



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

Brief report on Kisan Goshthi organized by Department of Agriculture, IIAST on “Crop Residue management and its economic benefits”

The Department of Agriculture, IIAST plays a crucial role in supporting farmers by providing financial, technical, and market assistance, as well as promoting sustainable and innovative agricultural practices. IIAST makes efforts to ensure the welfare and prosperity of farmers. In view of the same, Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) organized a Kisan Goshthi on 9 January 2024 to sensitize the farmers of the Basaha village on “Crop Residue management and its economic benefits”. Important information was disseminated to farmers about effective and efficient management of crop residues and to have economic benefits from it.

The faculty member Mr. Nadeem Khan, Assistant Professor told farmers about finding environmentally friendly alternatives to traditional practices. He discussed that if crop residues are managed effectively, they can contribute to improved soil health, increased water retention and enhanced nutrient cycling. Moreover, adopting responsible residue management practices, such as mulching, composting, and cover cropping, not only mitigates environmental concerns like air pollution but also proves economically advantageous for farmers. Dr Zeeshan Ahmad Khan, Assistant Professor, addressed the farmers and shared his views on utilization of crop residues in livestock and poultry operations. He explained about the environmentally sustainable and economically viable practice. Crop residues, such as straws, stalks and leftover plant materials after harvesting, can serve as valuable feed resources for animals, providing essential nutrients and enhancing overall feed efficiency. Livestock, including cattle, sheep, and goats, as well as poultry, can benefit from the incorporation of crop residues into their diets in various ways. He encouraged farmers to use crop residues, such as straw and corn stalks as bedding material for livestock, this not only provides a comfortable environment for the animals but also facilitates waste management in the farm, contributing to better hygiene and reduced odour. Dr. Ruqaiya Bano, Assistant Professor, provided information about the economic benefits that can be earned from crop residues. She informed farmer’s that government is providing many types of incentives, subsidies and support programs to encourage farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, including responsible residue management. Participating in such programs can result in financial benefits for farmers. The Goshthi was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Director, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST.

The farmers of Basaha showed great interest in learning about proper crop residue management practices and contributing to a more sustainable and economically viable agricultural system. They were delighted to know that the use of crop residues can achieve cost savings, enhance productivity and create additional income streams, all while promoting environmental sustainability. They actively engaged with expert faculty members, seeking guidance and clarifying their doubts. Students conducted feedback sessions, which revealed that the majority of farmers who participated in the Kisan Goshthi were highly content with the well-organized event. A total number of 25 farmers were involved in the Goshthi and



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extensive feedback was taken. Positive feedback indicated that the event successfully delivered high-quality content to the farmers

Glimpse of Kisan Goshthi





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