

Report of the progress so far in Sweet Potato demonstration Kharif 2013

Introduction:





Vitamin A deficiency is widespread and has severe consequences for young children in the developing world. Food-based approaches may be an appropriate and sustainable complement to supplementation programs. Orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) is rich in β -carotene could be an integrated agriculture and nutrition intervention, which aimed to increase vitamin A intake of the extremely resource poor area in Koraput. Integrated promotion of OFSP can complement other approaches and not only contribute to increases in vitamin A intake but also enhance the household income.

Therefore demonstration on sweet potato has been under taken in 0.1 acres of farmer's field at Banuaguda village. Planting materials were collected from Regional Centre of Central Tuber Crop Research Institute (CTCRI), Bhubaneswar and package of practices was followed as per CTCRI recommendation. The demonstration was laid down not only at the farmer's field but also at the MSSRF campus at Jeypore.

Details of the Demonstration:

| Sl. No. | Variety | Type | Method of cultivation | Spacing | Area (acre) |
|---------|----------------|----------------|---|---------------|-------------|
| 1 | ST-14 | (Orange flesh) | Modified method with line transplanting | 60 cm X 20 cm | 0.1 |
| 2 | Kamala Sundari | (Orange flesh) | | | |
| 3 | CIP-440127 | (Orange flesh) | | | |
| 4 | Kishan | Normal | | | |

Photographs of the all four varieties:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Var: Kisan | Var: Kamala Sundari | Var: CIP440127 | Var: ST-14 |

- This demonstration is not meant for yield or production but basically it was planted for getting more planting materials for the next seasons.
- 108 farmers from the 7 FSN villages visited the demonstration plot during the field day organized at Banuaguda on 23.10.2013.



Farmers are visiting the demonstration plot during the field Day.



- After getting exposure now farmers are willing to grow sweet potato specifically the orange flesh which are rich in β -carotene and Vitamin -A.
- Harvesting of the sweet potato was completed from the demonstration plot.
- Total production from the 0.1 acre demonstration field was 210 kg which implies the average yield per hectare is 5.25 ton.
- Although it is not a good harvest but economically the farmer get benefit from this as per the cost of cultivation.
- Total expenditure for the demonstration was Rs.1015/- which includes cost of planting materials, land preparation, labour cost, fertilizer and pesticides cost. The average market price for the production is Rs.3150/- @ Rs.15/-per kg. Therefore the

net profit is Rs.2135/-. Farmers are happy with the production as the land was kept fallow for a longer period, somehow they got some yield.

Cost of cultivation:

| <i>Expenditure (Rs./ha)</i> | <i>Net Income (Rs./ha)</i> | <i>Net profit (Rs./ha)</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 25,375.00 | 78,750.00 | 53,375.00 |

- During this *rabi*, 0.5 acres of land was also covered under sweet potato, not for the production but for the available of planting materials for the next *kharif* for which it will planned for 3 acres of land under this demonstration.
- Sweet potato is not only a commercial crop but also a life saving crop for the tribal.

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