

## Experience of growing micronutrient fortified wheat variety

I am a marginal farmer with 6 acres of rainfed land; I also do lease farming on 4 acres of irrigated land. My family depends on farming. The M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation started work on Farming System for Nutrition in the village from 2013. In the first year, I received Netravati – 4210 variety of wheat seed as a part of on farm trial on 1 acre. The next year (2014 – 15), I got 16 quintal production from 1 acre. Earlier I was cultivating Lok-1 variety; my cost of cultivation was higher than my return.



The Foundation staff provided information on Netravati variety. This variety is micronutrient fortified, tasty and chapatti (flattened bread) made from it remains soft whole day. The first year, the Foundation staff guided me for the on-farm demonstration of the variety on my land. I first did soil testing according to their suggestion. I got guidance on increasing the quantity of cow dung manure to be applied, sowing on time, using 40 kg seed per acre, seed treatment, controlled use of chemical fertilizers, irrigation, timely harvesting of crop etc.

The Netravati variety is of 115 to 120 days duration; high tillering percentage leading to good yield. Out of the total harvest, I kept enough for my family consumption, some of the grain as seed for sowing which reduced my seed cost. A field day was organized on my field by the Foundation staff with farmers from my village and neighboring villages; seeing the growth of spikelets in heading and flowering stage, other farmers also asked me for the seed. I keep 50 to 70 kg seed for sowing on my field; and every year I provide 200 to 250 kg seed to other farmers from my village and other villages. My relatives also use this variety of wheat and I sold the surplus wheat in the market. I got good market price and my income increased. I am very happy with this variety.



**Name : Dadarao Jagalu Kamble**

Village: Heti,

Block: Karanja, District: Wardha

Age : 45 years

Caste : Mahar (SC)

Occupation : Farmer (6 acres)

Family size : 5 (adults)

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