

Success Stories of Progressive Farm Women

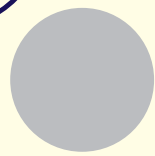
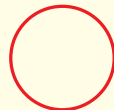


ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture

(ISO 9001:2008 Certified)

Bhubaneswar - 751003, Odisha





Success Stories of Progressive Farm Women

Compiled & Edited

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ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture

(ISO 9001:2008 Certified)
Bhubaneswar - 751003, Odisha



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Foreword

Women farmers are the invisible face of agriculture and have now drawn the attention of several policy makers, researchers and developmental organizations for achieving inclusive sustainable development. Predominantly playing the role as farmers, laborer and entrepreneurs, they constitute an enormous segment of the Indian agricultural workforce. ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar has been in the forefront for undertaking research on issues affecting women and their opportunities in agriculture. It is also focusing on participatory action research in different technology based thematic areas involving farm women to identify gender issues, test agricultural technologies/ programmes/ policies with a women's perspective and undertake capacity building of stakeholders for inclusive agriculture. The research projects implemented by the Institute yielded important gender related information, knowledge, models and practices that can be used for identifying interventions and developing programmes for different stakeholders including farm women.

I appreciate the efforts made for bringing out this important publication depicting the success stories of women farmers/entrepreneurs who have contributed immensely for bringing out a positive change in the society. The publication include the stories of women farmers who have made a change by adopting modern agricultural practices, value addition, integrated farming system, mushroom cultivation, bee keeping, family poultry farming etc. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the farm women whose inspiring stories have been depicted in this publication. I hope the stories of the successful farm women will inspire other for bringing gender equity.



Anil Kumar



1

Empowerment of Farm Woman through Integrated Farming System



Mrs. Saraju Nayak,
W/o Mahendra Kumar Nayak,
Village- Jirabadi, Block- Jagannath Prasad, Bhanjanagar,
District- Ganjam, Odisha, Pin- 761121, Contact- 9777282482

Background: Mrs. Saraju Nayak, wife of Shri Mahendra Kumar Nayak, is an agriculture farmer dependent upon paddy and vegetable cultivation in 5 acre of land grown in cyclone prone costal belt of Ganjam, Odisha. Many of the times, paddy crop and vegetables used to be affected by natural calamities since 5 years which incurs huge loss. She developed keen interest for animal agriculture especially dairy-goatery-poultry-horticulture-honeybee to avoid the loss which was sensitized in Krushak Sangosthi organized by ICAR-CIWA at Jirabadi in 2017. She was motivated for scientific methods followed in Integrated Farming System (IFS). Further, their focused approach on improved method of goat-poultry-dairy farming and fodder cultivation supported by ICAR-CIWA changed her mind set to be socio-economically empowered. She was enlisted as a volunteer to assist the project team in motivating and mobilizing the farm women.

Training and motivational support: Under the project “Enhancing Income of Rural Women through Improved Goat Rearing” of ICAR-CIWA, training was imparted on scientific method of feeding especially on supplemental proteinaceous oil cakes and mineral mixture during peak phase of growth(6 month-1 year), improved breeding and management especially better housing, timely vaccination and health care. Establishment of market linkage and selling of goats after weighing fetch good remuneration which led to financial benefit of additional 30%. During rainy season, grazing of animals was usually observed a major limitation and suitable fodder variety from ICAR-CIWA (Sugarcane, CO4 and IGFRI-6) were cultivated in 1 acre of land of their farming area which mitigate fodder scarcity and saved about 40% of expenditure through feeding of concentrate mixture to goats and dairy cows. Further, the couple was trained in dairying, poultry farming, horticulture, vegetable cultivation by scientific staff of ICAR-CIWA. Later on, their keen interest made them to be associated with ATMA, FIAC, Dept. of Animal husbandry, Odisha and KVK, Bhanjanagar to learn scientific methods of animal agriculture.

Brief achievements: The spouse developed an integrated farming system within 3 years consisting of 90 goats, 10 cows, 200 poultry birds, 3 acre of land for fodder cultivation along with 5 acre of land for paddy cultivation, 2 acre land for mango-jackfruit-pine apple cultivation and 0.5 acre land for fishery etc. They shifted from inorganic to organic cultivation which enabled them to fetch more price utilizing animal waste through vermicomposting. During this period, their income increased by 2.5 times (7.5 Vs 3.0 lakhs per annum). Their keen interest in cultivation of the fodder grass (Sugarcane, CO4 and IGFRI-6) and propagation

of the same in different parts of that locality made them very popular among the farm women involved in dairy and goat farming. The fodder root slips is being sold to different communities and NGOs. Besides animal husbandry activities, training was imparted on various aspects related to agriculture and allied activities especially post harvest value addition of mango, pine apple, mushroom farming etc. through frontline demonstration, group discussion, literature support etc. improving women's access to various input resources, technologies, reducing vulnerability and enhancing the decision making power for their livelihood enhancement and empowerment.

Impact in the area: Smt. Nayak developed the leadership and communication ability by continuous exposure to various on campus and off campus trainings, scientist-farmers interface organized by ICAR-CIWA which enabled her to be self-reliant and rare distinction of a well-known progressive farmer. She has established strong linkages with about 250 farm women; through women self help groups and promoted different allied agricultural activities through cluster approach to enhance socio-economic well-being. About 500 farm women in the areas of animal-agriculture were trained on IFS and gender sensitization. Seven farm families followed them as a role model having expertise in various fields of animal-agriculture and financial benefits. Many of the youths and farmers undertake training from KVK, Bhanjanagar and Kandhamal and other govt. institutes who send their trainees to visit the IFS system developed by Smt. Nayak. ICAR-CIWA is proud to be associated with the spouse for their remarkable achievements through proper gender synergy which is a source of inspiration for rural farm women.



Biswanath Sahoo, Anil Kumar, Arun Kumar Panda, Sabita Mishra, Jyoti Nayak and Debendra Nath Sarangi



2

Doubling Farm Income: A Success Story of Smt. Gauripriya in Odisha



Smt. Gauripriya Mahapatra

W/o Shri Ajoy Mahapatra

Village- Nuasahi, Uchhupur, Block- Sakhigopal

District- Puri, Contact- 7873962461, 7064680249, 6371699061

Background: Smt. Gauripriya Mahapatra, a progressive farm woman of village Nuasahi in Uchhupurpanchayat of Sakhigopal block, Puri has a long association with the ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR-CIWA), Bhubaneswar. She was first identified as a village level leader for the project interventions under the Institute's research project titled "Developing gender sensitive model for doubling farmer's income by addressing gender concerns and technological gap" that was designed to improve the access of rural women to critical inputs, agri- extension services and strengthen village level extension for development of farming community exclusively in doubling the income of farmwomen. In her capacity as grassroot level leader, she received training from ICAR-CIWA on various farm and post harvest technologies in the areas of rice farming, horticulture, plant protection, nutrition, value addition etc. that are suitable for farm women.

