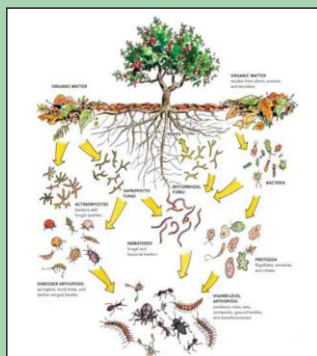


Online offcampus Training Programme on Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture

for the Officers of Department of Agriculture, Odisha

28th June – 1st July, 2022



Course Coordinator

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Agriculture in India has witnessed several technological advancements. 'Green Revolution' (GR) technology-led intensification of agriculture transformed India from food scarce to food surplus country. However, it also led to adverse impacts like soil degradation, biodiversity losses, rising cost of cultivation, etc. Rising application of chemical fertilizers and pesticides with stagnating/declining crop productivity dovetailed with uncertain market conditions and climate change effect resulted in unremunerative agriculture. Consequently, a large number of farmers falling into the debt trap, and distress in farming sector became pervasive. In due course, organic farming started gaining importance. The demand for organic food products is on constant rise worldwide.

Natural Farming (NF) or Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF), as commonly known, is purported to be a disruptive farm practice addressing major concerns of farmers of the rising cost of production. It envisages ecological or regenerative agriculture approaches under which the application of any kind of chemicals to soil biosystems are prohibited. It relies more on soil biology than soil chemistry by encouraging multi cropping, round-the-year soil cover, the addition of formulation made up of cow dung and urine to trigger the microorganisms in the soil system.

Hence, it is imperative to understand and study the concept of Natural Farming and its effect on crop choices, crop yield, farm income as well as scalability and sustainability at farmers' fields. Keeping this in view, EEI has taken innovative stride in conducting this training program which would focus on pros and cons and unraveling several facets of Natural Farming in India.

Objectives of the training

At the end of the training the participants will be able to

1. Define the concept of Natural Farming
2. Discriminate agro ecological approaches to natural farming
3. Summarize principles of natural farming
4. Appraise the key innovations of successful farmers in natural farming.
5. Demonstrate the successful location specific technologies for wider adoption in the area

Course contents

Natural Farming – An Overview, Natural Farming for Sustainable Production and Nutrition, Seed to Seed Practices Followed in Natural Farming, Crop Management in Natural Farming, Innovations in Pest Management using Pheromones as Mating Disruption Tool, Plant Protection in Natural Farming, Backward and Forward Linkages in Natural Farming, Digital Marketing Strategies for Natural Farm Products, Strategies for Promotion of Natural Farming, Validation of Package and Practices in Natural Farming, Scope and Challenges in Natural Farming.

Methodology

- Presentations by eminent speakers/Experts
- Interim Interactive sessions
- Interim Group discussions
- Brain storming
- Individual and Group presentations
- Individual and Group assignments

Participating Officers

For the officers of Department of Agriculture, Odisha

Duration

28th June – 1st July, 2022 (both days inclusive) in an online mode.

Evaluation: Pre, Post Course evaluation and After Training Evaluation will be administered to the participants to assess their knowledge and effectiveness of the training respectively

Compiled by

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