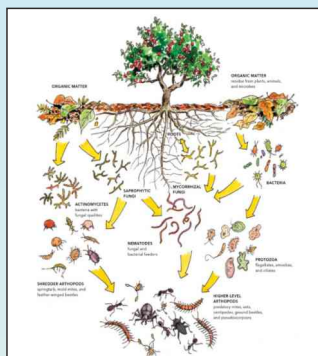


Online Training Programme on **Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture**

*For the officers of Department of Agriculture and
Allied sectors, South Indian States*

19th - 22nd April, 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 multicropping, 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 agroecological 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, Transition Strategy to Natural Farming, Integration of Allied Sectors in Natural Farming, Crop Planning and Management in Natural Farming, Soil health Management in Natural Farming, Validation of Package of Practices in Natural Farming, Community based Approach in Natural Farming, Plant Protection in Natural Farming, Nutrient Management in Natural Farming, Natural Farming & Certification and Value Chain Management 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

Officers of Department of Agriculture and Allied sectors of South Indian States

Duration

19th – 22nd April, 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

Edited and compiled by

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and

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