

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

Farmer's Trainings and Exposure Visits

**Synthesis Report
2019-20**



Background

India is mainly an agricultural country, where around 58 percent of the nation's population depends on agriculture for livelihood. There is a huge untapped potential of organic farming in India. Organic farming emerged as an alternative for meeting increasing food demand, maintaining soil fertility, and enhancing soil carbon pool. The promotion of organic consumption is directly related to consumers' right to a healthy environment in various ways. The use of harmful pesticides and chemicals in agriculture is one of the major causes of environmental degradation and this is also not good for human health. The chemicals in food products adversely affect reproduction in females. Moreover, Indian societies being largely patriarchal, needs of women are not prioritized, so these women are more prone to chemical contamination in food.

ProOrganic II

After the successful implementation of phase I, which increased awareness among farmers, phase II of the project is extended to ten major agriculturally potential districts of Rajasthan, which includes six previous districts. The duration of the project is from April 01, 2017, to March 31, 2021, and is being implemented in 192-*gram panchayats* of ten selected districts of Rajasthan. The main objective of the project is to fill the identified gaps and sustain the acquired momentum to achieve expected outcomes of a better eco-system through the promotion of organic consumption.

More information at <https://cuts-cart.org/developing-a-culture-of-sustainable-consumption-and-lifestyle-through-organic-production-and-consumption-in-state-of-rajasthan-proorganic-ii/>

Why a Farmer Needs to be Trained in Organic Farming?

Since the introduction of scientific agriculture, farmers and consumers have lacked awareness and information on the dangers posed by chemical substances on the conventionally grown products to the growers, consumers, and the environment. The conventional agriculture has provided for the usage of toxic materials in crop protection without putting into account the other problems, they will generate and their effects.

The soil fertility has been affected most given that in this form of farming, the soil is no longer regarded as a living system constituent, which should be kept free of pollution by poisonous chemical agents and consequently reducing its productive quality over time thus poor yields and eventually subjecting households to food insecurity. It is in this context, farmers need to be trained scientifically as per the current situation and trend.

Importance of Farmer's Training and Exposure Visits in ProOrganic II

Objectives and Methodology

During the year, a total of ten District Level Training Programmes and Exposure Visits for farmer groups were organised. The objective was to motivate farmers to reduce chemical uses in farming by way of several sessions/lectures on organic farming and related issues through subject experts and to showcase some of the successful live demonstrations of organic farming for practical orientation in the nearby all ten districts. Efforts were made to ensure the participation of farmers, especially women farmers, representing all blocks of the district.

The objective of the orientation was to build capacities of farmers and inspire them to take up organic farming through experience gained from various subject experts and live demos of organic culture. Through the trained farmers, it was further envisaged that they will work as catalysts at the local level, to impart their knowledge gained from orientation and exposure.

The participating farmers were taught about the efficacy of vermicompost and other eco-friendly methods, such as polyhouse farming, mulching, and recycling of farm waste besides drip and other water conservation technologies during the day-long training session. These sessions were taken by subject experts of Agriculture Departments, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Agriculture Science Centres), Agriculture Universities, and Colleges and Agriculture Research Institutes.

Summary of Activities

In all the ten District Level Training Programmes and Exposure Visits conducted by CUTS, it was ensured that there is a representation of farmers from each block of the district. Only a few farmers were found to be purely involved in organic agriculture before orientation, but after the programme, many were highly motivated to adopt an organic method of farming.

These events helped to bring farmers and institutions on a common platform for better coordination in the future and understanding of organic farming, which will ultimately help in reaping good results. Healthy debate and discussion over myths about organic culture and financial benefits took place. The events also helped participants to know some of the traditional ways of organic farming, such as the formation of vermin-wash and compost, herbal pesticides/insecticides management, treatment of seeds and soil management, etc.

S. N.	District	Date	Participants
1	Sawai Madhopur	August 27-28, 2019	55
2	Jhalawar	September 19-20, 2019	52
3	Chittorgarh	September 26-27, 2019	50
4	Bhilwara	September 27-28, 2019	50
5	Pratapgarh	September 29-30, 2019	54
6	Kota	November 29-30, 2019	50
7	Dausa	December 18-19, 2019	55
8	Udaipur	December 27-28, 2019	50
9	Jodhpur	February 10-11, 2020	60
10	Jaipur	February 27-28, 2020	50
Total			526

The second day was dedicated to exposure visits in nearby farms, which were managed by local agriculture farmers working exclusively on the pattern of organic farming. The participants of the first day were taken in vehicles to visit a nearby farm. The farm owners at all the places showcased a live demonstration of various traditional systems of organic farming, through their experiences, and tried to motivate participants for adopting organic farming. Participants visited farm sites and saw the convergence, which motivated them to adopt organic farming and consumption. Queries from the workshop were clarified in practical.

