## Soil Health Card Scheme - Substantial Increase in Farmers Yield

#### "Swasth Dhara Khet Hara"



#### **Category: Integrated Nutrient Management**

#### **Introduction**

Due to rapid industrialization & urbanization, over exploitation of natural resources, excessive use of agro-chemicals, unauthorized cutting of forest, intensive & extensive cultivation, intensive cropping pattern, high yielding varieties of crops and increased use of high analysis chemically pure fertilizers etc., soil fertility is depleting at an alarming rate. Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management i.e. balance and judicious use of fertilizers along with bio fertilizers and locally available organic manures based on soil fertility to maintain soil health and crop productivity. 55 new soil testing laboratories under RKVY were established at 55 block headquarters to promote soil testing services.

### **Challenges**

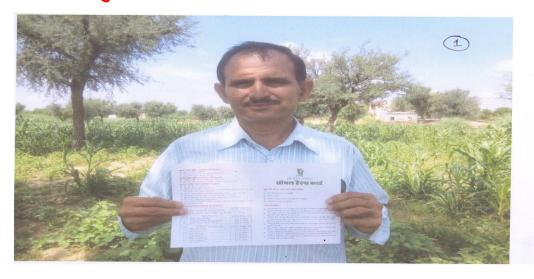
- No uniform norms are followed in the country for soil analysis and distribution of soil health cards.
- There was also need to devise a mechanism to issue soil health cards every 2 years in respect of all land holdings in order to capture the soil fertility changes occurring due to plant uptake and other natural cause.
- More attention required to follow up measures on the soil nutrient deficiencies indentified in soil health cards.
- Small and marginal farmers need technical support to apply site specific fertilizer application.

#### **Initiatives**

SOIL HEALTH CARD SCHEME ("Swasth Dhara Khet Hara") was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of India on 19th February, 2015 from Suratgarh, District Sriganganagar, Rajasthan.

The Soil Health Card Scheme was conceptualized, designed and envisaged to promote Integrated Nutrient Management i.e. balanced and judicious use of fertilizers along with bio fertilizers and locally available organic manures based on soil fertility to maintain soil health, crop productivity and to address fertility related constraints.

## Success Story - 1



I am Subhash Chandra son of Sh. Pyare Lal. I am a farmer by profession and have 12 Bigha of land. In half of this land, I sowed hybrid Bajra and in the other half Moong. Before the Soil Health Card Scheme came into existence, I was engaged in imbalanced use of fertilizers in my fields. After I came to know about Soil Health Card Scheme, I got the soil of my field tested with the help of officials of the Department of Agriculture and also got a Soil Health Card through which I came to know about various parameters. I also disseminated this information to other farmer of the village. Now, I am applying fertilizers based on the recommendations made in the Soil Health Card and the impact of which is quite evident from the good health and vigour of the crops.

With the help of Soil Health Card, I have been able to know the status of major and micro nutrients in the soil of my field and based upon the recommendations in the Soil Health Card, I am applying the judicious use of fertilizers and organic manures. Due to the judicious and balanced use of fertilizers, the cost of fertilization has come down and has also stopped the use of fertilizers which are not presently required. With the balanced use of fertilizers, the fertility of the soil is also maintained and I hope to reap good dividends after seeing the crop vigour.

Name of the Farmer: Sh. Subhash Chandra, s/o Sh. Pyare Lal

Village: Gopalpura, Gram Panchayat: Hamiri Kalan

Panchayat Samiti: Malsisar

District: Jhunjhunu Mobile No: 9829339707

## Success Story - 2

I am a farmer by profession and I came to know about the Soil Health Card Scheme from the Assistant Agriculture Officer in a meeting of the farmers of our area. Inspired by the scheme, I decided to get the soil of my field tested. I contacted the agriculture supervisor of my area and he after collecting the soil sample from my field, sent it to the soil testing laboratory for testing. After few days, I received a Soil Health Card of my field. From that card I came to know about how much and what kind of fertilizers I had to apply in my fields.

Based upon the recommendations in the soil health card, I applied the kind and quantity of organic manure, Urea, DAP, MoP and the dose of micro nutrients in the crops of Gram, Wheat and Mustard. Till the harvesting of the crops, I did not see any kind of nutrient deficiency in the crops and I got the yield of the crops beyond my imagination.

Therefore, with the aid of Soil Health Card, I was able to get higher and quality produce due to which I gained higher profits. Now I am convinced that Soil Health Card is just like a ration card of the soil.

I appeal to all the farmers to get the soil of their fields tested and receive the soil health cards. The scheme is free for the farmers.

Name of the Farmer: Sh. Raimal Gadri, s/o Sh. Hajari Gadri

Village: Gadri Khera, Gram Panchayat: Asop

Panchayat Samiti: Kotri

District: Bhilwara

### **Impact**

After the use of fertilizer recommendations based upon Soil Health Cards, the farmers of the state have reported substantial increase in their yield and reduction in consumption of fertilizers.



# Soil Testing Laboratory













# Training Programmes:









# **Additional Information**

#### For more information, please contact to:-

Joint Director, Agriculture (Chemistry) Commissionerate of Agriculture, Pant Krishi Bhawan, Jaipur Phone No. – 0141-5101997

Email: jdagr.chem.agri@rajasthan.gov.in

The URL of Soil Health Card Online Portal is:- shc.agnet.nic.in