

Success story of KVK Malkangiri (Sweet Corn var. Sugar-75)

Title: Cultivation of Sweet Corn var. Sugar-75 for profit maximization of tribal people.

Introduction: Sweet Corn is highly prized crop due to succulent and tender kernels with sweet flavour. Sweetcorn is marketed as fresh, roasted or boiled and canned for future use. Due to its extra sweetness, short duration and impressive returns sweet corn is gaining attractiveness. The main problem is lack of awareness of tribal people for beneficial effect of sweet corn cultivation as compared to other crops. So, ample awareness is required among the farming community to maximise its area as well as profit maximization of farmers.

Initiatives: Rajen Mardi, who is a progressive farmer, came to KVK for training programme and he saw the KVK's sweet corn demonstration unit and was impressed. Rajen asked about the cultivation of said crop and requesting for field visit regarding suitability of sweet corn. After that scientist of KVK visited their field and collected the soil sample and taken GPS reading and provided the sweet corn seed.

Technology: Sweet Corn var. Sugar-75 (Replacement of maize for profit maximization).

Results:

Yield parameters: Fresh cob weight- 335.60 g/cob; Length of cob- 22.08 cm; No of rows/cob- 15.4; No of seeds/row- 39.53

Cob yield (No/ha) - 55850; Net return: Rs. 2,27,175/- per ha (Farmers practice: Rs. 98,500/- per ha); B:C ratio- 3.9 (Farmers practice: 3.5)

Views of the farmers: Farmers know about higher income for cultivation of sweet corn when field day conducted and good response from all farmers were noticed to grow sweet corn.

Policy implication: KVK is working together with line departments spread area for sweet corn cultivation. Benefited farmer i.e. Rajen Mardi (Village-MV-2, Block-Malkangiri) spread the knowledge to the other tribal community of different villages and he also motivated some of SHG members.

PHOTOGRAPHS