District-level Farmer's Training and Exposure Visits were organised by CUTS, in partnership with district project partners. Around 50 participants from each district, representing every sub-district (block), participated in the activity. The target beneficiary of activities were only farmers from selected *panchayats* from ten project districts. Special efforts were made to ensure female participation. The details of all the ten Farmer's Training & Exposure Visit are as follows:

Bhilwara

Training

The training programme was organised on September 27-28, 2019 and attended by 50 farmers. Gaurav Chaturvedi, Coordinator, Centre for Human Development, Bhilwara, welcomed the chief guest and participants. Many eminent speakers were present in the

workshop, including Balmukund Saini, Senior Agriculture Officer; Ravi Kant Sharma, Scientist Agricultural Research Station Bhilwara; Sidharth Solanki, Agriculture Officer ATMA; K L Jeengar, Dean Agriculture College, Bhilwara; Rajdeep Pareek, Programme Officer and Deepak Saxena, Assistant Director CUTS Jaipur.

Exposure Visit

Farmers visited the Organic Farm of Nand Lal Dhakad at Jaisinghpura village of Chittorgarh district. They saw orchard of custard apple, greenhouse vegetable cultivation, biogas plant, vermicomposting unit. Dhakad welcoming all the participants informed about his journey of organic farming 12 years before. In initial stages, he faced issues and challenges, such as low production, etc. but gradually felt that there is an increase in production and now the cost of cultivation has also decreased. He explained the cultivation of beetle also, which proved as a beneficial cash crop for him. Nand Lal was also awarded as a progressive farmer by the Department of Agriculture, Chittorgarh. The visit inspired farmers to shift to organic farming.

Dausa

Training

The workshop was organised at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali, Tonk with 50 selected participants of Dausa district on December 18-19, 2019. B L Jat, Scientist, KVK Dausa; Nimisha Sharma, Project Officer, CUTS Jaipur; Akshaya Chittora, Scientist, KVK Banasthali; Savita Scientist, Home Science Department of Banasthali College and Banshi Goshle, Scientist, KVK, Banasthali were key resource persons in the training.

Exposure Visit

The next day, farmers visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Banasthali in Tonk district. Though Tonk is not among the ten project districts but owing to some very good and commendable work done in KVK of the district, it was decided to take these farmers for exposure visits. Participants came to know about the work of KVK. They visited Orchard of Guava, organic vegetable production unit and value addition unit, dairy farm of KVK, and vermicomposting units. They also visited the weather information Centre of the KVK and advisory system to the farmers.

Pratapgarh

Training

Madan Giri commenced the programme by welcoming all the participants and key speakers on September 29-30, 2019. He mentioned the objective of the training. Eminent guests in the workshop were Yogesh Kanojia, Chief Scientist of Agriculture Science Centre; Damor, KVK Pratapgarh, and Rajdeep Pareek, Programme Officer, CUTS Jaipur.

Exposure Visit

As part of the exposure visit, all the participants were taken to Banswara KVK. Gulab Kothari in charge of KVK welcomed all the participants and gave a brief overview of activities carried out by KVK in Banswara. The main attraction of the KVK was the production and breeding of a special hen by the name 'Kadakhnath', also called Kali Masi ('fowl having black flesh'). This is an Indian breed of chicken.

Sawai Madhopur

Training

The training held on August 27-28, 2019 was attended by 55 participants. Eminent guests present in the programme were Rajdeep Pareek; Dharmendra Chaturvedi both Programme Officers at CUTS; Yogendra Sharma, Assistant Agriculture Officer; Kamal Pahadiya, Agriculture Officer; Hari Prasad Yogi, Coordinator, Electricity Help Centre, Sawai Madhopur) and B L Meena (Scientist KVK).

Exposure Visit

The next day, participants visited Pareek Organic Farm at Lalsot, Dausa, where O P Pareek welcomed all the participants and narrated his journey to organic farming. He explained the process of making manure through vermicompost and its benefits. All the participants visited the Vermicomposting unit, Azola unit, kitchen garden model, and orchard of aonla and learned the process of preparing from the coordinator.

