

SUCCESS STORIES

Mr.Elumalai, Watermelon

I am V. Elumalai, S/o Veerappan, regularly doing farming in my 3 acres of land at my native Nadukkuppam, Marakkanam block of Villupuram district. Though I have experience in agriculture from my childhood, I couldn't get more profit. While hearing the success stories of other farmers, I would be thinking we should also do scientific farming. But I didn't know where I can get complete guidance for such technologies.

Meanwhile I came to know that National Agro Foundation is giving complete training on all these technologies and I requested them for their guidance. NAF appreciated my interest and they selected me as demo farmer. NAF gave me an intensive three days technical training where I learned many scientific technologies.

As demo farmer, I took soil sample as per the procedure from my land and sent to NAF for analysis. NAF did comprehensive soil testing and prescribed nutrient recommendations for the demo crop, watermelon.

I have sown watermelon variety Namdari 295 during December 2017 in one acre as demo and in another one acre for my usual practice. As per the soil test recommendation, in the demo plot, I applied DAP, 17:17:17 complex and Potash as basal and Zinc, Borax, copper sulphate on 30 days after sowing. Azospirillum, Phopobacteria and Pseudomonas were mixed with farm yard manure and applied. Azospirillum, Phopobacteria and Pseudomonas were mixed with farm yard manure and broadcasted followed by irrigation. For first top dressing, I applied urea and second top dressing with Ammonium sulphate and potash.

As per NAF Expert's advise, I placed bird perches, yellow sticky traps and fruit fly traps. For growth promotion, I sprayed Panchakavyam. For pest control, I sprayed one round of pesticide spray. NAF Experts were visiting at weekly interval and gave need based recommendations.

In the conventional method, I applied DAP, potash and ammonium sulphate as basal and urea, potash and ammonium sulphate as top dressing, which is our normal practice. One pesticide spray was also given.

As yield, I harvested 12 tons of watermelon in demo plot and 7 tons in conventional plot. We sold Watermelon @ Rs. 5000/- per ton. As a result, I earned a net profit of Rs. 38,205/- from demo plot and Rs.13,100/- from conventional plot. In terms of percentage, the yield increase was 71% and profit increase was 192% in demo method when compared to conventional practice.

I realise that this much of tremendous increase is due to soil test based nutrient application and other technologies along with dedicated service of NAF. Farmers can contact me to my mobile 9442086255 if any more doubts.

Ravichandiran, Nadukuppam – Paddy

My name is Ravichandiran, s/o Ponnusamy residing in Nadukuppam village of Marakkanam block, Villupuram district. I'm cultivating paddy on every year but the profit was only about Rs. 5000 to 8000 per acre depending on the yield and market price of paddy. In spite of all of my efforts and hard work, this small margin of profit made me dejected in farming. But there was no other choice for me other than agriculture and hence continued farming.

Through the members of Marakkanam Farmer Producer Company, I came to know that National Agro Foundation, founded by Shri Subramaniam is doing better services in farming with improved methods of cultivation and most of the farmers are getting benefitted by their services. I immediately joined as a member in the company. I approached NAF and requested their guidance in increasing my farm income. By considering my interest, they accepted my request and selected me as a demo farmer.

NAF officials visited my field and they suggested to do soil test, to start with. They gave me orientation training towards agricultural technologies and an intensive training on technology based paddy cultivation. I felt my eyes are opened and have much confidence that definitely I can earn more profit by adopting these technologies.

I took soil sample as per the procedure and sent it by courier to NAF soil testing lab. After analysis, I got soil test report along with recommendation for paddy crop.

During October 2017 I transplanted paddy variety NLR (Nellore) as demo farm in one acre where I did sampling for soil testing and the same seedling in one more acre as conventional practice.

As per the recommendations of NAF, I concentrated more in field levelling before transplanting and applied DAP, Ammonium sulphate and potash as basal fertilizers as per the quantities recommended by NAF Experts based on soil test report. Bio fertilizers namely Azospirillum, Phopobacteria and bio fungicide Pseudomonas were also applied by mixing with FYM. On third day after transplanting, I applied Zinc sulphate, Manganese sulphate and copper sulphate in recommended quantities, which were arranged by NAF.

I placed bird perches, yellow sticky traps and pheromone traps for stem borer as per the recommendation for effective pest control.

