



Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

Report on Kisan Goshthi in Dasauli village on “Role of Mechanization in Rural Employment and Quality Production of Potato”

Mechanization plays a pivotal role in enhancing rural employment and ensuring the quality production of potatoes. By adopting modern machinery such as potato planters, rotavators, harvesters, fertilizer spreaders, and sprayers, farmers can achieve higher productivity, reduce labor costs, and improve efficiency in planting, soil preparation, and harvesting. These advancements not only optimize crop health and yield but also create skilled job opportunities in rural areas through the establishment of farm machinery custom hiring centers. Additionally, mechanized practices ensure uniform sowing, precise application of inputs, and timely harvesting, leading to better quality potatoes that are profitable. Mechanization thus fosters sustainable agricultural practices while boosting rural economies. In view of this Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University, Lucknow organized a Kisan Goshthi on 26 October 2024 in Dasauli Village to sensitize farmers on “Role of Mechanization in Rural Employment and Quality Production of Potato”.

The Goshthi was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Director, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. The faculty coordinators Dr. Faria Fatima, Dr. Uday Veer, Dr Shipra Yadav, along with supporting staff Mr. Sharad Kumar shared valuable insights into innovative practices and technologies that could revolutionize traditional farming methods.

Dr. Faria highlighted how mechanization significantly improves efficiency and quality in agriculture. Modern machinery allows farmers to reduce labor costs, enhance productivity, and ensure timely planting and harvesting of potatoes. This shift not only creates skilled employment opportunities in rural areas but also improves the marketability and quality of the produce.

Dr. Uday elaborated on the impact of mechanization in potato cultivation, emphasizing the establishment of custom hiring centers for farm machinery as a source of skilled rural employment. He identified essential equipment like potato planters for uniform sowing, rotavators for efficient soil preparation, and harvesters for rapid collection. Fertilizer spreaders and sprayers were also highlighted as critical tools to ensure healthy crops and better yields, fostering profitability and sustainable agricultural practices.



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Dr. Shipra underlined the importance of integrating traditional farming methods with modern mechanization to achieve optimal results. Practices like crop rotation, balanced irrigation, and judicious use of fertilizers maintain soil health and maximize growth. The use of mechanized equipment such as planters, sprayers, and harvesters was shown to significantly enhance efficiency and reduce dependency on manual labor, promoting sustainable and profitable potato farming.

Mr. Sharad focused on sowing techniques, explaining methods like ridge and furrow planting, flat planting, and automatic machine planting. These techniques, particularly mechanized planting, ensure precise seed spacing and uniform crop growth while optimizing resource use. The session concluded with an interactive discussion where farmers shared their experiences and expressed keen interest in adopting mechanization for better productivity and employment opportunities.

The Kisan Goshti was a significant step toward empowering farmers in Dasauli Village with knowledge and tools to adopt modern agricultural practices for potato cultivation. The Goshti was attended by 30 farmers and students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture. The interactive session allowed farmers to discuss their challenges and seek practical solutions from experts. The active participation of students provided them with real-world learning opportunities, fostering a collaborative approach to advancing rural development. This initiative reflects the Department of Agriculture, IIAST's commitment to integrating modern technology and sustainable practices into rural farming systems.

Glimpse



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