

Report on Training Program under Krishi Mulya Vardhan Yojna on "Enhancing Soil Quality through Vermicomposting" in Rajauli Village

The Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University, organized a training program on November 12, 2024, under the Krishi Mulya Vardhan Yojna in Village Rajauli, Bakshi Ka Talab on "Enhancing Soil Quality through Vermicomposting". Under the Krishi Mulya vardhan yojna, our initiative focuses on enhancing farmers income through specialized training. The training was conducted on the farm of farmer Mr. Rehan Siddiqui.

The program was observed under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Integral University. The faculty coordinators Dr. Malik Mobeen Ahmad, Dr. Mustafa, Dr Sunil, Dr Shipra, Dr Akanksha Singh and Dr. Abhineet along with Supporting Staff Mr. Mohd. Mued, and students of B.Sc (Hons.) Agriculture and M.Sc (Ag.) Agronomy contributed in success of the training Program.

The training commenced with a hands-on demonstration by the IIAST Team, who guided the farmers regarding whole procedure of creating vermicompost. Dr. Abhineets explained the materials required, such as organic waste and specific types of earthworms, and covered each stage of decomposition to ensure effective composting. This demonstration provided farmers with practical knowledge on vermicomposting, which they could immediately apply to enhance soil fertility and reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers.

Dr. Shipra Yadav emphasized the environmental and agricultural benefits of vermicomposting. She highlighted how this natural fertilizer enhances soil fertility, improves water retention, and reduces soil erosion, thus promoting sustainable agricultural practices. She discussed the importance of vermicomposting as a method for fostering healthier and more resilient crops, which could ultimately benefit rural communities by ensuring sustainable productivity.

Dr. Akanksha introduced farmers to government scheme Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) that provides financial assistance and technical guidance for adopting eco-friendly practices such as vermicomposting. She explained how this program support farmers in rural



areas by offering resources to transition to sustainable agricultural practices. Dr. Akanksha's insights highlighted how government support could facilitate farmers in setting up vermicomposting units, thus boosting productivity and rural development.

The program concluded with practical advice and market insights from Dr. Malik Mobeen, Dr. Mustafa Hussain, and Dr. Sunil. Dr. Malik outlined precautions to be taken during the composting process, such as maintaining proper moisture levels and avoiding chemicals harmful to earthworms. Dr. Mustafa discussed how vermicomposting could serve as an income-generating activity, allowing farmers to sell compost locally. Finally, Dr. Sunil shared marketing strategies, suggesting packaging and labeling techniques to attract potential buyers. The training equipped farmers with both technical knowledge and business insights, encouraging them to adopt vermicomposting as a valuable addition to their farming practices.

The training program provided Mr. Rehan Siddiqui and other attending farmers with valuable knowledge on how vermicomposting could be a cost-effective addition to their integrated farming systems. For Mr. Siddiqui, incorporating vermicomposting not only would create a sustainable use for animal waste but also would enhance soil fertility in his horticultural plots, reducing costs on chemical fertilizers and offering an additional revenue stream. The Department of Agriculture, IIAST, remains dedicated to advancing rural prosperity by promoting sustainable agricultural practices and value-added opportunities for farmers.



Glimpses of training Program











