



Swachhta Pakhwada – 2020 (Day 12 report)

27th December 2020

As part of *Swachhta Pakhwada* 2020, ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru conducted awareness campaign on ‘**Importance of organic farming in Doubling farmers’ income**’ and ‘**Zero Budget Natural Farming in achieving sustainability in income**’.

The programme was conducted in Koluvaranahalli village in Hesaraghatta hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. Mr. Dhananjay, progressive farmer practising **organic Farming** stressed the goals, importance and advantages of organic farming,

Important Goals of Organic Farming

- A sufficiently high level of productivity
- Compatibility of cultivation with the natural cycles of the production system
- Maintaining and increasing natural diversity and agro-biodiversity
- Maximum possible use of renewable resources
- Protection of, and learning from, indigenous knowledge and traditional management systems

Advantages of organic farming,

- Nutritional, poison-free and tasty food
- Less cost of cultivation
- Enhances soil fertility
- Environment and eco-friendly practices
- Higher premium price for organic product

One more successful farmer Mr. Kiran also highlighted the importance and profitability of the organic farming.

Mrs. Lalitamma, progressive farm woman practising **Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)** remembered the **Mr. Subhash Palekar**, pioneer in **Zero Budget Natural Farming** and elaborately explained the principles, practices and advantages of Zero Budget Natural Farming.

An approach towards sustainability, Expense-free farming, farming up to 30 acres with one native cow, Farming with minimum electricity and water consumption, producing quality, poison-free food, Agriculture without external input, Techniques of multi-crop cultivation for higher net income, reducing external labour requirement, Farming in tune with nature, Saving the farmers from suicidal tendency and leaving behind their families as beggars.

ZBNF model eliminates the cost of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds and greatly reduces the borrowing, one of the chief causes for farmer suicides in the country. Hence its evocative title **ZERO BUDGET NATURAL FARMING**. In the Zero Budget Natural Farming nothing has to be purchased from the outside. All things required for the growth of the plant are available around the root zone of the plants.

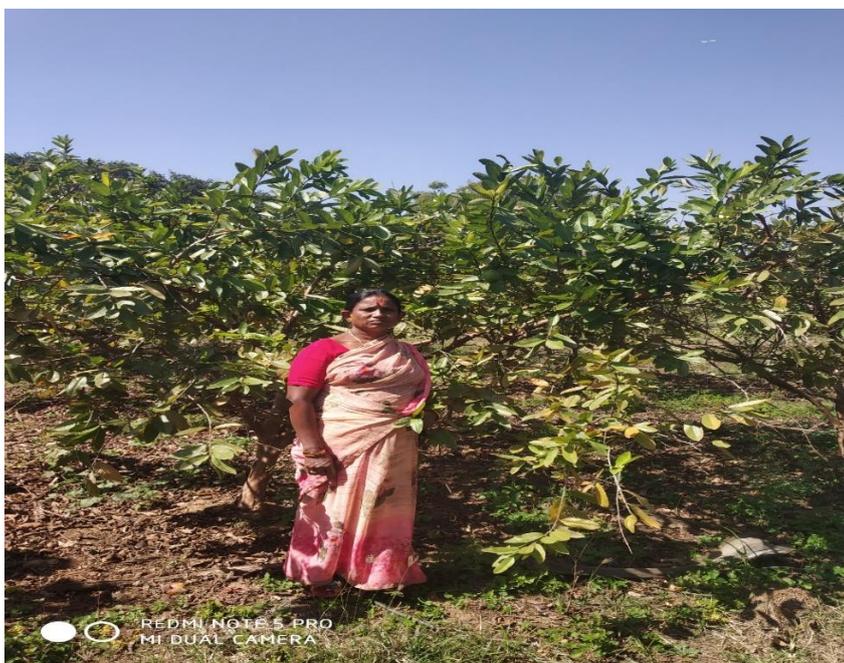
Mr. Shivaraj Kumar, progressive farmer was also practising ZBNF through growing Ragi, Grapes and rearing sheep and goats.



1. Mr. Dhananjay practising organic farming in Beans crop



2. Mr. Kiran practising organic farming in fruit crops like Mosambi and Banana.



3. Mrs. Lalitamma, progressive women practising **Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)**



4. Mr. Shivaraj Kumar practising ZBNF in growing Ragi, grapes and rearing sheeps and goats



5. Awareness on 'Importance of organic farming in Doubling farmers' income'



6. Awareness on 'Zero Budget Natural Farming in achieving sustainability in income'.