Training and Motivational support: As part of the project taken up at ICAR-CIWA titled "Gender Sensitive Model for Doubling Farmers' Income by Addressing Gender Concerns and Technological Gaps", a knowledge cluster of farm women was mobilized from seven villages under Sakhigopal block of Puri district in Odisha for implementation of technological modules for doubling farm income. Team of experts from ICAR-CIWA analyzed the technological and developmental gaps and designed logical technological modules, both for enhancing farm income, and reducing the cost of cultivation. Demonstrated these need based modules through regular interfaces, training, demonstrations, capacity building programmes, input support and advisory services, including the promotion of high yielding varieties and hybrids. Concurrent monitoring and impact assessment were also done.

Brief Achievements: Although Smt. Gauri has taken over a lot of activities, the main interventions brought her the great success is her involvement in coordinating the interventions of ICAR-CIWA. The technological interventions could result in the enhancement of annual farm income from Rs. 89,300/- to Rs. 1,51,200/- (about 69% enhancement), and her cash in hand (annual savings) from Rs. 18,000/- to Rs. 42,000/- (133% enhancement) between 2017-18 to 2019-20. For her leadership in women empowerment of her peer group, she was honored by ICAR during the Krishi Unnati Mela at IARI, New Delhi.

Impact in the area: The then poor women, now got better social recognition in their community. They support their families by providing better nutrition, education and asset acquisition. Smt. Gauri Mahapatra herself has mobilized the assets like: motor cycle,

submersible pump, etc. out of the earnings. Thus, ICAR-CIWA was instrumental in nurturing the women leadership and disseminating gender friendly technologies for livelihood security. Smt. Gauri Mahapatra is the successful role model and an eye opener by showing path and hope for livelihood of rural women. Along with Smt. Gauri, the women group also developed linkages with ICAR-CIWA, KVK- OUAT-Puri, MSME, OLM, SWAD NGO and Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department of Govt. of Odisha.



Charles Jeeva, Arun Kumar Panda and Anil Kumar





3

Livelihood Improvement through Integrated Farming System



Smt. Binita Panda

W/o Bhakta Ranjan Praharaj

Village- Jhadeswarpur, Via- Nischintakoili

District- Cuttack, Contact- 9337110529

Background: Smt Binita Panda, is an innovative farmwoman lives in Jhadeswarpur village in Mahanga block of Cuttack District, Odisha. The village is 105 km away from Bhubaneswar city, the capital of Odisha. The local ecology is suitable for rice production, especially during the wet season, environmental conditions offer very limited alternatives for growing rice. Her family owns 2.5 acre land but her family only cultivated 21 gunth (0.53 acre). Both husband and wife wanted to establish any enterprise to get extra income to carry their five member family, including their parents.

Training and motivational support: ICAR-CIWA organized an interface with the farmers under the project entitled “Assessment of Integrated Farming Model for Improved Food Security and Livelihood in Rural Household”. Both of them shown keen interest to rear honey bee in their back yard. They were advised to change their farming system from monoculture to add two to three enterprises. Training was imparted on mushroom cultivation and honey bee rearing. Honey boxes and other accessories were provided. The project team also arranged exposure visit of the farmers to different ICAR institutes for skill development and knowledge gain. Also helped them to establish linkage with the Khadi Udogya, Bhubaneswar.

Brief achievements: They were engaged in mushroom cultivation round the year from which they earned Rs. 30, 000/year. From each honey bee box in a season they got honey of 7 to 9 kg. By selling one kg honey @ Rs 500/-, they earned around Rs.3, 500- Rs.4,500/- from one box. They have also developed a nutritional garden and cultivated seasonal vegetables. In one season by investing Rs 1/- , they got Rs 2.05/- return. . Now they are very happy to see their backyard changed into an integrated farming model. The annual income of the family increased to Rs 1 20 000 per year due to the intervention made by ICAR-CIWA.

Impact in the area: The impact was clearly visible in the life of Smt. Binita Panda and her family, she has been able to utilize her leisure work making it profitable and also contributed by generating income through IFS. Comparative study showed that by investing Rs 1.00 got back Rs 2.05 a profit of Rs.1.05/ from selling the produce. She has also become more

independent than before and also has increased her role and involvement in decision making. She has become a role model for the local women and housewives who also visit her home for seeing the honey boxes and her backyard kitchen garden. Now she is also involved in impart training on honey bee rearing to the various groups and women societies in her area.



Jyoti Nayak, Abha Singh, Tanuja S. and Geeta Saha





4

Story of an Innovative Farm Woman



Smt. Kamini Nathsharma

W/o Kamal Kanta Nathsharma

At- Dularpur, Po- Jhadeswarpur, Block- Mahanga

District- Cuttack, Contact- 0965828397

Background: Kamini Nathsharma is an innovative farmwoman, who lives in Dularpur village in Mahanga block of Cuttack District, Odisha. The village is 110 km away from Bhubaneswar city, the capital of Odisha. The local ecology is suitable for rice production, especially during the wet season; environmental conditions offer very limited alternatives for growing rice. Rice production provides seasonal employment and an essential staple for the year. After the wet season, most farmers grow legumes.

Training and motivational support: Kamini Nathsharma's family owns 2 acre land but her family only cultivated 13 gunth (0.33acre). Innovation is a necessity for her five member family, including her mother-in-law as family is entirely dependent on her small farm. She along with her husband asked themselves, "How can they lift their family out of this trap? Farming is vital, but they need to find ways to earn additional income". Under the project "Assessment of Integrated Farming Model for Improved Food Security and Livelihood in Rural Household" training was imparted and a model was developed for framing in their backyard. Various inputs like improved vegetable seeds, seasonal fruit planting materials were provided. Duckery was introduced in the unutilized pond and poultry chicks were kept in a small poultry unit made of thatched room with mud. Previously they have two cows. Hybrid Napier was introduced as fodder for feeding these cows. The project team also arranged exposure visit of the farmers to different ICAR institutes for knowledge gain and skill development.

Brief achievements: The family started earning money through selling of eggs and milk in the local market. The yield of milk also enhanced due to feeding of Napier grass and balanced feed. They have also raised nutritional garden with proper technology. They were able to get seasonal leafy vegetables, for their daily household consumption. The surplus vegetables they sold in their village market. In one season by investing Rs 1/- they earn Rs 1.75/-. Thus they were not only able to increase their income but also enhanced their nutritional status. The annual income of the family increased to Rs 96 000 per year due to the intervention made by ICAR-CIWA.