Chittorgarh

Training

The training programme held on September 26-27, 2019 was attended by 50 farmers. Ratanlal Solanki, Scientist, KVK Chittorgarh; Rajaram Sukhwai, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture; Deepak Saxena, Assistant Director, CUTS CART, Jaipur; Rajdeep Pareek, Programme Officer, Gauhar Mahmood, Centre Coordinator, CUTS Human Development Centre and Madan Giri, Programme Officer participated in the training as speakers.

Exposure Visit

The next day farmers visited Agrawal Organic Farm, Bhilwara, where they learned about organic farming practices. The farm manager welcomed all the participants and shared their experience in organic farming. He told that if one farmer wants to switch to organic farming, then he needs to do animal husbandry with agriculture. He told that they have not purchased single rupee chemical fertilisers and pesticides in this two-hectare land. He also briefed that all the products including milk are organic at the farm and they are selling it in double rates than normal products. He told that with one cow, a farmer

can manage one-acre land in the organic farming method. Participants visited a compost unit, custard apple garden, and kinnow garden.

Udaipur

Training

The training held on September 27-28, 2019 was attended by 50 participants. To enlighten farmers, various notable speakers participated, including Mohan Dangi; Anil Dutt Vyas; Panna Lal Dangi, and Rajdeep Pareek.

Exposure Visit

As part of exposure in Udaipur, farmers visited KVK, Udaipur, and got benefited from seeing vermicompost unit, organic vegetable production unit, dairy farm, poultry farm, and orchard. Jodha, a nodal person told them about scientific management of poultry and dairy farm. Participants also visited the soil testing lab and came to know about the soil testing procedure.

Jodhpur

Training

The training held on February 10-11, 2020 was attended by 60 participants. The key speakers as trainers in the training were Rajdeep Pareek, Programme Officer CUTS; O.P. Pandey, Deputy Director, Agronomy; Netrapal Singh, Assistant Research Officer; Banshidhar Raigar, Agriculture Research Officer; Jitendra Singh Shekhawat, Agriculture Research Officer and Jhumar Lal, Assistant Research Officer.

Exposure Visit

The next day, farmers visited Daga Organic Farm in Mathania. The owner of the farm, Ratan Lal Daga welcomed all the participants and shared his experience in organic farming. He shared that he has started this farm almost 25 years ago by using chemical fertilisers and pesticides. After that, he started organic farming from the year 2000 onwards and now selling his products at double rates. He mentioned that organic farming will decrease your input cost because there is no input from outside, which will be used.

All the participants visited the vermicomposting unit, organic input making unit, an intercropping system in organic farming. They also visited papaya cultivation, tea gardens by organic farming practices. Farmers visited a solar plant, where they were taught about solar pumps, drip irrigation techniques, and various other agricultural equipment. The farmers later visited Bagvani's farm and then an organic farm. In the end, they visited the agriculture science center, where the farmers were taught about a variety of seeds and vermicompost farming and dairy farming.

Jhalawar

Training

The training was organised by Samajik Vikas Sansthan, Jhalawar at KVK on September 19-20, 2019. Madhu Sudan Acharya, Retired Dean, Jhalawar Horticultural College; Kamal Kant Paliwal, Agriculture Supervisor and Rajdeep Pareek, Programme Officer, CUTS, Jaipur were key speakers in the training.

Exposure Visit

The next day, all the participants visited the Malav Organic Farm in Kota. Malav is having 66 *bighas* of land in which he is practicing organic farming along with beekeeping. He is a progressive farmer of Kota and awardee for his contribution to organic farming. Farmers have also visited vermicompost units, Jeevamrit, Herbal spray and biogas plant at the farm. They also visited a dairy farm, where about 50 indigenous breeds of cows are being reared.

Kota

Training

The training was organised by Ramkrishna Sikshna Sansthan, Kota at State Institute of Agriculture Management (SIAM) on November 29-30, 2019. K M Gautam, Head, Directorate of Extension, Kota Agricultural University; M K Garg, Scientist KVK; Mukesh Goyal, Scientist KVK and Rajdeep Pareek, CUTS Jaipur were the key resource persons in the training.

