



Carp Seed Rearing can Double Aquafarmers' Income

Technical Intervention of Farmer FIRST project proved it

Farmer FIRST :- A Unique Project

The Farmer FIRST approach considers putting the farmer in driver's seat in matters of problem identification, prioritization, conduct of experiment and its management. Strong partnership with farmers for developing location specific, demand driven farmer friendly technology option is the guiding principle. This project is unique in its approach which creates a platform for all the scientists irrespective of their disciplines, to get an opportunity to regularly interact with the rural farm environment and thus, collect valuable feedback on problems, priorities, opportunities and status of agriculture and agricultural technology at the ground level and develop suitable technology modules for different farm situations.

'Farmer FIRST' programme aims at enhancing farmer-scientist interface for technology development and application. The project has covered 4 villages in Khordha district i.e., Kantia Talasahi, Kantia uparasahi (Block-Jatani), Jaganathpur (Block-Balianta) and Dorbanga (Block-Balipatna). In total the project has involved 400 beneficiaries. Modules on improved technologies on Crop, Horticulture, Livestock and Fisheries are being demonstrated. Skill training and technical backup are being provided to the beneficiaries.

A Success Story :-

Sri Gadadhar Pradhan(65) of village Giringo, District Khordha, a beneficiary of Farmer FIRST project was introduced to Carps seed rearing. The farmer was involved in different farming practices like cereal, horticulture, livestock and fisheries. He has holding size of 1 ha. The farmer also owns 3 cattle and 30 sheep. He has a pond of area 0.15 ha where he used to practice carp culture.

Sri Pradhan gets around 5 quintals of table fish production in one year from the pond (3.3 ton/ha) which he disposed at Rs. 120/kg in the local market. After spending Rs.24,700/- for pond cleaning, fertilization, renovation and for procurement of raw materials like fish seed, feed, lime, labour etc., he earned Rs.60,000/-. This gave him a profit of Rs.35,000/- in a year.

After receiving training and technical guidance from the project, he switched over to carp seed rearing in his pond in 2017-18. By adopting ICAR-CIFA technology package, the farmer was able to grow a good crop and harvested fingerlings in three and half months time. He had stocked 7,00,000 carp spawn and was able to produce 2,40,000 carp fingerlings. He spent Rs. 28,000/- for pond cleaning, liming, fertilization and for procurement of spawn, feed, labour etc. Sale proceeds from carp seed was Rs.84,000/-. After selling seed the pond was utilized for growout culture for the rest of the season. He harvested 3 quintals of table fish with a monetary return of Rs.36,000/- without any further expenditure. So, from fish seed rearing as well as growout culture he realized a profit of Rs.75,000/- which is 2.15 times higher than the previous enterprise.



Sponsored by
Farmer FIRST Programme Component of KVK Scheme
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
New Delhi

Implemented by
ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture
Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar-751002
Odisha, India