Impact in the area: The introduction of IFS is adjacent to the home helped Smt. Kamini Nathsharma and her mother-in-law are able to utilise their leisure time in the farm. Also rural women, who want to buy vegetables, they came and purchased from them. The money earned was used for spending household purpose. She was a role model for other women in her area.



Jyoti Nayak, Abha Singh, Tanuja S. and Geeta Saha

5

Backyard Poultry: A Source of Profit for Women



Smt. Pusalata Palatasingh
W/o Shri Pratap Palatasingh
Village- Haridamada, Block- Bhubaneswar
District- Khordha, Contact- 7077902245

Background: Smt. Pusalata Palatasingh was identified as one of the Female Youth Core Group (YCG) members in Haridamada village of Bhubaneswar block in Khordha district under institute project entitled “Multi Agency Participatory Extension Model (MAPEM) for Livelihood Improvement of Rural Women through Backyard Poultry”.

Training and motivational support: Her capacity was built through skill training, demonstration, exposure visit, literature support, etc. by ICAR-CIWA in the field of poultry rearing and care of Mother Unit (MU) with the concept of MAPEM, YCG and MU. She was also linked with various agencies to get advisory services for successful establishment of backyard poultry unit.

Brief achievements: Mrs. Pusalata reared one day chicks (RIR) in Mother Unit upto one month with proper management of light, temperature, drinking water, feed, watch and ward, etc. Thereafter, she distributed the one month old chicks to the selected women beneficiaries and also provided required advisory services. Gradually her confidence developed and she was able to contact the agencies independently to get poultry chicks from Central Poultry Development Organization (CPDO), feed from Odisha State Poultry Products Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. (OPOLFED) and Animal Husbandry Department for health support. After developing linkage with different agencies, she decided to establish a backyard poultry unit of her own. She invested Rs 6000/- for purchase of 200 RIR chicks including feed and followed the scientific practices for rearing birds in the Mother Unit. She sold 60 birds of twenty days aged @Rs40 (Rs2400), 50 male birds at 2.5 months aged @Rs 300 (Rs15000) and eggs @Rs 5 (150 eggs/bird x 40 birds x Rs 5 = Rs 30000). Thus, she got Rs 46,800 and made a profit of Rs 40,800.

Impact in the area: Smt. Pusalata is continuing with this enterprise now also and her effort has encouraged other 25 Scheduled Caste farm women in the adjoining hamlet, who have adopted it. Her endeavor brought cheers among the women poultry growers as they not only enjoyed nutritional support but also earned income by using their leisure time.



Sabita Mishra, Anil Kumar, Ananta Sarkar, Bhikari Charan Behera and Subrat Kumar Das



6

Empowerment of Farm Woman through Backyard Poultry



Smt. Urmilla Beura

W/o Chandra Sekhar Beura

Village- Alapur, District- Puri, Odisha

Background: Smt. Urmilla Beura, an agriculture worker and homemaker was dependent upon paddy cultivation along with fish farming in 5 acre of land as primary cultivation in village Alapur, District Puri, Odisha. Besides this integrated farming system, she developed keen interest in backyard poultry farming after participation in Krushak Gosthi organized by ICAR-CIWA on backyard poultry production in 2015. She started learning on scientific rearing of poultry birds with the help of scientific team of ICAR-CIWA. Thereafter, she took lead in organizing other farm women of the village and formed one self help group named “Maa Pattarani Kukuda Utpadaka Gosthi”.

Training and motivational support: Initially, Vanaraja chicks of four weeks of age were provided under the collaborative project “Empowerment of farm women through livestock technologies” by ICAR- CIWA to self help group for group rearing of backyard poultry. Low cost poultry house was constructed by using locally available bamboo and paddy straws. The birds were reared on scavenging feeding based on kitchen waste and growth rate was recorded at fortnight intervals.

Brief Achievements: After five month of rearing, the birds weighed on an average 2.5 kg in. The members of SHG then sold the male birds @ Rs.300-500 per bird and utilized the money towards educations of their children, in agricultural activities, construction of house and procurement of feed for cattle and poultry etc. The female birds were kept for egg production. They earned a profit of Rs. 1200/ birds by selling of eggs @ Rs 10/egg in the local market.

Impact in the area: The farm women under the leadership of Smt Beura are successfully continuing with the backyard poultry venture. The scientific knowledge learned from ICAR- CIWA, the experience gained from her own farm, and realizing the benefit, members of SHG has extended the poultry unit and they are now maintaining a stock of 200 birds. The active participation of farm women of Alapur village and the leadership provided by Smt. Beura has brought new confidence among them. Smt. Urmila Beura has emerged as a role model in organizing rural women in leading them successfully in the backyard poultry enterprise.



Anil Kumar, Biswanath Sahoo, Arun Kumar Panda and Debendra Nath Sarangi

7

Empowering Farm Woman through Mushroom Cultivation



Smt. Mamata Mohanty

W/o Khitish Mohanty

Village- Sabalpur, Block- Sadar block

District- Cuttack, Contact- 8763927095

Background: Smt. Mamata Mohanty (50 yrs.) w/o Shri Khitish Mohanty of Sabalpur village of Sadar block in Cuttack district, Odisha was selected as one of the women beneficiaries in the Outreach project of ICAR-CIWA.

Training and motivational support: For setting of social climate, different meetings were conducted by creating awareness and motivation among farm women. From time to time, trainings, demonstrations, exposure visits and related literatures were provided to build her capacity. Smt. Mohanty was exposed with the technology of mushroom cultivation. Then, she was facilitated to attend programs on oyster mushroom cultivation organized by the institute. She was also supported with mushroom spawn, wheat, bavistin and polythene as critical input to establish her unit. She being benefited and fully convinced with the technology decided to expand her unit. She purchased straw, wheat, polythene, bavistin and spawn for 65 beds of oyster mushroom. Also, she adopted all the required scientific practices.

Brief Achievements: After one and half months, she got the total harvest of about 100 kg with an average yield of 1.5 kg/bed. With her hard work and sincerity, she sold @ Rs. 80/kg in her door step and got Rs.8,000 as income with an investment of Rs.2,000 and profit of Rs. 6,000. This has encouraged her to expand the mushroom beds to 200 and thereby earned higher profit.

Impact in the area: Presently, she is able to motivate and guide other women of her area to adopt this women friendly mushroom cultivation technology for enhancement of socio-economic and nutritional status. She has also planned to set up an enterprise of both straw and oyster mushroom in a big way by cultivating it round the year.



