

Trailblazing example of a farmer turned Seed Grower Md. HemidurRahman

Where there is a will, there is a way - this is the motto of the 48 year old HemidurRahman of Chumoni village of Charaideo district (erstwhile undivided Sivasagar district) who has set an example of how continuous perseverance and sincerity in anyone's work in any field can help in reaping harvest and happiness to the person, family and society. After completing graduation and a degree of B.Ed., he decided to choose the profession of farming to look after the 3.2 ha of land which he obtained hierarchically from his father. This decision, backed up by his experience in farming since childhood and support from the KrishiVigyan Kendra located just 2.5 km away proved right when he turned up to be the most prospective seed grower of the district few years later. Initially, Rahman started farming with a pair of bullocks relying exclusively on FYM as the source of nutrient. With 90% of his fields suited for Rice cultivation, between 2000-2003, he gradually shifted to scientific methods of cultivation with more reliance on chemical fertilizers and introduction of HYV seeds like Ranjit. Doing this, he obtained a jump in productivity which encouraged him to go for adoption of more new varieties of paddy. During the same year, he obtained a power tiller in 50% subsidy from the State Department of Agriculture.



This triggered the farmer in him to take up farming more seriously. In 2010, he successfully completed OFTs on varietal evaluation of the varieties Jalashree, Swarna Sub-1, TTB series and contributed his experiences to the research fraternity at ZREAC programme held at Titabar. Though a regular visitor to the KVK, Sivasagar in

2011-12, he came to KVK, Sivasagar expressing his willingness to adopt the means of Integrated Nutrient Management in his fields for sustained productivity. Rupjyoti Borah, SMS (Soil Science), P. Handique, SMS (Agril. Extension) under the able leadership of Dr. P. Nath, Programme Coordinator of the Kendra framed an action plan for him with a vision to sustain



productivity in his land. The Kendra helped him in analysis of his soil and subsequent recommendation of fertilizers. In the subsequent year, he was included in the “Technology Showcasing” programme undertaken by KVK, Sivasagar at Gowalpothar. In the programme, good agricultural practices were demonstrated. In that programme, Rahman undertook Certified Seed production of Ranjit variety of winter paddy and could obtain a net income of Rs. 85000.00. During that year, he obtained a total of Rs. 145000.00 from Rice cultivation. With the profit, he purchased a pumpset for irrigating his fields. He also was in close association with the RAWE Programme of B.Sc. (Agri.) student supervised by KVK Sivasagar. During their six-month stay, he shared experiences and obtained insight into the newer technologies from the student KamsenKhutiya. After that success, he decided to go for certified seed production in a bigger way from the subsequent year under the close supervision of Dr. P. Nath and Rupjyoti Borah of KVK, Sivasagar. During that year, he brought out his own brand “Oryza Seed Products” and could reap an income of about Rs. 100000 from selling his seed. IN that year the total harvest yielded Rs. 1.88 lakhs with a B:C ratio of 2.15. In the year 2014, he was also a leading farmer in the STCR experiments of Department of Soil Science, AAU. In 2015, he successfully conducted an OFT on Evaluation of promising submergence tolerant varieties under the guidance of PriyankaDutta, SMS (Agronomy).



She also guided him in his seed production programme that year. Responding to the heavy demand of Mahsuri seeds, he produced certified seeds of Mahsuri that year and obtained a profit of Rs. 130000 and a total income of Rs. 218000.00. On 05.12.15, he was felicitated and given Soil Health Card – the first one in the massive soil health card programme initiated in the International Year of Soils. On 12th September the same year, he purchased a car of his own, thanking the KVK, Sivasagar for their able guidance for which he could achieve the dream of a farmer. In the year 2016-17, he continued with his efforts as a seed grower and currently has 50 quintals of rice certified seed the prominent varieties being Ranjit, Mahsuri, Bahadur and Aghoni Bora with a targeted income of 1,60,000 and a total of 2,50,000 from total rice production. In the coming rice season, he has the aim of producing certified seeds of five promising varieties including few of the submergence tolerant ones. Mr.Rahman has undoubtedly set an example to the other farmers who in most of the times allege that rice production can never be profitable. Aptly, he was felicitated as the Best Farmer of the Year by the KrishiVigyan Kendra, Sivasagar in the ex-trainees meet held at KVK premises on the 1st of January, 2017. KVK, Sivasagar wishes all success in his pursuits in the days to come.