As first top dressing, I applied urea during tillering phase and second top dressing with ammonium sulphate during ear head formation phase.



Mr. Ravichandiran in his demo farm

To boost crop growth, I sprayed Panchakavyam @3 lit. These practices were new to me which I never practiced in my farming experience.

On contrary, in the conventional method, I applied fertilizers as usual with approximate quantities without definite limitations. I never followed IPM practices.

On harvesting, demo farm yielded 2625 kgs (35 bags) of marketable grains while conventional plot yielded only 1875 kgs (25 bags). Total expenditure in demo was Rs. 18800/- and in conventional, it was Rs. 20400/-. As net profit, demo plot gave Rs. 17950/- while it was only Rs 5850/- from conventional plot.

It accounted 40 % increase in yield and more than 200% increase in profit in demo plot when compared to control plot despite Rs 1600/- less expense in demo plot.

This much of increase in yield and increase in profit is only due to adoption of the opt technologies and I'm very much thankful to NAF for making a turning point in my life. My mobile number is 9025663453 and any farmer can contact me for more details

Mr.Vijayaraghu, Vandipalayam

I'm Vijayaraghu, s/o Ayyasamy residing in Vandipalayam village of Villupram district. I'm doing agriculture from my childhood. I was very thirst on knowing new agricultural technologies. Though I got information on different methods of farming, I didn't know where from I can learn right technologies.

Luckily I heard that Farmers Producer Company is being formed in our block by National Agro Foundation and immediately I joined as member in the company by paying the share amount of Rs. 1000/-.

I requested NAF to teach me the technologies to get more profit from ash gourd cultivation. NAF trained me with all the technologies to be followed right from sowing to harvest. As per their advise I did soil test as first step and got recommendation from NAF.

In the month of January 2018, I have sown ash gourd in my one acre land as per the advise of NAF officials as demo field, where I did soil testing. I have also sown ashgourd in another 50 cents of my land where I decided to practice my usual conventional method.

In the demo plot, as per soil test recommendation, I applied DAP, 17:17:17 complex and potash as basal. Azospirillum, Phopobacteria and Pseudomonas were mixed with farm yard manure and applied. On the 30th day of sowing, I applied micronutrients namely Borax, Copper sulphate and Zinc sulphate. As top dressing of macro nutrients, I applied ammonium sulphate and potash.

I also placed bird perches, yellow sticky traps and pheromone traps in demo plot. On the 50th day of sowing, I sprayed Panchakavyam in demo plot.

In the conventional plot I applied DAP, Urea and potash as basal with usual approximate quantities. As top dressing I applied urea and ammonium sulphate.

On harvesting, demo plot yielded 8 tons of ash gourd while in control plot it was 3.5 tons. Total expense in demo plot was Rs. 12885 and Rs 10050 in control plot. We sold ashgourd @ Rs. 4000 per ton and the total revenue in demo was Rs. 32000 from one acre and **14000** from 50 cents of conventional plot.

When calculated on per acre basis, there was increase in yield by 14 % and profit by 140%. The net profit per ace in demo was Rs. 19115 in demo and Rs. 7900 in control. This increase in profit was due to increase in yield and decrease in cost of cultivation.

Farmers can contact me for more details to my mobile 8110847263

Mr.Subramaniyan, Olakkur

I'm Subramaniyam, s/o Govindarajan residing in Olakkur village, Villupuram District. I'm regularly cultivating vegetables. Being a member of Olakkur Farmer Producer Company, I knew that NAF is doing better service to farmers in dissemination of agri technologies.

I requested NAF to establish a demo farm in my field in order to learn and experience the latest agri technologies. Accordingly NAF imparted an intensive training for me on vegetable cultivation.

I did soil test and got nutrient recommendation for Bitter gourd from NAF. During December 2017, I have sown bittergourd variety Abisek in 40 cents where I did soil test as per the advise of NAF experts. In another 40 cent, I have sown same bitter gourd variety Abisek as conventional practice.

In demo plot, as per soil test recommendations, I applied DAP, Super phosphate and potash as basal. Also broadcasted Azospirillum, Phopobacteria and Pseudomonas mixed with farm yard manure. Micronutrients namely Zinc sulphate, Manganese Sulphate, Borax, ferrous sulphate and copper sulphate were also applied as per recommendation in demo plot. As top dressing, I applied urea and Ammonium sulphate as top dressing.