Anil Kumar, Biswanath Sahoo, Arun Kumar Panda and Debendra Nath Sarangi



8

Empowering Farm Woman through Improved Goat Farming



Mrs. Golap Nayak

W/o Mr Nila Nayak

Village- Charikania, Rahutia, Block- Jagannath Prasad

District- Ganjam, Contact- 8763252271

Background: Mrs. Golap Nayak with her husband Nila Nayak were living in rural area depending upon crop based paddy cultivation with vegetable production in leased land of 1.0 acre area. Their lively support was hand to mouth with 4 sons and a daughter. For better earning, they migrated to Surat, Gujarat 4 years back. During the COVID-19, their livelihood was disturbed and they decided to come back to their native tract of Ganjam to focus on animal husbandry especially on goat farming. The spouse attended a krushak sangosthi organized by ICAR-CIWA at Jirabadi in 2017 which inspired her to start goat farming as a commercial venture which was supported by their young children who were in search of employment after return from Surat in COVID-19.

Training and support: Under the project “Enhancing Income of Rural Women through Improved Goat Rearing” of ICAR- CIWA, training was imparted on scientific method of feeding especially on supplemental proteinaceous oil cakes and mineral mixture during peak phase of growth (6 month-year), improved breeding and management especially better housing, timely vaccination and health care. Establishment of market linkage and selling of goats after weighing to middle men enabled them to be financially benefited by additional 30%. The fodder varieties (CO4 and IGFR1-6) provided by ICAR-CIWA also saved their expenditure on feeding concentrate and time spent in grazing. Animal husbandry Dept. and ATMA also extended support in training of Smt. Nayak.

Brief achievements: She developed an improved goat farm having good infrastructure of goat shed assisted by Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of Odisha. Within 3 years they were able to house about 150 goats with income increased by 2.5 times (2.5 Vs 1.0 lakhs per annum). The literature support and training imparted to them improved women’s access to resources, technologies and enhancing the decision making power for sustainable development of farm family. Their focused approach on improved method of goat farming supported by ICAR-CIWA benefited a lot and made them socio-economically sound and empowered.

Impact in the area: During the project works, Smt. Nayak developed the leadership and communication ability by continuous exposure to various trainings, scientist-farmers interface organized by ICAR-CIWA motivated her to be successful farm woman with *Atmanirvarata* concept. The improved goat farming in entrepreneurship mode by Smt. Nayak is a source of inspiration for rural farm women.



Biswanath Sahoo, Anil Kumar, Arun Kumar Panda, Sabita Mishra, Jyoti Nayak and Debendra Nath Sarangi

9

Smt. Pratima Nayak - A Source of Inspiration for Farm Women



Smt. Pratima Nayak

W/o Satrugan Nayak

Village- Motari, Block- Sadar, District- Dhenkanal

Background: Smt. Pratima Nayak of Motari village of Sadar block in Dhenkanal district, Odisha, being landless was searching for a quality life which was not possible through the income made by her husband, a peon in a Government school. In this situation, with strong determination, she decided to do farming and took a land about 0.25 acres on lease for six months. She started with cultivation of sugarcane keeping in mind the market facility through Shakti Sugar Mill that was available in the area. In the first year, she earned a profit of Rs.10,000/- out of it. Then she invested this amount in procuring land for agriculture and continued the same crop in 5-7 acres of leased-in land. During the course of time, she expanded their cultivation practices to vegetables, oilseeds and pulses. However, she was dissatisfied and worried on spending Rs. 50,000-70,000 annually on pest and disease control.

Training and motivational support: During 2014-15, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar played an important role in disseminating knowledge on Integrated Pest Management practices under IPM project through Farmers-Scientists Interface in which she was one of the participants. ICAR-CIWA sensitized the farmers and farmwomen regarding bad effects of pesticides on environment as well as human beings along with the benefits of IPM. ICAR-CIWA also demonstrated the use of Trichocards, Pheromone traps and Yellow sticky traps for management of insect pests in her plot on standing brinjal and tomato crops. By seeing the result, she was highly sensitized, impressed and decided to use the above mentioned environmentally sound technologies in place of chemicals. Now she is able to save 50% of expenditure incurred towards use of pesticides.

Brief achievements: Today, Smt. Pratima has replaced her thatched house with a pucca house, has modern farm implements like: brand new tractor, power tiller, thresher, sugarcane sowing machine, etc. and also owns 10 acre of cultivated land. She has proved herself as a very good decision maker and efficient manager, who manages labourers, contacts the research institutes, extension functionaries and marketing agencies over phone, maintains daily records of activities and even plans for future activities. She has been awarded by the State Government and various other organizations.

Impact in the area: Smt. Pratima Nayak is a role model for other farmwomen. She promotes other farm families highlighting the reduced cost not only in purchase of pesticides but also in labour charges for pesticide application and risks involved with chemicals. Her success has promoted many to adopt IPM in agriculture as a profitable and safe venture.



Santosh Kumar Srivastava and Atul Chetan Hemrom



10

Smt. Surekha Khuntia- An Innovative Farm Woman



Smt. Surekha Khuntia

W/o Sisir Khuntia

Village- Harekrushnapur, Block- Sadar, District- Dhenkanal

Background: Smt. Surekha Khuntia, farmwoman hails from Harekrushnapur village in Sadar block of Dhenkanal District, Odisha. The village is approximately 94 kms away from Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha. The local ecology is suitable for vegetable, banana, drumstick, papaya and mango. Her family had migrated to Harekrushnapur village around 1975. She has been into farming for last 15 years. Initially farming was done only for household consumption which mostly included paddy and black gram. With a pond near to the farm, they decided to go for small scale vegetable production that could meet daily requirements of the family. After consumption whatever left was taken to market and sold which fetched them good price in return. Also she says with increase in number of family members, there was need to increase income of the family with no other alternative than agriculture they decided to upscale vegetable production. In recent years with the advent of hybrid seeds, rising cost of fertilizers and pest management practices, profits however remained marginal.

Training and motivational support: With increasing satisfaction from the returns, she continued with cultivation of vegetables with whatever available in the market. It was after a scientists-farmers interface organized by ICAR-CIWA under IPM Project, she learnt to maximize use of natural resources and integrating other components for reduced input cost thus increasing returns. After building enough confidence she decided to make use of government machinery and schemes that could help her fulfill requirements for the farm. In 2013 through government agency they first installed bore well. This later changed the farming scenario of her farm. Previously she was merely dependent on rain water during the season for crop production, which now has increased to three seasons. Now she has developed a small poultry unit with capacity of five hundred birds, cows for milking. Cow dung and poultry manure is effectively used which has reduced dependency on fertilizers. Having learnt the best timing for sale of produce for higher profits, she has adopted early sowing and short duration varieties. A scientific team from ICAR-CIWA reached her village with the help of KVK, Dhenkanal. Impressed by illustrations and on field demonstration on various tools and techniques of IPM, she decided to give it a try.

