

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



Synthesis Report Establishing Vermi Compost Units

Importance of Vermicompost in Organic Farming

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

- restores microbial population which includes nitrogen fixers, phosphate solubilisers etc.;
- provides major and micronutrients to plants;
- improves soil texture and water holding capacity of the soil;
- provides good aeration to the soil, thereby improving root growth and proliferation of beneficial soil microorganisms;
- decreases the use of pesticides for controlling plant pathogens;
- improves structural stability of the soil, thereby preventing soil erosion; and
- enhances the quality of grains/fruits due to increased sugar content.

Process of Setting up of Units

- **Why Compost Units under ProOrganic II Project?**

During earlier years of the project implementation and baseline survey, it was found that there is a scarcity of the input among farmers, when there is a discussion on the adoption of organic farming in the field. This activity helped motivating farmers starting from smaller level. They were supplied with readymade kits, worms and cow dung etc., required for compost cells. Through this, these farmers are being benefited in terms of not only using the vermicompost from these units but these units also help them in pulverising wastes around their farms. Besides, these farmers benefitted other farmers as well by sharing vermicompost.

- **Selection of Farmers**

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

- **Setting up of Compost Units**

Compost units were provided to select farmers with necessary tools and earth worms. 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:

| Vermi Compost Units Set Up | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| S.N. | District | Name of Farmer | Village | Block |
| 1 | Chittorgarh | Santosh Goswami | Eral | Chittorgarh |
| 2 | Chittorgarh | Kailashi Sen | Eral | Chittorgarh |
| 3 | Chittorgarh | Hajari Lal Dangi | Dewri | Chittorgarh |
| 4 | Chittorgarh | Kishan Lal Meghwal | Dewri | Chittorgarh |
| 5 | Chittorgarh | Kalu Ram Raigar | Badi | Nimbaheda |
| 6 | Bhilwara | Rameswar Lal Balai | Purawto ka Akola | Suwana |
| 7 | Bhilwara | Bardi chand Gurjar | Balapur | Hurda |
| 8 | Bhilwara | Jamna Lal Dhakad | Dhakadkheri | Mandalgarh |
| 9 | Bhilwara | Roshan Lal Sharma | Ashaholi | Raipur |
| 10 | Bhilwara | puran Mal Jat | Bholi | Suwana |
| 11 | Pratapgarh | Chandresh Anjna | Baseda | Choti Sadri |
| 12 | Pratapgarh | Pushkar Lal Dhakad | Chandoli | Choti Sadri |
| 13 | Pratapgarh | Sunil Kumar Kumawat | Narani | Choti Sadri |
| 14 | Pratapgarh | Khomji Pandor | Jethliya | Pipalkhoont |
| 15 | Pratapgarh | Rakbaji Mandor | Jethliya | Pipalkhoont |
| 16 | Udaipur | Kanheya Lal Meena | Ghaghri | Lasadiya |
| 17 | Udaipur | Moti Lal Meena | Pani ki Naal | Salumber |
| 18 | Udaipur | Gram Sandarbh Kendra | Bhambhora | Bhinder |
| 19 | Udaipur | Suraj Meena | Chanbora | Girwa |
| 20 | Udaipur | Laxmi Lal Meghwal | Moti Kheda | Mavli |
| 21 | Jhalawar | Roshan Lal Mali | Badi Maanpura | Jhalrapatan |
| 22 | Jhalawar | Ghanshyam Lodha | Richdi | Manoharthana |
| 23 | Jhalawar | Balchand Bheel | Raipur | Pidawa |
| 24 | Jhalawar | Mukut Bihari Gurjar | Lakhakhedi | Khanpur |

| | | | | |
|----|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 25 | Jhalawar | Ramgopal Mali | Aktasa | Jhalrapatan |
| 26 | Sawai Madhopur | Prakash chand | Dabich | Khandar |
| 27 | Sawai Madhopur | Bihari Patel | Padra | Khandar |
| 28 | Sawai Madhopur | Jagdish Gurjar | Dabich | Khandar |
| 29 | Sawai Madhopur | Madan Mohan | Dabich | Khandar |
| 30 | Sawai Madhopur | Hanuman Dawda | Dabich | Khandar |
| 31 | Jaipur | St.Paul's School | Mundiya Ramsar | Jhotwara |
| 32 | Jaipur | Sarvodaya Sec. School | Shikarpura | Sanganer |
| 33 | Jaipur | Vinod Kumar | Phagi | Phagi |
| 34 | Jaipur | Uttam Kumar | Moriya | Govindgarh |
| 35 | Jaipur | Madan Lal | Bhambhori | Jhotwara |
| 36 | Dausa | Dheeraj Kumar | Prateek vihar | Dausa |
| 37 | Dausa | Ramesh Chand | Guda Katla | Bandi Kui |
| 38 | Dausa | Babulal Sharma | Chudiyawas | Nangal Rajawtaan |
| 39 | Dausa | Giriraj Singh | Near Power House | Labaan |
| 40 | Dausa | Hansraj | Didwana | Lalsot |
| 41 | Kota | Ramdayal | Kotsua | Sultaanpur |
| 42 | Kota | Ramniwas rathore | Bhadana | Laadpura |
| 43 | Kota | Ramnath Bairwa | Shyampura | Sangod |
| 44 | Kota | Narendra Malav | Dangawad | Kanwas |
| 45 | Kota | Ghanshyam Chansi | Bhadana | Ladpura |
| 46 | Jodhpur | Jassa Ram | Deriya | Shekhala |
| 47 | Jodhpur | Omaram | Bindu | Bapini |
| 48 | Jodhpur | Tulsi Sukharam | Manaklav | Mandore |
| 49 | Jodhpur | Mangi Lal | Anantnagar | Balesar |
| 50 | Jodhpur | Pappu Ram | Devatra | Bhopalgarh |

Verification

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

Conclusion

This activity made an impact on scarcity of organic inputs for farmers who were willing to shift towards organic farming. Although it was felt that there should be a sharing component in the implementation of the activity. There will be follow up of this activity in upcoming years. The prepared vermicompost can be also shared for developing organic gardens in nearby schools.

Glimpses



