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From Conventional Farming to Sustainable Prosperity: The Success Story of Mr. Nabin Ch. Boro

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Mr. Nabin Ch. Boro, a farmer from Bortangla village under Bhergaon Sub-Division of Udalguri district, Assam, transformed his livelihood by adopting a double-cropping system integrated with apiculture under the NABARD-sponsored Integrated Farming System (IFS) Project implemented by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Udalguri.After facing repeated challenges in conventional farming, he adopted paddy cultivation during the Kharif season followed by toria (rapeseed) cultivation in the Rabi season, along with beekeeping. With technical guidance, training, and continuous support from KVK, Udalguri, he successfully diversified his farming system. His family actively participated in these enterprises, making farming more productive and sustainable.The increasing demand for his raw honey and locally produced mustard oil significantly enhanced his farm income and improved his family's livelihood. Mr. Boro's success demonstrates how crop diversification, integrated farming, and timely technical support can help small farmers achieve sustainable agriculture and financial self-reliance.

Keynotes: Paddy, toria, apiculture, KVK udalguri, NABARD

Introduction

Mr. Nabin Boro, a 53-year-old farmer from Bortangla village under Bhergaon Sub-Division of Udalguri district, Assam, had been engaged in conventional farming for many years. Although paddy cultivation was his primary occupation, the income generated was insufficient to meet his family's needs. He observed that after the paddy harvest, his land remained fallow during the Rabi season, resulting in underutilization of valuable farm resources. Motivated to increase his income and make better use of his land, he decided to adopt crop diversification by introducing a second crop instead of leaving the fields uncultivated.

KVK Intervention

Seeking a better livelihood option, Mr. Boro approached Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Udalguri, for technical guidance. In 2018, he received training on cultivating toria (rapeseed) after the harvest of paddy and on integrating apiculture (scientific beekeeping) with crop production. Under the NABARD-sponsored Integrated Farming System (IFS) Project, implemented by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Udalguri, Mr. Nabin Boro received technical guidance, capacity-building training, and regular field support to improve his farming practices. Under this project, he received financial and technical assistance for adopting an integrated Paddy–Toria +Apiculture Farming System. Based on the recommendations of KVK scientists, he adopted a double-cropping system by cultivating toria (rapeseed) after the harvest of Kharif paddy, making effective use of the previously fallow land. He was also encouraged to integrate apiculture ((*Apis cerena*).) with crop production to enhance pollination and generate an additional source of income. Continuous mentoring and timely advisory services from KVK enabled him to successfully adopt these interventions, leading to higher farm productivity and improved livelihood.

Results

The adoption of a double-cropping system integrated with apiculture significantly improved Mr. Nabin Boro's farm productivity and income. The previously fallow land was brought under cultivation with toria after paddy, increasing cropping intensity and ensuring better utilization of available resources. Income from the sale of raw honey and locally produced mustard oil provided an additional source of revenue, enhancing his household's economic stability. Encouraged by these positive outcomes, Mr. Boro has become a successful and self-reliant farmer, inspiring other farmers in the area to adopt integrated and diversified farming practices.

Economic Impact

The adoption of a double-cropping system integrated with apiculture substantially improved Mr. Nabin Boro's farm productivity and income. By cultivating toria after paddy, the cropping intensity increased from **100% to 150%**, making effective use of land that was previously left fallow. His beekeeping enterprise produced **6–7 kg of raw honey**, providing an additional source of income. As a result, his annual farm income increased significantly from **₹70,000 to ₹1,80,000**. The integrated farming approach enhanced resource utilization, improved livelihood security, and made Mr. Boro a role model for other farmers in the region.



Glimpses of activity photographs

Conclusion

Mr. Nabin Boro's success demonstrates that crop diversification and integrated farming can significantly enhance the productivity and profitability of smallholder farms. The timely technical guidance and continuous support provided by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Udalguri, under the NABARD-sponsored Integrated Farming System (IFS) Project enabled him to transform a single-crop farming system into a sustainable and income-generating enterprise. His experience serves as an inspiring example for other farmers to adopt scientific farming practices for improved livelihoods and long-term sustainability.

Farmer's Message

I realized that depending only on paddy cultivation was not enough to sustain my family. With proper guidance from KVK, Udalguri, I adopted toria cultivation after paddy along with beekeeping, which greatly improved my income and made my farming more sustainable. I encourage fellow farmers to utilize their fallow land and adopt integrated farming practices for better livelihood and financial security