Brief achievements: She used the technologies like Yellow Sticky Trap, Pheromone Trap, Tricho-card which was provided to her as technological support under the IPM project of the ICAR-CIWA. To her surprise pest incidence had dropped to

unbelievable levels. She shared she used to spend around Rs. 10,000/season with 4-5 sprays/crop. But after introduction of IPM technologies she tried it to believe it and has not sprayed even once.

Impact in the area: She is innovative on her own, due to unavailability of staplers in the village to staple the tricho-card, which is also profound reason for farmers not accepting this proven technology of biological control. She used the thorn of Bael (wood apple) to prick and fix the trichocards in the leaves of the tomato and brinjal crops. As the base of the thorn is broad it does not allow the pinned card to loosen out. She now knows that she consumes, feeds her family, sells produce which are safe and healthy food. Her success has attracted many to adopt IPM in agriculture as safe and environment friendly venture.



Santosh Kumar Srivastava and Atul Chetan Hemrom



11

A Successful Farm Woman Entrepreneur through Bee Keeping



Smt. Subhadra Swain

W/o Chittaranjan Puhan

Village- Harekrushnapur, Block- Sadar, District- Dhenkanal

Background: Smt. Subhadra Swain, farmwoman belongs to Harekrushnapur village in Sadar block of Dhenkanal District, Odisha. The local ecology is suitable for vegetable, banana, drumstick, papaya and mango. Her family had migrated to Harekrushnapur village around 1975. Her father first came and identified the places bought 3 acres of land, made arrangements, shelter for about two years before they could bring their families. The reason for migration as she stated was lack of land and resources due to growing family size in their ancestral village named Mahimagadi, Joronda at Dhenkanal District which is about 20 kms from the current location. Harekrushnapur village is surrounded by hills and has ample natural resources that prompted them to settle here. Her family was already engaged into cultivation of vegetables, and she was into housekeeping and feeding of cattle.

Training and motivational support: She attended a training programme organized by KVK, Dhenkanal on bee keeping in collaboration with ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar. It was always in her mind to contribute financially to her family, and this training showed her the way ahead as it was very suitable for women like her. Other than raising income other things that were sound for bee keeping was the surrounding, having settlement under the hills, lush green forest coverage with cache of flora, water source close to farm, no extra land required, no labour cost involved and most importantly bee keeping also increases productivity of crops. She started with five boxes which she procured from OUAT, Bhubaneswar. She however was not able to harvest honey in the first year due to quick arrival of monsoon in which the bees mostly stay dormant. The very next year she harvested honey at 5 kg/box and sold it at a minimal price of Rs. 300/- per kg. Which was further increased to 20 boxes.

Brief achievements: Smt. Subhadra Swain started Bee keeping from 5 boxes in first year and after reaping rich harvest from these and a will power to earn more propelled her to set up 20 more boxes. For purchasing of 20 boxes she came in contact with Horticulture Department, Dhenkanal. There she explored that the boxes for bee keeping come with government subsidy and bee were also supplied for setting up of bee colony. Her husband rendered support in this regard. From her first harvest she had earned Rs. 7,500/-. She makes two harvests in a year, one around March-April and leaves it to resettle the colony

for honey production and during October. The October harvest remains significantly lower in quantity due to monsoon, but the April harvest yields more than 5 kg/box. Today Smt. Subahdra Swain earns more Rs. 40,000/- annually through bee keeping.

Impact in the area: Bee keeping is not only enhanced their income but also motivated other farm families to establish honey bee units. She now plans to expand her bee keeping and promote others for the same. There is a good market for honey and honey bee colonies and she plans to tap in to this venture too. She became a role model for farm women in her locality.



Jyoti Nayak, Praveen Jhakar, Geeta Saha and Pragati Kishore Rout





12

Story of a Progressive Farm Woman



Mrs. Manorama Nayak

W/o Sh. Ajaya Nayak

Village- Sankilo, Block- Nischintakoili

District- Cuttack, Odisha, Contact- 9668023115

Background: Mrs. Manorama Nayak, W/o Sh. Ajaya Nayak, aged 42 years is a dynamic and progressive farm woman from the village Sankilo of Nischintakoili Block of Cuttack district, Odisha. She has 5 acres of agricultural land. She mainly grows paddy in her field during kharif season in 3 acres of land. She also grows pulse crops like black gram, green gram in 3 acres of land and other vegetables crops like potato, okra, tomato, bitter gourd, pointed gourd, ridge gourd, cole crops etc. in 2 acres of land. She is also engaged in paddy straw mushroom farming from which she gets a good profit. Cattle rearing are also practiced by her for consumption of milk and supplementing family income.

Training and motivational support: She used to grow traditional crops on her farm with average yields of various crop before coming in contact with scientists and technical staffs of ICAR-Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar. She now became a beneficiary of ICAR- NASF Project. Thereafter, she was exposed to latest improved new technical knowledge on cultivation of HYVs and Nutri rich paddy varieties, black gram and green gram, vegetable crops, paddy straw mushroom and use of different women friendly improved tools and equipments through training and demonstration by the project team.

Brief Achievements: After adoption of women friendly New Agriculture Technologies from ICAR-CIWA, her farm income increased significantly i.e., 25-30% with utilization of improved tools and equipments, quality seeds with improved package of practices, advanced technical knowhow and back stopping led to reduction of drudgery, improvement in women labour and their efficiency resulting in higher yield and production at her farm land. Apart from family consumption, Mrs. Manorama earns Rs.3,50,000/- of gross income per annum out of which she earns a profit of Rs.2,00,000/-. She has received the progressive farm women award at ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack.

Impact in the Area: Mrs. Manorama attributes her success to the technical inputs provided by ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar and encouragement and support of her husband and other family members. She has also mobilized one Women Farmer Development group as Secretary namely Ananya Mahila Bikash Samiti consisting of 100 farm women of her locality. She whole heartedly shares her experience and information in workshops and training programmes to help others to get motivated. She became a role model for farm women within her locality. She says interest and determination can remove many obstacles in life. She is the epitome of women empowerment.