Critical inputs received from NAF

I also installed bird perches, yellow sticky traps and fruit fly traps as per the recommendation of NAF in demo plot. Panchakavyam was also sprayed to boost the crop growth.

In control plot, I applied urea, DAP and ammonium sulphate as basal as per our normal practice. As top dressing, I applied ammonium sulphate and potash.

At the end of the crop stage, demo plot yielded a total quantity of 2300 kgs and control plot yielded 1400 kgs. The average sale price was Rs. 15/kg. Total expense in demo was Rs. 13824 and Rs. 11550 in control.

As a result, increase in yield in demo plot was Rs. 64% and increase in profit was 119% when compared with control. This increased yield and profit was due to adoption of Lean Farming Technologies which I followed in demo farm as per the guidance of NAF Experts. I'm ready to share my experience with other farmers. Farmers can contact my mobile 9976994860.

Mr. Ramesh, Water melon

I am Sekar, residing in Panayadivakkam village of Cheyyur Taluk, Kancheepuram Dist. Every year I am cultivating watermelon. Usually I was earning Rs.18000 to 20000 as profit in my one acre land.

I approached National Agro Foundation and requested to establish demonstration in my field for watermelon during January 2015. NAF trained me on modern agricultural technologies for watermelon. I took soil sample and submitted to NAF for comprehensive soil testing. As per soil test report, NAF advised me to apply Magnesium, Sulphur and Zinc in addition to usual macro nutrients. On 21.01.2015, I cultivated watermelon (var: Maharaja). For pest control, NAF recommended me various prophylactic measures. I followed all the technologies recommended by NAF in 50 cents of my land and in another



Mr. Sekar, in his watermelon Demo farm

50 cent, I cultivated watermelon with same variety Maharaja and followed my usual cultivation practices. NAF experts visited the demo field then and there and gave advise to be followed in demo. I strictly adopted all the prescription given by experts. During harvest, I got 7 tons of melon in 50 cents demo while in control plot I got only 4 tons where I followed usual cultivation practices. I sold it @Rs.3700/ton. My cultivation expenses were Rs 7004/- in 50 cents of demo and Rs.6750/- in 50 cents of control. Income from demo was Rs.33600/- while from control it was Rs.19200/-. As a whole, I earned a profit of Rs.26596/- from demo and Rs.12430/- from control. I got 75% increased yield and **114% increase in profit** when compared with usual cultural practises. I am very much thankful to National Agro Foundation.

Mr. Kuppan, Groundnut

I am Kuppan residing in Kadukkalore village, Cheyyur Taluk, Kancheepuram Dist. Our village lies under Othivilagam watershed project which is implemented by National Agro Foundation and supported by NABARD. I cultivate paddy and groundnut in my 3 acres of land.



Mrs. Kuppan, Groundnut

I got enthused by the way of NAF during implementation of watershed project. Before intervention of NAF. I didn't know about new agri technologies.

Slowly I got impressed by trainings, demonstrations conducted by NAF. But I had a doubt on these practices on practical front. So I wanted to test these technologies and requested NAF to lay demo farm in my field for ground nut. As per the advice of NAF experts, I took soil sample from my field and submitted to NAF lab during November 2014.

I received soil test report with recommendation stating that my soil is deficit with zinc, Magnesium and boron. The Prescription included all these micro nutrients, macro nutrients and farm yard manure, along with dosage and time of application.

I have demarcated one acre land into 50 cents for demo and 50 cents for normal method. On 23.012.2014, I have sown groundnut with variety VRI 2 on both the plots. But in demo I applied as per soil test recommendation. I also adopted all the recommendations given by NAF experts on weed management, top dressing pest management and organic inputs. In control plot of 50 cents, I followed usual methods.

The following are the expenses and income statement.

Sl.No	Particulars	Demo 50 cents	Control 50cent
1	Yield	14 bags	10 bags
2	Sale price	Rs1800/bag	Rs1800/bag
3	Income	25200	18000
4	Expenses	8849	8595
5	Profit	16351	9405

I got 40% increase in yield and 74% increase in profit in demo plot when compared with control plot. Now I am confident that improved agri technologies will definitely give more yield and more profit. I am very thankful to NAF and it's officials for their wonderful farmers service.