



## From Traditional Farming to Value Addition: The Success Story

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### Farmer's details

Name: Gurjant Singh

Age: 60

Village: Deh Kalan

In the peaceful village of Deh Kalan, farmer Gurjant Singh has emerged as a remarkable example of how dedication, patience, and the right approach can transform lives. Owing 12 acres of ancestral land, Gurjant once depended entirely on conventional farming methods that relied heavily on chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Before 2018, despite working tirelessly from morning till evening, he faced continuous struggles such as increasing input costs, declining soil fertility, and unstable income. Over time, the productivity of his land decreased, and he realized that the farming methods he was using were harming both the soil and his long-term livelihood.

The turning point in his life came in 2018 when he attended a local agricultural awareness program where he learned about organic farming and sustainable agricultural practices. Motivated by the idea of reducing costs and improving soil health, he made a bold decision in 2019 to convert his entire 12-acre farm into organic farmland. This decision was not easy, as the initial phase brought many challenges. His crop yields dropped, and many people in the village doubted his decision and advised him to return to chemical farming. However, Gurjant remained determined and believed in the long-term benefits of organic agriculture.

Between 2020 and 2022, he focused entirely on rebuilding the health of his soil. He began using natural compost made from cow dung, crop residues, and organic waste. He also prepared bio-fertilizers and used neem-based sprays to control pests naturally. In addition, he adopted crop rotation and diversification by growing vegetables, pulses, and grains instead of depending on a single crop. Gradually, the soil regained its fertility, earthworms returned, and the overall quality of crops improved significantly.

From 2023 to 2025, Gurjant started seeing the real benefits of his efforts. His organic produce gained popularity in nearby towns due to its freshness, taste, and chemical-free quality. Customers were willing to pay higher prices, which increased his income. He also started selling directly to consumers and local markets, reducing the role of middlemen and improving his profits further. His farm became a learning center for nearby farmers, who began visiting him to understand organic farming techniques and apply them in their own fields.

By 2026, Gurjant Singh successfully transformed his 12-acre farm into a thriving and sustainable organic farming model. His income is now stable and higher than before, his land is fertile and productive, and his farming costs have significantly reduced. Today, he is respected not only as a successful farmer but also as a guide and inspiration for others in Deh Kalan and surrounding villages. His journey proves that with strong determination,

willingness to learn, and respect for nature, farmers can achieve both economic success and environmental sustainability, creating a better future for the next generations.