Lipi Das

13

Rukmani: Story of Progressive Farm Woman



Mrs. Rukmani Nayak

W/o Sh. Sanjay Nayak

Village- Sankilo, Block- Nischintakoili

District- Cuttack, Odisha, Contact- 6372454936

Background: Mrs. Rukmani Nayak, W/o Sh. Sanjay Nayak, aged 49 years is an energetic farm woman with a progressive mind set and indomitable spirit having 20 years of experience in farming from Sankilo village of Nischintakoili block of Cuttack district, Odisha. She owns 4 acres of agricultural land. She mainly cultivates paddy during kharif season in 3 acres of land and vegetable crops like pumpkin, bitter gourd, papaya, okra, cowpea etc. in 2 acres of land. She also grows pulse crop like black gram and green gram in 3 acres of land. She also practices vermicomposting, preparation of farm yard manure (FYM), cattle rearing and goat rearing for supplementing family income.

Training and motivational support: She came in contact with ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar as a beneficiary of ICAR-NASF Project. Thereafter, through the hand holding support by the project team she was exposed to improved technical knowledge and guidance on cultivation practices of paddy, vegetable crops, black gram, green gram and use of different women friendly improved tools and equipments through training and demonstrations.

Brief Achievements: After adoption of women friendly New Agricultural Technologies from ICAR-CIWA, her farm income increased to a greater extent i.e., 25-30% with utilization of improved tools and equipments, quality seeds with improved package of practices, advanced technical knowhow and back stopping led to reduction of drudgery, improvement in women labour and their efficiency resulting in higher yield and production at her farm land. Apart from family consumption Mrs. Rukmani earns Rs.3,20,000/- of gross income per annum out of which she earns a profit of Rs. 1,80,000/- .

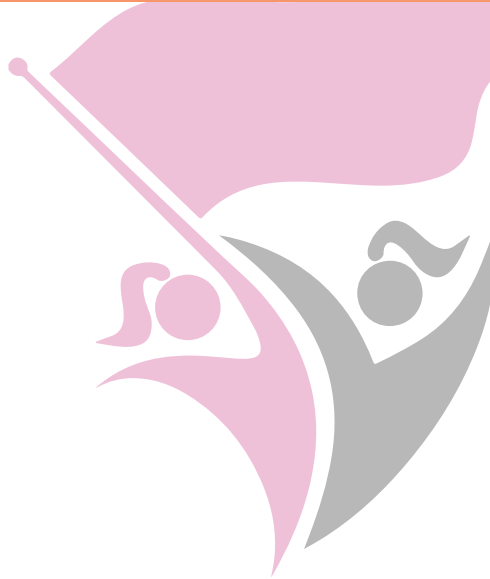
Impact in the Area: Mrs. Rukmani with her dedication has keenness to exchange and share innovative technical knowledge availed from ICAR-CIWA. Farm women from nearby villages of Sankilo i.e., Tentapur, Baliapada, Katarapada, Dasamania etc. have come forward and takeoff the innovative ideas from her for improving their production and productivity in their agricultural crops. She has also mobilized one Women Farmer Development group as President namely Ananya Mahila Bikash Samiti consisting of



100 farm women of her locality. She is truly a role model for other farm women in the locality. She has proven that the adoption of women friendly New Agricultural Technologies in farming will facilitate in maximizing the profit and the technical back stopping supported with guidance, mentorship and timely help about the latest trends in agriculture sector help in reaping benefits.



Lipi Das



14

Fishlikes: Success Story of Biswa Bharti Maa SHG group



Mrs Pinaki Parimita

At- Kanamana, Po- Kusumbar, Post- Astaranga

District- Puri, Contact- 7205773847

Background: Mrs Pinaki Parimita is a member of the Biswabharti Maa SHG group at Kanamana village, Astaranga. The group was earlier involved in mushroom cultivation, crab farming and shrimp farming. They showed interest in value added fish product preparation as they have easy access to shrimp and fish, because of proximity of the village to the sea. They got training from ICAR-CIWA on the value added fish products preparation and management training on how to manage an enterprise. They were facilitated to obtain an FSSAI licence and trade license under the trade name “Fishlikes”. During the pandemic they were facilitated by creating marketing linkage of the product with Falcon Chilka Fresh, a retail fish chain working in PPP mode under the Odisha Government

Training and motivational support: The entrepreneur got the necessary skill training and entrepreneurial management training from ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar. Mrs Pinaki Parimita along with 12 other women members of the SHG are now master trainers training other rural women on the value added fish product preparation. She has been sharing her experiences in many platforms provided by ICAR-CIWA that has been motivating other rural women. The group has been facilitated with necessary utensils and equipments like solar cabinet dryer for hygienic preparation and packaging of value added fish products.

Brief Achievements: Mrs Pinaki Parimita acts as the leader in marketing the produce prepared by the women as a group activity. The sale of the product which started in August 2020 with twostores have spread to 12 stores within a period of 4 months. Because of the demand, they have started marketing the product to West Bengal too. The women are earning a profit of around Rs 130-150/kg of prawn pickle. To tide over the obstacles posed by the pandemic COVID 19, the group has also ventured into online marketing.

Impact in the Area: The setting up of value added fish products enterprise became possible because of the interventions of ICAR-CIWA. The women were given skill training and management training, provided with critical inputs like packaging materials, packaging



machine and utensils which instilled confidence in them for starting the enterprise. Since hygienically prepared and packed value added fish products are not common in Odisha, a consumer survey also done by ICAR-CIWA to assess the marketability potential of the products. Market linkage is one of the biggest hurdles faced by rural women engaged in farming or entrepreneurial activities. The facilitation for market linkage and obtaining licenses has helped the women to make the enterprise a sustainable one.



Tanuja S. and Charles Jeeva



15

Empowerment of Farm Women through Family Poultry Production



Smt. Sasmita Bhoi

Village- Denua basta, Block- Nimapada

District- Puri, Odisha, Contact- 8260243669

Background: Smt. Sasmita Bhoi of village Denuabasta of Nimapara block of Puri district, Odisha was identified as one of the beneficiary under the institute project for livelihood improvement through family poultry production.

Training and motivational support: She had participated in the capacity building program organized by ICAR-CIWA on various aspects of backyard poultry production such as handling of birds, preparation of suitable house, preparation of homemade feed for supplementary feeding, identification of sick bird, vaccination procedure, record keeping etc. As a part of exposure visit, she also visited the Poultry demonstration unit of ICAR-CIWA and Central Poultry Development Organization, Bhubaneswar.

