

Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (LANSA)

Report of “Farmers meeting/Technical session on Rabi Crops Cultivation”

At Saheli & Borgaon

Date -27 November 2015



LANSA Project is being implemented in Saheli and Bitpur villages in Arvi block and Susund, Heti and Borgaon villages in Karanja block of Wardha district. In Rabi Season generally farmers grow Wheat and Gram crops.

In the villages of Wardha field crops such as Wheat, Gram are the major crops in Rabi Season out of that under the diversified cropping, peas are the new crop introduced as an intercrop with Gram crop. Onion and Rabi Jowar crops are in small scale area, grown by the farmers during Rabi Season 2015-16 under FSN initiative.

We organized Technical session for farmers during this winter season on 27.11.2015. In this technical session we focused on detailed discussion on Rabi Crop intervention under Farming system for Nutrition. Rabi crops like Wheat, Gram, Onion & Jowar crops with micronutrient dense & higher yield varieties are encouraged by MSSRF. These interventions would be based on the local agro-ecological situations.

Meeting Objectives:

1. Technical guidance on Rabi Crop intervention and its cultivation.
2. Sharing soil analysis report card with the farmers.
3. Enhancement of area under pulses and legumes and promotion of multiple cropping like Wheat, Gram, Onion and Pea as an intercrop with gram and Rabi Jowar crops.
4. Promotion of micro-nutrient dense varieties to increase the productivity and farm income of the existing cereals and Pulses through improved variety **and better agronomic practices**.
5. Disease & Pest management on Rabi Crops.

Following issues discussed with farmers during meeting:-

- To follow better agronomic practices for Rabi Crops.
- Soil testing health report was shared with the farmers. Following are the major findings and recommendation in soil testing Report:
 - Deficiency of Potash and phosphorus in soil and rich in Nitrogen content.
 - As per recommendation, fertilizer doses applied by the farmers.
 - Seed dressing treatments applied before sowing the seed.
 - Timely sowing of seed, Irrigation, inter-cultivation practices, fertilizer doses, timely harvesting & Threshing to avoid the losses.
 - Across the slope sowing of seed for soil and moisture conservation.
 - Same practices to be followed for FSN Trial plot as well as farmers plot in same piece of land.

- Disease and Pest management. IPM and INM Methods used particularly in Gram.
- Minimize the cost of production.

Details of Village wise farmers present during meeting:-

S N	Village	No of farmers
1	Saheli & Bitpur	17
2	Borgaon	20
Total		37

Lessons learned:

- To acquire basic knowledge and information about Rabi Crops.
- Nutritional value of the crops.
- As per soil testing report there is deficiency of potash therefore to add potash at sowing time for better result.
- Farmer should be aware about the new technologies in FSN intervention.
- Trial wise plot demonstration performance in the field.
- Seed treatment.
- To acquire the information of wheat varieties like Abhay, Netravati, and PKV-Sardar with nutritional importance.
- Promote improved and nutrient dense varieties of crop and short duration varieties.
- Insect & pest management.
- IPM and INM techniques for Gram crop (**Cost effective farming system**).

LANSA Staff:

SN	Name of staff
1.	Mahesh Maske, MSSRF Wardha
2	Manoj R. Sayre, MSSRF Wardha.
3	Mahesh Sadatpure, MSSRF Wardha.
4	Fakirchand Khandate, field assistant, Saheli.
5	Sudhir Kumre, field assistant Borgaon.
6	Nilesh Susund Field assistant

Thanking you.

Manoj Sayre
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