Exposure Visit

The next day, the farmers visited the organic farm of Jai Prakash Gehlot, who shared his experience of organic farming. Gehlot started organic farming for the last eight years and now supplies vegetables to all hotels and coaching institutes in the district. They also visited the high-tech nursery, vermicompost units, dairy unit, and waste decomposer at the farm. He is doing high tech organic farming in a green house and shed net house. Yudhister Chansi proposed a vote of thanks to all the participants with a promise of adopting organic farming at least for their consumption.

Jaipur

Training

The training was organised at Kisaan Bhavan, Jaipur on February 27-28, 2020. The training was attended by Deepak Saxena, Dharmendra Chaturvedi, Nimisha Sharma, and Rajdeep Pareek from CUTS. Sri Ram Sharma, Retired Professor, Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner (SKNAU), Jobner; Gajendra Sharma, ARO, Department of

Agriculture; Virendra Parihar, Editor, Krishi Darshan, and Amit Sharma, former Supervisor, Kisaan Call Centre, Jaipur were the key speakers in the training.

Exposure Visit

As part of the exposure visit, the participants visited the Nardya Organic farm, Tunga, Jaipur. Kailash Sharma welcomed all the farmers and told them about his experience in organic farming. Then all the participants visited the farm, where they saw vermicomposting units, integrated farming models, dairy units, and different field trials of organic inputs. They also visited organic jujube fruit (Ber) farm, where they are selling it for Rs 50/kg. Sharma informed the participants that they earned Rs two lakh with hundred plants of jujube fruit.

Key Highlights/Features of the Activity: At a Glance

The events helped bring farmers and institutions on a common platform for better coordination in the future, which will ultimately help in reaping good results. There were healthy debates and discussions over myths about organic culture and financial benefits.

The events also enabled participants to know some of the traditional ways of organic farming, such as the formation of vermi-wash/vermicompost, herbal pesticides/insecticides, and treatment of seeds and soil management, etc. Women participants showed keen interest in these events and were present in good numbers.

Outcome/Impact of the Activity

All the training workshops and exposure visits proved extremely successful in terms of participation, gender involvement, media coverage, overall conduction of the events, etc. Moreover, the majority of participating farmers expressed their willingness to switch over to organic farming from their current mode of chemical farming.

At many places, even those farmers who were already involved in organic farming came to know about many new and traditional ways of farming which will be helpful in organic culture. They accepted that such trainings are the first of their kind besides what KVKs have been doing for them.

Feedback forms indicate that over 80 percent of farmers were inspired by the events organised by CUTS and showed immense interest in starting organic farming.

Glimpses





Media Coverage

जैविक खेती पर किसानों की एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला आयोजित

नवज्योति/देव

महेश्वर गंगा संसाधनी माणकनाथ एवं कट्स इंटरनेशनल के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में जैविक खेती परंपरागत खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किसानों में जागरूकता लाने के उद्देश्य से जिला स्तरीय 75 किसानों की प्रशिक्षण का आयोजन जिले के कृषि प्रशिक्षण केंद्र रामपुर में आयोजित किया गया। कार्यक्रम के प्रथम सत्रमहाराज पंचिक ने बताया कि महेश्वर गंगा संसाधनी पिछले 2 वर्षों से जिले में जैविक खेती का प्रचार-प्रसार कर रही हैं।



के उद्देश्यों से संबंधित जानकारी देते हुए

आयोजन • किसान आज करेंगे लालसोट के जैविक फार्म का भ्रमण

कार्यशाला में किसानों को जैविक खेती की ट्रेनिंग

नर्स | सवाई माधोपुर

जानकारी दी गई।

कट्स इंटरनेशनल जयपुर एवं जिले की स्वयंसेवी संस्था रुलल ने सबसे पहले रासायनिक खादों के उपयोग के नुकसानों के बारे में जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि रासायनिक खादों का उपयोग करने वाले किसानों को जैविक खेती की ट्रेनिंग देनी चाहिए।

जिला स्तरीय कृषक आमुखीकरण कार्यशाला का आयोजन



जिला स्तरीय कृषक आमुखीकरण कार्यशाला शुरू

नर्स | सवाई माधोपुर

कट्स इंटरनेशनल जयपुर एवं जिले की स्वयंसेवी संस्था रुलल ने सबसे पहले रासायनिक खादों के उपयोग के नुकसानों के बारे में जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि रासायनिक खादों का उपयोग करने वाले किसानों को जैविक खेती की ट्रेनिंग देनी चाहिए।