Brief Achievements: Thirty Vanaraja chicks of four weeks old were provided to her for backyard rearing. Low cost poultry house was constructed by using locally available bamboo and paddy straws. The chicks were allowed to scavenge during day time. Broken rice, rice barns, kitchen waste were offered to them as and when available. Male birds weighed on an average 1.6 kg in three months. She sold the male birds @ Rs.300/ per kg live weight and earned Rs. 7200/. Female birds were reared for egg production and Rs. 7500/ (Rs. 10/egg) were earned in one year by selling eggs. Old hens were sold at Rs. 200/ each and Rs. 2600/ were earned by selling 13 hens. Thus, she had a net income of around Rs. 17, 300/ in one year through backyard poultry rearing. The money gained by poultry rearing was utilized towards education of her children, purchasing household items, medical expenses, etc. She also purchased a bicycle for her school going daughter worth Rs. 6000/. Around 20% of the eggs laid by the hens were also utilized for home consumption, which provided nutrition security to her family.

Impact in the Area: The training and skill learned from ICAR- CIWA, the experience gained from her own poultry unit, and realizing good income made her confident enough to continue with the poultry farming and now she is maintained around 50 birds. Smt. Sasmita Bhoi is the successful role model and an eye opener by showing path and hope for improving livelihood of rural women through family poultry farming.



Arun Kumar Panda, Biswanath Sahoo and Anil Kumar



16

Livelihood Improvement of Farm Woman through Improved Goat Rearing



Mrs. Mani Naik

W/o Abhimanyu Nayak

Village- Rauti, Po- Rauti Ps- Jagannath Prasad, Bhanjanagar

District- Ganjam, Odisha, Pin- 761121, Contact- 7077578290

Background: Mrs. Mani Nayak, wife of Shri Abhimanyu Nayak, is an agriculture farmer. She was fully dependent upon paddy cultivation in about one acre of land and safeguarding cashew nut orchard in lease. They were living hand to mouth with 3 sons who were assisting in protection of cashewnut orchard. Initially she started rearing of 7 sheep with 10 desi poultry birds. Then she started goat farming with 10 goats and one buck in lease. The profit shared by goat owners was more (3:1), hence she was not profited much. She developed keen interest to increase the size of goat farming being inspired by AICRP on Ganjam goats, OUAT. The training imparted by ICAR-CIWA to goat farmers of Krushak Sangosthi organized at Jirabadi motivated her. She developed keen interest for improved methods in goat farming. Further, her focused approach on improved method of goat-poultry farming changed her mindset to be socio-economically empowered.

Training and motivational support: Under the project “Enhancing Income of Rural Women through Improved Goat Rearing” of ICAR- CIWA, training was imparted on scientific method of feeding especially on supplemental proteinaceous oil cakes and mineral mixture during peak phase of growth , improved breeding and management especially better housing, timely vaccination and health care. Establishment of market linkage and selling of goats after weighing to middle men enabled them to be financially benefited by additional 30%. The fodder varieties (Sugarcane, CO4 and IGFRI-6) provided by ICAR-CIWA also saved their expenditure on feeding concentrate and time spent in grazing. Smt. Naik get supported by regional animal husbandry office & ATMA (Agriculture Technology management Agency), Jagannath Prasad.

Brief Achievements: Smt. Nayak developed an improved goat farm having good infrastructure assisted by Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of Odisha. Within 3 years they were able to house about 200 goats with income increased by 3 times (3.0 Vs 1.0 lakhs per annum). The literature support and training imparted to them improved women’s access to various input resources, technologies, reducing vulnerability and enhancing the decision making power for their livelihood support leading to women empowerment.

Impact in the Area: Continuous exposure to various trainings, scientist-farmers interface organized by ICAR-CIWA helped in developing the leadership and communication ability and motivated her to be a successful farm woman. She has established strong linkages with about 100 farm women, through women self help groups. The remarkable achievement on goat farming in entrepreneurship mode by her is a source of inspiration for rural farm women.



Biswanath Sahoo, Anil Kumar, Arun Kumar Panda, Sabita Mishra, Jyoti Nayak and Debendra Nath Sarangi





17

Livelihood Improvement of Farm Women through Family Poultry Production



Mrs. Pratima Behera

Village- Chanrapada, Block-Nimapada

District- Puri, Odisha

Background: Mrs. Pratima Behera of village Chanrapada, Puri district of Odisha belongs to a poor family with no cultivable land. She used to work as a daily labour for her livelihood. She was identified one of the beneficiary under the institute project for livelihood improvement through backyard poultry production.

Training and Motivational support: She had participated in the skill based capacity building programme on improved management practices for higher income through backyard poultry production organized by the institute at Chanrapada. She also participated in the exposure visit programme and visited the poultry unit of ICAR-CIWA and Central Poultry Development Organization, Bhubaneswar.

Brief Achievements: Thirty (30) Vanaraja chicks of four weeks old were provided to her for rearing under the Institute research project on Promoting Gender Equity through Family Poultry Production. She reared the chicks in extensive system wherein the chicks were allowed to scavenge during the day time and provided night shelter in low cost poultry house made from mud with thatched roof. The birds were provided with broken rice, chuni and kitchen wastes as and when available. She sold the male birds at 100 day of age and earned Rs. 6300/- (@1.5 kg per bird and Rs. 300 per kg live weight). She retained the female bird for egg production. She earned Rs. 7200/- (Rs. 10 per egg) by selling eggs. The old hens were sold @Rs. 250 each and she earned Rs. 3000/- by selling 12 hens. Thus she had a net income of around Rs. 16500/- in one year through backyard poultry rearing. About 15 percent of the eggs were also used for family consumption which provided nutrition security to the family.

Impact in the area: Mrs. Pratima Behera attributed her success to the technical guidance and initial support by ICAR-CIWA. Realizing the benefit, she has extended the poultry unit and now maintaining 50 birds in backyard system of rearing. She is a role model for farm women within her locality. Her interest and determination makes her a successful farm woman through backyard poultry.



Arun Kumar Panda, Biswanath Sahoo and Anil Kumar

18

Gaurimani- A Source of Inspiration for Farm Women



Smt. Gaurimani Behera,
W/o Shri. Basant Kumar Behera,
Village- Jaguleipadar, Block- Kanas,
District- Puri, Pin- 752017, Contact- 8658477285

Background: Smt Gaurimani Behera, a farm woman of Jaguleipadar in Kanas block of Puri was identified by ICAR--CIWA under the Institute research project 'Integrating Gender Dimensions for Improvement of Livelihood through Empowerment'. Her leadership skill was developed by ICAR-CIWA through capacity building in the field of agriculture and allied sectors.

Training and Motivational support: With ICAR-CIWA guidance, Smt. Gauri popularized mushroom farming, improved paddy cultivation, vegetable nursery raising, seed treatment, vermin-composting, nutrition gardening and backyard poultry rearing in her village. To her credit, Smt. Gauri has established a Paper Plate Making Unit, two Coir Mat Making Units and one Custom Hiring Center through WSHGs in own locality to enhance their socio-economic well-being.

