

Fish farming ~ a food and livelihood option

I am a small farmer with 7 acres land and generally grow paddy, finger millet and green gram. I also have a pond of size (60 ft x 60 ft), which I use for fish farming and used to get 50-60 kg fish per year. Since I did not have sufficient knowledge about fish farming, I did not pay much attention and was satisfied with whatever harvest quantity I was getting.

In May 2014, staff of LANSA, (M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation), Jeypore, came to our village and gave us information on how to improve fish farming. There was also a two-day training programme on pond management,

importance of quality fingerlings, and feed management for fresh water fish farming. They gave me quality fingerlings and regularly monitored fish health and growth. I harvested around 100 kg of fish for my family consumption through during March-May, 2015. We do not have a fish market in our village, and used to go Boipariguda eight km away to buy fish. But now, I get fresh fish from my pond. I have continued fish farming for the last three years since it not only provides fish for home use but also gives me additional income from selling it in the village. In 2016, my paddy and green gram was attacked by pests and I suffered crop loss. It was the income from the sale of fish that helped me manage my family expenses.



Name : Nabin Batri
Village : Kurkuti,
Block : Boipariguda, District : Koraput
Age : 33 years
Caste : Bhumia (ST)
Occupation : Farmer (7 acres)
Family size : 5 (5 adults)



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