



## Success Story of a Progressive Farmer in Chandan Cultivation

\*Joydeep Kumar Kar and Gurshaminder Singh

University Institute of Agricultural Sciences (UIAS), Chandigarh University,  
Mohali, Punjab-140413, India

\*Corresponding Author's email: [joydeepkumarkar@gmail.com](mailto:joydeepkumarkar@gmail.com)

### Farmer Profile

**Name:** Harman Singh

**Village:** Thablan, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab

**Age:** 35 years

**Education:** Higher Secondary

**Landholding:** 4 acres

### Background

Mr. Harman Singh, a progressive farmer from village, had been cultivating traditional crops like maize and rice for over 6-7 years. However, due to the rising cost of cultivation and declining profits, he decided to diversify his farming practices. So then after attaining trainings from Redsan plantation in Haryana he has gathered knowledge and planned to cultivate sandalwood trees. He also buys the saplings from that training programme.

### Adoption of Chandan Cultivation

4 years before, Mr. Harman Singh planted 600 sandalwood saplings on 1 acre of his farm. He adopted scientific plantation practices:

**Pit Preparation:** Dug pits of 1m × 1m size, filled with farmyard manure and soil mixture.

**Spacing:** Maintained 10 ft × 10 ft spacing for better growth.

**Irrigation:** Installed drip irrigation for efficient water supply.

**Nutrient Management:** Applied organic manure and balanced fertilizers annually.

### Organic Fertilizers

- **Farmyard manure (FYM) / Compost:** 5–10 kg per pit at planting. Improves soil health.
- **Neem cake:** 250–500 g per plant annually.

### Inorganic Fertilizers (per plant basis)

**Nitrogen (N):** 50–100 g urea per plant/year (in split doses).

**Phosphorus (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>):** 40–60 g single superphosphate (SSP) per plant/year.

**Potassium (K<sub>2</sub>O):** 30–50 g muriate of potash (MOP) per plant/year

**Application:** Fertilizers are applied in a ring around the root zone.

### Results and Achievements

Out of 600 planted trees, almost 550 trees have survived successfully though they are small in size as only 3 to 4 years is the age of trees, they have attained a successful growth and expected to gain profit in near future.

After 8-10 years, the trees are hopefully began to produce heartwood, highly valued in perfume and medicinal industries.

Each tree is expected to yield 15–20 kg of heartwood.

Market price of heartwood: ₹7,000–10,000 per kg.

Estimated returns from 130 trees: ₹2–2.5 crore in the next 6-7 years

### **Impact**

Mr. Harman Singh has become a role model for farmers in his region.

Reduced risk from monocropping and ensured long-term financial stability.

Provided employment opportunities to local workers for plantation and maintenance.

### **Future Plans**

Expand sandalwood cultivation to 3 more acres.

Adoption of high-density planting and improved clones for higher returns.

### **Message from that farmer**

"My journey in Chandan cultivation began with a small step of planting just a few saplings. With patience, scientific guidance, and sustainable practices, I nurtured them into a successful plantation."

### **Conclusion**

The success story of Mr. Harman Singh demonstrates that Chandan cultivation is a profitable and sustainable farming venture when managed scientifically. His determination and innovative approach will transformed him into a successful agri-entrepreneur in the near future. The journey of Harman Singh clearly reflects how determination and adoption of innovative farming practices can transform challenges into opportunities. By venturing into Chandan cultivation on 1 acres, he not only diversified his income sources but also set an example of long-term planning, sustainability, and value addition in farming. His success has inspired neighboring farmers to look beyond conventional crops and explore high-value plantations. Harman Singh's story proves that with vision, patience, and scientific guidance, progressive farming can bring both prosperity to the farmer and recognition to the village.