomposting is stable, fine granular organic manure, which enriches the soil quality by improving its physicochemical and biological properties. It is highly useful in raising seedlings and for crop production. It is becoming popular as a significant component of organic farming system. Besides these, vermicomposting has the following advantages over the chemical fertilisers:

Benefits of Vermicomposting

- Expands the physical structure of the soil
- Enriches soil with micro-organisms
- Improves water holding capacity
- Boosts germination, plant growth, and crop yield
- Enhances root growth and structure
- Reduces the amount of waste going to landfills

Vermiculture Vs. Composting

- Worms create a compost material that is far superior to any compost produced without their assistance.
- The compost material created by worms is smaller than 2 microns.
- Vermicompost added to soil creates a material that has better water retention, aeration, drainage and stability.

- Vermicompost contains more antibiotic properties against pathogens than regular compost and higher amounts of natural plant growth hormones.
- Worms can reduce all bacteria that is pathogenic to animals and people.

Why Setting Up of Compost Units Included in ProOrganic II Project

During earlier years of the project implementation and as per the feedback received after the first baseline survey in 2013, it was felt that there is a scarcity of inputs with farmers. There used to be a discussion on the adoption of organic farming in the field. This initiative has helped motivating farmers, starting from a smaller level. They were supplied with readymade kits, worms and cow dung etc., required for compost cells. These farmers are being benefited in terms of using the vermicomposting from these units, but these units also help them in pulverizing wastes around their farms. Besides, these farmers have benefitted other farmers as well by sharing vermicomposting.

Process of Setting up of Units

Selection of Farmers

It was decided that compost units should be set up in a decentralized manner to cover all project districts' maximum area. Five farmers were selected from different blocks of all 10 districts involved in organic farming and aware of vermicomposting.

Setting up of Compost Units

Compost units were provided to selected farmers with the necessary tools and earthworms. These units were set up with the support and under the guidance of district partners. Farmers were requested to set up these units and make vermicomposting and allow nearby farmers also if they want to make their own vermicomposting.

Total 50 compost units were set up in 10 project districts. The details of these compost units are as follows:

Name of selected Farmers for Compost Units Year 2020-21

| S.N. | Name of Farmer | Village | Block | District |
|------|-------------------|------------|---------------|----------|
| 1. | Kanahya Lal Lodha | Sadla | Manohar Thana | Jhalawar |
| 2. | Ram Babu Sharma | Dungergaon | Jhalrapatan | Jhalawar |
| 3. | Devi Lal Gurjar | Bakani | Bakani | Jhalawar |
| 4. | Manoj Meena | Khanpur | Khanpur | Jhalawar |
| 5. | Babu Lal | Gopalpura | Aklara | Jhalawar |
| 6. | Beeram | Fanda | Khairabaad | Kota |
| 7. | Mahaveer Suman | Moi kalan | Sangod | Kota |
| 8. | Shobha Ram | Sultanpur | Sultanpur | Kota |
| 9. | Jugal Kishor | Bhadana | Laadpura | Kota |

| S.N. | Name of Farmer | Village | Block | District |
|------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 10. | Chittar Lal | Khedi | Kanwaas | Kota |
| 11. | Asha Devi Bairwa | Badoli | Ramgarh Pachwara | Dausa |
| 12. | Sawitri Meena | Bada Gaon | Labaan | Dausa |
| 13. | Rakesh Sharma | Bhedoli | Dausa | Dausa |
| 14. | Vijendra Sharma | Pichupada Kala | Bandi Kui | Dausa |
| 15. | Shyam Sunder Sahrma | Khatwa | Lalsot | Dausa |
| 16. | Gopal Lal Sharma | Narayanpura | Suwana | Bhilwara |
| 17. | Mahaveer Gurjar | Mokhampura | Asind | Bhilwara |
| 18. | Rameswar Lal Jat | Ashaholi | Raipur | Bhilwara |
| 19. | Hemraj Sharma | Dewariya | Shahpura | Bhilwara |
| 20. | Ghanshyam Gaur | Dareeba | Suwana | Bhilwara |
| 21. | Lali | Mala ka Guda | Bhinder | Udaipur |
| 22. | Bhanwardas | Rawatpura | Bhinder | Udaipur |
| 23. | Shivram Meena | Vain | Salumber | Udaipur |
| 24. | Keshri | Pawati | Lasadiya | Udaipur |
| 25. | Banshi Lal s/o Barda | Madaar | Badgaon | Udaipur |
| 26. | Indira Devi | Shekhala | Shekhala | Jodhpur |
| 27. | Sahi Ram | Detchu | Detchu | Jodhpur |
| 28. | Sheela | Chakhoo | Baap | Jodhpur |
| 29. | Samdoo Devi | Harlaya | Lohawat | Jodhpur |
| 30. | Ramesh Kumar | Basni karwad | Mandore | Jodhpur |
| 31. | Hemraj Dangi | Parliya | Chittorgarh | Chittorgarh |
| 32. | Banshi Das | Khardi Bawadi | Chittorgarh | Chittorgarh |
| 33. | Satya Narayan Raigar | Nagari | Chittorgarh | Chittorgarh |
| 34. | Prahlad Upadhyay | Keli | Nimbaheda | Chittorgarh |
| 35. | Radhe Shyam Bheel | Ghantiyawali | Chittorgarh | Chittorgarh |
| 36. | Sona Sharma | Kulmipura | Pratapgarh | Pratapgarh |
| 37. | Banshi Lal Dhakad | Raajpura | Choti Sadri | Pratapgarh |
| 38. | Sukh Lal Dhakad | Raajpura | Choti Sadri | Pratapgarh |
| 39. | Rajendra Singh | Chupna | Arnod | Pratapgarh |
| 40. | Heera Lal Meena | Jelda | Dhariyawaad | Pratapgarh |
| 41. | Mangi Lal Mali | Lahsoda | Khandar | Sawai Madhopur |
| 42. | Kamlesh Gurjar | Andholi | Chauth ka Barwada | Sawai Madhopur |
| 43. | Devi Lal Gurjar | Torda | Chauth ka Barwada | Sawai Madhopur |
| 44. | Hanumaan Vaishnav | Aawad | Khandaar | Sawai Madhopur |
| 45. | Dinesh Kumar Sharma | Padarda | Khandaar | Sawai Madhopur |
| 46. | Deepak Tiwari | Bhankrota | Dudu | Jaipur |
| 47. | Mukesh Sharma | Dhanas | Jhotwara | Jaipur |
| 48. | Radheshyam | Dhoblai | Govindgarh | Jaipur |
| 49. | Gopal Singh | Med | Virat Nagar | Jaipur |
| 50. | Umrav Singh | Jalsu | Jalsu | Jaipur |

Verification

After setting up all the compost units, the project team randomly checked selected units in all the project districts. Suggestions were given to farmers to sort out issues during the setup and making of vermicomposting.

Conclusion

This activity made an impact on the scarcity of organic inputs for farmers, who were willing to shift towards organic farming. However, it was felt that there should be a sharing component in the implementation of the activity.

There will be a follow-up of this activity in upcoming years. The prepared vermicomposting can also be shared for developing organic gardens in nearby schools

Glimpses



Glimpses

