

## **Fodder Seed and Hybrid Napier Root Slip Production & Distribution–**

### **Moving from scarcity to growth in fodder availability in State**

Department of implementation – Livestock Development Department

Implementing Agency - Directorate of Veterinary Services, Chhattisgarh

Sectors(s) - Agriculture (Animal Husbandry)

Year of Launch - 2012-13

**Background** - Chhattisgarh has a total livestock population of 150.40 Lakhs. Apart from being a source of food and milk, livestock also participate in daily livelihood enabling like ploughing, transportation of goods and persons etc. Output and profitability of livestock rearing mainly depends on expense on feed and fodder. Green fodder is the most suitable fodder for livestock. There was scarcity of green fodder in State, as per a 2014 publication reveals availability of green fodder is 210.00 lakh tonnes against a demand of 448.93 lakh tonnes. Unavailability of good quality green fodder and poor productivity of common grazing lands leads to poor productivity of milch animals and poor weight of meat providing animals

Rapid urbanization, industrialization and mining activities have caused shrinkage of grazing and fodder producing lands. Due to non-availability of quality green fodder throughout the year, milk producers are forced to utilize extra concentrates for optimum milk production. On account of this, cost of milk production is higher in the state as compared to neighboring states.

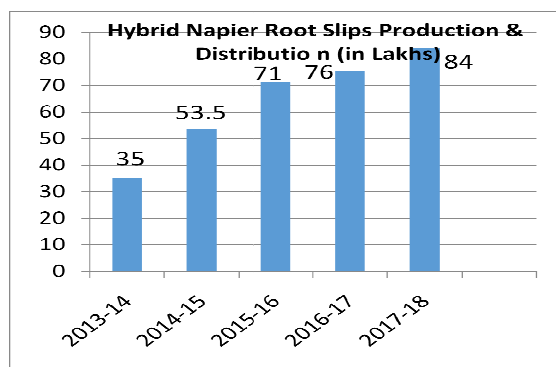
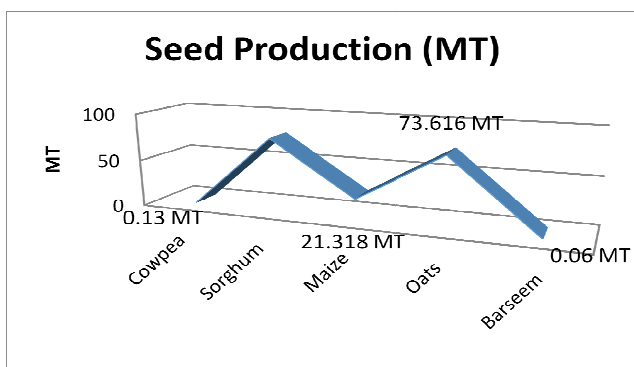
The situation of fodder availability is further worsened due to factors such as farmer preferences for production of staple crops, seasonal droughts and wastage of feed due to improper processing and management.

**Intervention** – Change in earlier approach of procurement of fodder seeds and distribution to farmer's, was made by establishment of fodder production units under RKVY for production of fodder seeds and Hybrid Napier root slips at departmental cattle breeding farm, Chandkhuri. This Unit also served as training center for fodder production through demonstration, to train departmental staff as well farmers..

Extension of improved fodder production and conservation technologies was ensured by establishment of twenty-nine fodder multiplication centers under RKVY. These Centers serves as demonstration units where fodder seed/ Hybrid Napier root slips sowing and production, azolla production, para urea treatment, hand operated chaff cutter demonstrations have been carried out.

Awareness campaigns were conducted, in which live demonstration of Hybrid Napier root slip plantation were carried out. Demonstration and distribution of Hybrid Napier

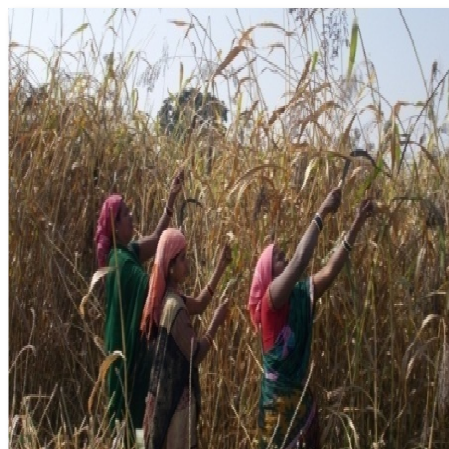
root slip in Animal Health Camps, Jansamasya Nivaran Sivr were done to promote backyard green fodder production



### Impact -

- Interventions leads to deliver 11, 9.31 tons of **Truth Level Certified** fodder seeds and 128 lakhs of Hybrid Napier Root cuts free of cost to around two lakhs selected beneficiaries in the state, till August 2018
- Milk production of the state increased at an average annual growth rate of 4.59%, Per capita availability of the milk in gm/day has increased by up to 26.92% in five years from 2011-12 to 2015-16
- This initiative has impacted numerous farmers, which has led to betterment in their livelihood.
- Paradigm shift in crop production - Till now around 40 to 45 farmers are shifted into exclusive fodder cultivation from their traditional agriculture practices
- Yearwise land showing and production through intervention.

Year	Sowing (in Hectare)	Fodder production (in 000 tons)
2012-13	851	22.9
2013-14	2327	72.9
2014-15	1034	44.5
2015-16	871	47.4
2016-17	374	34.9
2017-18	892	52.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6348</b>	<b>274.85</b>





**Key Takeaways** – Producing fodder seeds/Hybrid Napier Root Slips at Government farms leads to better production planning, ensuring the reach of fodder seeds/ root cuts to farmers land just before sowing time. Quality checks have been physically verified and assured by self production. Development of backyard fodder production culture among the majority of farmers leads to develop sustainable source of fodder to meet the requirements of livestock.

