



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

Brief report on Training organized by Department of Agriculture on Agri-Waste management through Vermicomposting

In a bioeconomy-based country like India, addressing the solution of Agri-biowaste is crucial. This helps to promote sustainable agricultural practices and reduce the reliance on chemical inputs. Vermicomposting is one of the vital part of this proposal. To raise awareness among farmers about this initiative, the Department of Agriculture , Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) conducted a training program titled "Agri-Waste Management through Vermicomposting" on 14 July 2023, in the Kursi village and female farmers belonging to the Self Help Group (SHG) from Tehsil Bakshi ka Talab (BKT) in Lucknow participated in the same

The students of M.Sc. (Ag) Agronomy were accompanied by the faculty members Dr. Usmaan Sayeed, Dr. Garima Singh, Dr. Nitish Kumar, Dr. Sunil Kumar and Dr. Ruqaiya Bano along with supporting staff Mr. Dheer Pratap and Mr. Arvind Kumar. During the training program special emphasis was laid to the significance of earthworms and vermicomposting in modern agricultural practices. The participants were made aware of aspects where earthworms play a crucial role in enhancing soil health and fertility and vermicomposting can be employed as an effective method for managing agricultural waste on farms. The training aimed to educate attendees about sustainable practices and techniques that can contribute to improve agricultural productivity while also being environmental friendly. During the training program Dr. Garima provided an overview of the agricultural waste generated both on and off the farm. She also discussed how this waste can be effectively used for the preparation of vermicompost. Furthermore, Dr. Garima highlighted the importance and benefits of vermicompost to enhance soil health and fertility. A vermicomposting bed preparation was demonstrated on the farm of Mr. Manoj Kumar, a progressive farmer from Kursi village. During the session, Dr. Sunil Kumar provided information about the preparation of vermicompost and its potential as a source of income to the members of the Self-Help Group (SHG). He also discussed the market value of vermicompost. He encouraged participants to initiate vermicompost preparation in small units . By explaining the application of vermicompost in both field and horticultural crops, Dr. Nitish Kumar and Dr. Usmaan highlighted sustainable farming practices that not only increase crop productivity but also contribute to long-term soil health and environmental sustainability which basically inclines with the SDG 2 (zero hunger). Vermicompost bags were also distributed to the SHG members Neelam Verma, Rajkumari, Phoolmati, Pratibha Sharma and Menu from the village chal bankat (kursi). The training took place with the supervision of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean , Department of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head of the Department of Agriculture at IIAST.

The participants in the training were from Durga mahila SHG, Pooja prerna SHG, Laxmi prerna SHG, Maa Chandrika SHG, Ekta Mahila Vridha SHG, Jyoti Aajeevika SHG, Radha Aajeevika.



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Glimpses of the training program

