

SUCCESS STORY

Additional income through Maize cultivation

Challenge: The farmers of village Khudra Faladi under Belbari ADO circle of Barpeta District are predominantly engaged in cultivation of Paddy, Rabi vegetables. Economic needs are met through cultivation of Rabi crops, vegetables and other crops. The farmers of this village have felt that cultivation of Rabi crops are gradually becoming non viable as the cost benefit ratio was sometimes not in their favour. Therefore they wanted an alternate crop which will provide more income than the other Rabi crops. The President Md. Nur Nabi Ali and Secretary Jeherul Islam of Seuji PPS of Khudra Faladi village approached ADO, Belbari and discussed about suitable crop which will bring them a good return.

Initiative: After several discussion between stakeholder and ADO, AEA it was decided to grow Maize crop on experimental basis, alternate to traditional Rabi crop like Mustard, Potato etc. President and Secretary of Seuji PPS were directed by the ADO to identify probable farmers willing to adopt package of practice of Maize crop. Finally 80 Bigha of land was made available for cultivation of Maize by Seuji PPS with 19 nos. of stakeholders.

ADO Belbari provided the farmers with 2.40 qtls. of Hybrid Maize (Variety-NMH-803) seed under the scheme RKVY, 2016-17. The seed were sown with active guideline and participation of ADO and AEA. Periodic supervision & visit by departmental official also encouraged the farmers to adopt proper package of practice for the crop.

Key result: At present the crop harvested and production of 68.75 qtl/ha is recorded which is better than other traditional Rabi crop. Farmers are also aware that, there is a ready market for their product without interference of middleman and getting Rs.1800/qtl in the market and the cost benefit ratio is in their favour.

Impact: It is expected that, other farmers who did not wish to cultivate Maize in Khudra Faladi village will go for Maize crop next season. Already farmers are interacting with ADO and AEA for next season.

Lesson learned: If extension machinery delivers effectively farmers can easily be motivated to diversify from traditional method of cultivation or choice of variety. In this case farmers wanted an alternate means of income from traditional Rabi crop. Cultivation of Maize will pave a new road towards self sufficiency and sustainability.

Field visit by ADA (D/L), Barpeta



Field visit by ADA (D/L), Barpeta



Early stages of Demonstration



ADO, Belbari & President of Seuji PPS, Khudra Faladi



President & Secretary of Seuji PPS, Khudra Faladi



Field visit by JDA (CZ-II) & SDAO (HQ), Barpeta

