

## **Farm Pond Plus Success Story:Asst. Director Soil Conservation, Bhadrak**

### **Description:**

In present scenario, the greatest challenge before the youth is to get employment. But, there are some hardworking and determined persons who have successfully implemented the concept of Integrated Farming System (IFS) in the field to be self-sufficient and also have created an impact on local youths. Mr. Bharat Kumar Samal, Village-Reba, GP- Patuli, Block-Bhandaripokhari is one of such persons. Life was not so easy for him initially, but his strong determination and dedication did magic to give him a new identity today. In the financial year 2019-2020, he has applied under soil conservation department to dug a farm pond of size (20\*20\*3) m in his field under MGNREGS. After completion of the project, he has emerged as a successful farmer by practicing IFS in the same piece of land with an area of 0.3 acre, which has helped him to raise the standard of living.

### **Activity on the Farm Pond:**

- Mr. Bharat Chandra Samal has cultivated different vegetables such as Ridge gourd, Ladies finger, Bitter gourd etc. on the bund as a part of bund cultivation.
- He is also involved in pisciculture activities by raising around 2500 fingerlings in the pond.

### **Change in the income due to IFS:**

Before the implementation of farm pond project, he was raising paddy crop in the same piece of land. As per the information received from him, he was spending around Rs.6450 for providing all kinds of inputs like labour, tillage, fertilizer, pesticides etc. for growing paddy. From that, he was getting a yield of around 6 quintals of paddy. After selling it in the market @Rs.1750/q, he was getting an overall profit of Rs.4050. Moreover, the land is highly flood prone due to which most of the time he incurs nothing from the field. After digging the pond, he has raised 2500 fingerlings from where he is expecting to sell at least 4 quintals of fish. By doing bund cultivation, he is fulfilling the vegetable need of his family as well as getting a profit of around 2000 by selling in the nearby market.

**Analysis:****1) Before farm pond**

Cost of inputs = Rs.6450/-

Selling price of paddy =Rs.10500/- (For 6q @Rs.1750/q)

**Total Profit = 10500-6450=Rs.4050/- per year**

**2) After farm pond****2.a) Pisciculture**

Cost of fingerlings = Rs.20000/- (For 2500 @Rs.8/piece)

Cost of feed = Rs.10000/-

Selling price fish= Rs.52000/- (For 4q @Rs.130/kg)

**Profit = 52000-20000-10000=Rs.22000/-**

**2.b) Vegetable cultivation**

**Profit = Rs.2000/- (After meeting his family needs)**

**Total profit = 22000+2000 = Rs.24000/- per year**

**So, Net capital gain after excavating the pond is 24000-4050 = Rs.19950/- per year i.e. nearly five times than the previous.**

**Note:**

The farm pond can also supply lifesaving irrigation to the crops in nearby fields during water scarcity condition.

**Achievement:**

He has set an example for other people of the state that farming with proper knowledge and technique can also be a good earning option as well as can make an individual to live with dignity in the society. Also, it can reduce the migration of labours to other areas for their livelihood. The adoption of IFS will ensure maximum economic utilization of land.



**Photographs of the Farm Pond:**