Brief Achievements: She developed strong linkages with ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, KVK-Puri, Department of Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, Department of Disaster Management, Coir Board, Health Department, MSME, Odisha Livelihood Mission, NGOs (Viswa Jivan Seva Sangha and SAMBHAB) and OXFAM. With her communication skill, she has well presented the gender issues in agriculture before the officials of R&D agencies for solution.

Impact in the area: Smt. Gaurimani Behera organized 52 WSHGs covering 600 farm women and, trained 1000 farm women in the areas of health, disaster management, line transplanting of paddy, gender sensitization and organic farming. During Covid-19 Pandemic, she moved door to door of her village and sensitized people on vaccination, using toilet, drinking hot water, taking vitamin-C rich diet and maintaining environment. She is a role model and eye opener for improving livelihood of farm families in her area.



Sabita Mishra, Debendra Nath Sarangi and Bhikari Charan Behera



19

Women in Socio-Economic Change



Smt. Anusaya Beura

W/o Shri Kanhu Beura

Village- Padasahi, Block- Bhubaneswar

District- Khordha, Contact- 9178539980

Background: Smt. Anusaya Beura of Padasahi village in Khordha district of Odisha was selected as Village level Para Extension Worker (VPEW) under an action research project “Designing Gender Sensitive Extension Model and Testing its Efficacy” launched by ICAR-CIWA in her village. She was the President of Mahila Mahasangha of Dadha Panchayat having 42 WSHGs of the panchayat run under her guidance. She was involved with ICAR-CIWA interventions in the field of agriculture and allied sectors.

Training and motivational support: In association with CIWA, Smt. Beura guided farm women in developing nutritional garden cum seed production units (60), mushroom units (12), fish cultivation by involving 50 farm women, improved back yard poultry units (15), value addition of fruits and vegetables (2 WSHGs), vermin-compost units (2), scented and high yielding rice cultivation (2 WSHGs). She also facilitated the villagers in getting agricultural inputs, labours for paddy harvesting, soil testing in collaboration with Mahindra Tractor Company, organizing exhibition stalls, marketing of SHG produces and coordinating different meetings to share her experience at village level.

Brief Achievements: Smt. Anusaya was instrumental in promoting sustainable and scalable innovative farming technologies and making a positive impact on agricultural community. In recognition to her useful work, she was selected as a regional award winner from Eastern Zone and conferred with the prestigious Krishi Prerna Samman, (Eastern Region) - Mahindra Samridhi India Agri Award 2014.

Impact in the area: The contribution of Anusaya Beura was reflected in enhancing income of farm women through mushroom cultivation, backyard poultry rearing and through value addition of fruits and vegetables. Her leadership ability helped in changing socio-economic status of farm families specially the farm women.



Sabita Mishra and Bhikari Charan Behera

20

Empowering Farm Woman through Fodder Cultivation Based Dairy



Mrs Sushanti Swain

W/o Mr Rohit Swain

Village- Sribantapur, Block- Balikuda

District- Jagatsinghpur, Contact- 9853067727

Background: Dairy farming has emerged as an important livelihood option in the Jagatsinghpur district over last two decades. The need for promoting cultivation and utilization of green fodder were not given due importance resulting in dairy farmers largely dependent feeding their animals imbalanced concentrate mixture and dry paddy straw. There is virtually non existence of feeding manger in the region and hardly any offering of green fodder leading to escalated cost of milk production. Keeping on view the grief situation of fodder, ICAR-CIWA promoted quality fodder cultivation through training programmes.

Mrs Sushanti Swain, W/o Shri Rohit Swain, an agriculture farmer was fully dependent upon husband's private job outside the state. It was very difficult for her to live with husband's income of about Rs 5 000/month. As advised by Scientists of ICAR-CIWA, she developed keen interest for dairy farming and gradually own six milch animals. She visited fodder cultivation at ICAR-CIWA and motivated to economise feed cost of dairy animals through fodder cultivation. After the exposure visit to ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar and participating in the training programmes, Mrs Sushanti was convinced and planted Hybrid Napier in their backyard.

Training and support: Under two institute projects, namely, 'Mapping Livestock and Gender and Studying the Role of Institutions in Livestock Development in Eastern India' and 'Status of Women in Peri-urban Dairy Farming: Mainstreaming their Role for Enhancing Income and Productivity' the dairy farmers were encouraged to take up cultivation of Hybrid Napier (Sugarcane, Yashwant, CO4 and IGFRI-6) provided by ICAR-CIWA to feed their animals. The farmers were provided with the planting material of improved variety of Hybrid Napier through the dairy co-operative. A number of training programme and awareness drive through exposure visit were organized to understand the importance of green fodder in reducing the cost of milk production and improving the health of animals. With active engagement of ICAR-CIWA and the Khalagaon dairy co-operative, a number of farmers have started cultivating Hybrid Napier and feeding their animals. The fodder varieties also saved their expenditure on feeding concentrate and time spent in grazing.

Brief achievements: Being inspired by scientists of ICAR-CIWA, she developed skill and devoted in proper management of milch cows with followers. Initially she planted fodder in 100 sq m area and quickly expanded to about 2000 sq m area. Being close to the homestead she herself regularly harvests the Hybrid Napier fodder and feeds her animals. She informed that by feeding green fodder to the milking animals, there has been an increase in total milk



production and she now requires feeding less concentrate to the animals. Besides this her cows are also getting healthier. She shared her experiences of growing and feeding green fodder to other members which resulted in demand of green fodder, so she also supplied planting materials free of cost to others in this area. Along with her husband she takes care of most of the work related to management of cows including cleaning of shed, feeding the cows and milking. Her husband takes care of delivering the milk in the society as their homestead is located a little far away. They supplied 40 to 45 litres of milk per day to the society and earns around Rs.25000/- per month. The spouse developed an improved dairy farm having good infrastructure of animal shed along with chaff cutter, cemented feeding manger to reduce the wastage of feed materials.

Impact in the area: Smt. Swain developed the leadership and communication ability by continuous exposure to various skill based capacity building programmes. Scientist-farmers interface organized by ICAR-CIWA motivated them to be successful farm woman in the line of *Atmanirvar Bharat*. She has established strong linkages with about 50 farm women; through women self help groups who are motivated to have fodder cultivation. She is a source of inspiration for farm women within her locality.



Biswanath Sahoo, Anil Kumar, Arun Kumar Panda and Debendra Nath Sarangi



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