जैविक खेती पर आमुखीकरण कार्यशाला

ब्यूरो/नवज्योति, प्रतापगढ़

स्वयं सेवी संगठन कट्स मानव विकास केन्द्र द्वारा स्थानीय सोहन पलेस एण्ड मेरिज गार्डन में जिला स्तरीय कृषक आमुखीकरण कार्यशाला आयोजित की। कट्स मानव विकास केन्द्र के समन्वयक गौहर महमूद ने बताया कि जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने हेतु एस.एस.एन.सी. स्वीडन के सहयोग से चलाई जा रही प्रो-ऑर्गेनिक परियोजना के तहत आयोजित



प्रतापगढ़। जिला स्तरीय कृषक आमुखीकरण को जानकारी देते स्वयं सेवी संगठन कट्स



किसान परंपरागत जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा दें

रासायनिक खेती से मिट्टी, हवा, पानी सभी प्रदूषित: गौतम

फेमिली डॉक्टर की तरह फेमिली किसान भी होना चाहिए, घट रही है रोग प्रतिरोधक क्षमता : राजदीप



संदेश न्यूज। कोटा.

कृषि विश्व विद्यालय कोटा के शिक्षा प्रसार निदेशक डॉ. केएम गौतम ने कहा कि रासायनिक खेती के कारण मिट्टी, हवा और पानी सभी प्रदूषित हो गई हैं। डॉ. गौतम शुक्रवार को राज्य कृषि प्रबंधन संस्थान नयापुरा में रामकृष्ण शिक्षण संस्थान भवना तथा कट्स इंटरनेशनल जयपुर के तत्वावधान में आयोजित दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में बोल रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि पशुपालन से ही जैविक खेती का रास्ता खुलता है।

रासायनिक खादों और कीटनाशकों के अत्यधिक इस्तेमाल से भूमि की उर्वरता खत्म हो रही है और जनता का स्वास्थ्य भी खराब हो रहा है। किसानों को भी अब काफी नुकसान के बाद समझ में आने लगा है।

हरियाण और पंजाब के किसान दूसरे राज्यों से खाने का अनाज मंगवा रहे हैं, जहां जैविक खेती का प्रचलन है। कट्स इंटरनेशनल के कार्यक्रम अधिकारी राजदीप पारीक ने बताया कि 2013 राजस्थान में जैविक खेती का प्रचलन है।

किसानों को बताए जैविक खेती के तरीके

खेती। रामकृष्ण शिक्षण संस्थान भवना की ओर से रविवार को किसानों को खेती के लाभ अनुभूति के लिए जैविक खेती देखी, तकनीक समझी। संस्थान के महामंत्री पुष्पेंद्र खन्ना ने बताया कि कट्स इंटरनेशनल एवं स्वीडिश संसाधनी फॉर नेचर केजर्वेशन की ओर से आयोजित कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई। इसमें जैविक खेती के बारे में विशेषज्ञों के विचार ज्ञान, उपयोगिता समझी। कार्यशाला में प्रोग्राम अधिकारी राजदीप पारीक, प्रशिक्षण अधिकारी जयप्रकाश गहलोत ने जैविक खेती का महत्व बताया। जल विवादों के बुजुर्ग विजयवर्मा ने जल बचत के लिए किसानों से यह पद्धति अपनाने पर जोर दिया।



25 बीघा में जैविक खेती कर रहे हैं जयप्रकाश



अर्जुनपुरा के प्रगतिशील किसान जयप्रकाश गहलोत 25 बीघा में जैविक व आधुनिक खेती कर रहे हैं। गहलोत ने खेत में ड्रिप इरीगेशन सिस्टम लगा रखा है। जहां पर सालभर 35 प्रकार की सब्जियां का उत्पादन होता है। गहलोत ने बताया कि किसान यदि कम जोत के खेत होने पर भी वैज्ञानिक तकनीक खेती कर रहे हैं। जैविक खेती कर वे लोगों का और जमीन का स्वास्थ्य ठीक कर रहे हैं। धीरे-धीरे किसानों को जैविक खेती की ओर आना होगा।

जुड़ने का आग्रह किया। पिछले दो वर्षों में जैविक खेती का प्रचार-प्रसार देखा। केंचुआ खाद, गोबर की खाद के प्रयोग को सीखने का आग्रह किया।