

Summer Mungbean Changed Farmer's Fortune in Fatehpur District

Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur implemented a project on Model Seed System(s) in district Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh to empower farmers in production of chickpea and pigeonpea seed in the year 2007. This provided a platform to Institute Scientists and farmers to interact about improved pulse production and value of pulses in sustainable crop production. During formal and informal meetings with farmers in the target villages, where rice - wheat was the predominant cropping system. Most of the farmers had the opinion that after the harvest of wheat mungbean can not be grown during summer season.

Indian Institute of Pulses Research Kanpur, arranged visit of farmers to Institute farm and showed them summer mungbean in the year 2007. The visit of Institute demonstrations and discussion with scientists sensitized the farmers and consequently few farmers from Mauhar and Alipur Villages of Malwan block of Fatehpur District, Uttar Pradesh came forward to start mungbean cultivation in summer. Ten kg. Seed of short duration varieties Meha and Samrat developed by IIPR, Kanpur was supplied to six farmers namely, Mr. Rajesh Patel, Baburam Prajapati, Deshraj Singh, Shiv Pratap Singh, Ram Prakash Singh and Ram Sajeevan Patel of Mauhar and Alipur

villages of Malwan block Fatehpur District

In the year 2008 the mungbean was grown after mustard under the guidance of Institute Scientist. Farmers harvested 12-14 q mungbean per ha and earned Rs. 50-60 thousand per ha. The crop was harvested in 65 days



Picking of pods was not required as both the varieties have synchronous maturity. Such large profit within 65 days enthused many farmers to take up spring/summer mungbean cultivation in 2009. Farmers also realized that the yield of succeeding rice crop was higher with proceeding mungbean.

During Spring/Summer 2009 Mr. Rajesh Patel from village Alipur took up Mungbean cultivation in 3.5 ha land after harvest of wheat. He planted Mungbean varieties Meha in 2.0 ha and Samrat in 1.5 ha on dated 7-9 April 2009 after pre plant irrigation. He used 25 kg seed (treated with fungicide thiram @ 3g/kg seed) per ha and applied 100 kg DAP and 20 kg Sulphur per ha as basal dose. The crop was sown in line spaced 30 cm. He applied two irrigations at 32 and 43 DAS and sprayed

insecticide metasystax 0.03 % solution at podding stage to control thrips. The crop was harvested on 12-15 June 2009.



The yield of variety Samrat was 13.5 q/ha and Meha was 14.0 q /ha. From the total produce of 48 q Mr. Patel earned Rs. 1, 76,000 with an investment of Rs. 28,000/- only.

Similarly Mr. Baburam Prajapati earned. Rs. 42,000 from 0.8 ha mungbean and Shiv Pratap Singh earned Rs. 54,000 from 0.9 ha, Deshraj Singh earned Rs. 80,000 from 1.6 ha. This improves the income of farmers and changed their fortune.

They already constructed the tube well. Now most of the farmers of Mauhar and Alipur village have started the cultivation of summer mungbean as they are fully confident of bonus yield and monetary gains from summer mungbean without affecting their prevailing rice wheat cropping system. This innovative message has spread in neighboring villages and around 150 ha spring/summer mungbean is being cultivated during current season in cluster of 11-12 villages in Malwan block of Fatehpur Districts.