

Conversion of Waste to Wealth: A Success Story

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ABSTRACT

Mr Bhugeswar Rabha from a rural village of Udalguri District of Assam emerged as a successful organic farmer after he received training from KVK Udalguri in 2023. With strong farming roots and continuous technical support from KVK, he established two vermicompost unit using cowdung, organic waste and crop residue. Currently he earns Rs. 80000 per annum from vermicompost and earthworm sales. Leading village cleanliness drives under the Flagship programme Swachhta Action Plan, he is the promoter of waste to wealth management in the community. As a Secretary of Nalkhamara Anchalik Krishi Goot he is aspire to expand organic farming awareness throughout the district, advocating vermicompost as a successful alternative to chemical fertilizers amid limited biofertilizer access.

INTRODUCTION

The journey to success:

Mr. Bhugeswar Rabha of village Darringipara, Nalkhamara, Udalgurihad attended atraining programme of vermicompost production organized by KVK, Udalguri in Darringipara villageof Udalguri district in the year 2023.

The villagers of this village are having a good farming background and now after intervention of KVK, Udalguri with a good number of trainings and demonstrations on “Vermicompost Production technology” they are able to produce vermicompost as a component of organic farming at their own

house (bari). Several awareness programmes under Swachhata Action Plan have also been conducted in the village by KVK Udalguri, which were basically focused on the theme ‘conversion of waste to wealth’ i.e., production of vermicompost from organic waste materials collected by cleaning the village, in which the village team was led by Mr. Bhugeswar Rabha.

Mr. Rabha has established two units of Vermicompost in his farm under the support and guidance of KVK, Udalguri. The Methodology on Production of vermicompost by Mr. Bhugeswar Rabha involves organic waste (collected by cleaning of villages) and farm wastes including cattle wastes and earthworms following recommended practices. The feed stock he uses for production of Vermicompost is accumulates from the crop residue of his farm, banana pseudo stem and most importantly organic waste collected by cleaning of his village. Mr. Bhugeswar Rabha harvests 3 batches of Vermicompost every year from his three units and has a net annual income of Rs. 80,000 from his Vermicompost and earthworms alone. On regard of his interest, Mr. Rabha has joined the group “Nalkhamara Anchalik Krishi Goot” which was formed by KVK Udalguri in 2017-18 under TSP Programme in Vermi-village of Udalguri district i.e., Nalkhamara (nearby village of Darringipara). Mr. Rabha’s hard work and dedication made him occupy the position of Secretary, of the Nalkhamara Anchalik Krishi Goot.

Future plan

Mr. Rabha’s work on Swacchata in conversion of waste to wealth is now very significant in the two nearby villages- Darringipara and Nalkhamara. Now his aim is to create this awareness in the whole district of Udalguri. He has faith that organic farming would popularity among the farmers of Udalguri

district and these farmers are restricted to minimum use of chemical fertilizers. But access to some of the components of organic farming like biofertilizers, organic manure becomes difficult in Udalguri district. So, a good alternative is use of nutrient rich composts like Vermicompost. He also motivates his fellow farmers to rear cows which can provide the necessary cow dung required to produce vermicompost.

Photograph:



FIG 1:
VERMICOMPOST UNIT PREPARED BY MR. RABHA AFTER ATTENDING TRAINING FROM LVK, UDALGURI



FIG 2:
VERMICOMPOST UNIT PROVIDED TO MR. RABHA UNDER SWACCHATA ACTION PLAN



FIG 3: TRAINING PROGRAMME ON VERMICOMPOST PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AT DARRINGIPARA



FIG 4:
VERMICOMPOST READY FOR SELLING

CONCLUSION

Mr. Rabha’s journey depicts how knowledge, dedication and community engagement can transform traditional farming practices to sustainable and profitable business. With the

training and technical guidance received from KVK Udalguri, he not only improved his livelihood but also became a motivation for change in his village. His leadership in promoting vermicompost and organic farming become an innovative model from rural development. With a vision to spread awareness across the district, he continues to

inspire fellow farmers to adopt eco-friendly practices converting waste to valuable resources and paving the way towards cleaner, greener and more sustainable future.

REFERENCE

Author's own compilation