

MUSHROOM CULTIVATION FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

1. Name and Address:

Mrs. Rita Bhoi
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Po- Ainlapali, Block- Bheden
Dist.- Bargarh
Odisha-768104
Contact No-9556152535



2. Category: Horticulture

3. Background: Mrs. Rita Bhoi is a dynamic farm woman with a positive mindset and indomitable spirit. She belongs to a family of five members comprising of her husband, mother-in-law and two daughters. She was depressed from the meager income of her husband from just one acre of land. So, she always wanted to find a better additional alternate option to support her husband for making her family more financially sound.

4. Training and Motivational Support: She decided to go for paddy straw mushroom cultivation after watching the telecasted programme on profitable mushroom cultivation through T.V as paddy straw is abundantly available due to the paddy – paddy cropping system of her locality. Out of her curiosity, she used the service of Kisan call center from where she got the contact number of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bargarh for technical assistance.

Then she contacted KVK for technical guidance and support for mushroom cultivation. By observing her enthusiasm, she has been provided with twenty no. of paddy straw mushroom spawn bottles under FLD programme and trained on sterilization of paddy straw, maintenance of temperature and humidity of mushroom bed, harvesting and packaging of mushroom. Her beds are frequently visited at regular interval by scientist of KVK. Soon after the first success from this, she started production of paddy straw mushroom in a commercial scale.

5. Impact in the area : She is now raising 30 beds of paddy straw mushroom per day during June to October and 10 beds per day during March to April . She earns a net profit of Rs.2,28,000 during last year by selling it @ Rs. 130–160/ Kg in rainy season and Rs. 250-280 Kg in early summer. She is now not only happy with her additional income but also feels lucky as she provides her family and guests a healthy, nutritious, tasty and valuable foods in the form of different recipes of mushroom.

6. Awards and recognitions: She is a popular progressive mushroom lady in her block.

- She is nominated as one of the esteemed member of scientific advisory committee of KVK, Bargarh
- She is solely selected by the ATMA, Bargarh from her Block to virtually participate in the state level of Mahila Kisan Divas.

7. Contributing / enabling factors: Being inspired by her success, the house wife and youth of her village are came forward to adopt mushroom cultivation as an profitable venture

- She is providing employment for two women
- She is now imparting training to the nearby interested farm woman.
- Her mushroom unit is serve as a Demo unit for those who are interested to adopt it in a commercial scale.

