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Wealth from Waste - A Success Story in Organic Manure Production Unit “Bio + Madikai”

Kasaragod district being officially declared organic, there is a huge demand for organic fertilizers in the district. Farmers experience a huge shortage of good quality organic manure in the district. Krishnan Prakodal an NRI started an enterprise for production of organic manure from agricultural and allied waste. ICAR KVK, Kasaragod demonstrated the coirpith composting technology and recommended fortification using wood ash, cow dung and urine to enhance the quality. The agripreneur further refined the technology by incorporating poultry and fish waste. After further refinement, the raw materials being used now in the preparation of the manure are poultry waste, fish waste, goat manure and other organic wastes. The enterprise named Bio + Madikai was started during 2016-17. Bio plus Madikai organic manure product is now available all over the state. The unit has produced 1400 MT of organic manure in five years which effectively replaces the use of chemical fertilizers in an area of 1400 hectares benefiting 12000 farmers. In addition to Bio + Madikkai organic manure unit, Krishnan also runs Sopanam Agricultural Farm, Plant Nursery for Seedling and Ornamental garden production, Custom hiring centre and Value addition of farm products.

INTRODUCTION

This is the success story of Krishnan Prakodal from Kasaragod district of Kerala who after about 35 years of service as an NRI, settled back in his locality, turning full time into agriculture and agri business.

Kasaragod district being officially declared organic, there is a huge demand for organic fertilizers in the district. Krishnan found this backdrop most welcoming to start an enterprise in organic manure production. Moreover, he himself as a farmer experienced the shortage of good quality organic manure too.

THE TIMELINE AND PROGRESS OF THE ENTERPRISE

Krishnan approached ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kasaragod for advice in this line. Faculties from KVK visited the site and gave technological advices to convert organic waste into high quality organic manure. Later from experience, Krishnan added his own innovative contributions to the technologies and finally, the enterprise was started during 2016-17. Today the enterprise not only adds to his income but also provides employment opportunity to more than 30 residents of the locality. The production area is 0.5 acres. This much sought after organic manure fetches very high demand from farmers all over the state. The raw materials used in the preparation of the manure are poultry waste, fish waste, goat manure and other organic wastes.

THE RISING GRAPH

The production in 2017-2018 was 50 metric ton. In

just one year, by 2018-2019, the production boosted to 150 metric ton. Since then, the graph has always been showing a steady growth marking a production of 300 metric ton (Billed Amt : 47.2 Lakhs) in 2019-20 and 400 metric ton (Billed Amt : 58.8 Lakhs) in 2020-21. By 2021 (Apr - Dec), the production has reached 500 metric ton (Billed Amt : 51.5 Lakhs). The product under the name Bio + Madikkai has around 10,000-12,000 customers including Government Scheme Sales and Retail Sales. Bio plus Madikai organic manure product is available at 36 Agri Outlets all over the state. Apart from this major product, there is a small-Scale Production of Coirpith Compost (10 metric tons/year) and Cowdung Manure (3 metric tons/year).

ALLIED ENTERPRISES

In addition to Bio + Madikkai organic maure unit, Krishnan also runs the following associated enterprises:

SOPANAM AGRICULTURAL FARM

The Cultivated area of the farm is 4.5 Acres. It includes 1400 nos of arecanut palms, 150 nos of Coconut palms, 100 banana plants and 50 black pepper vines as crops. The mixed farming unit has a Poultry Farm with Gramashree Breed (70 nos),



Description	Year	Production (Tonnes)	Gross Income generated	Net income generated
Organic manure production	2017-2018	50 metric ton	6.0 lakhs	1.5 lakhs
	2018-2019	150 metric ton	22.5 lakhs	5.5 lakhs
	2019(July)-2020(Mar)	300 metric ton	47.2 Lakhs	12 lakhs
	2020-2021	400 metric ton	58.8 Lakhs .	15 lakhs
	2021-2022 (Apr - Dec)	500 metric ton	51.5 Lakhs	14 lakhs

Tellicherry Breed (25 nos) and Desi Breed (40 nos) of poultry, a Dairy Farming unit with Kasaragod dwarf variety (2 cows and 2 heifers) and a Goat farm with 4 nos of Malabari breed. He maintains a fodder grass unit of CO-3 variety in area of 0.5 Acre which supplements his dairy unit. There is a Fish Farming unit with 5 tanks including Biofloc tank and Aquaponic Farming with 6000 nos of GIFT Tilapia with a production of 3 tonnes in 8 months. Krishnan also maintains a Beekeeping unit with Indian bees (10 hives) and melliponiculture (12 hives).



PLANT NURSERY FOR SEEDLING AND ORNAMENTAL GARDEN PRODUCTION

In the plant nursery, Krishnan produces Arecanut Seedlings approximately 30000 units/year, Coconut Seedlings approximately 5000 units/year, and other planting materials of Black Pepper, Cashew, Mango, Jackfruit, Sapota, Guava, etc. around 2000 numbers. Around 50,000 numbers of Vegetable seedlings and seeds are being raised in growbags. The Plant Nursery Turnover is approximately Rs.18Lakhs/year.



CUSTOM HIRING CENTRE AND VALUE ADDITION OF FARM PRODUCTS

On the technical side, the farm rents Dryer for Copra and has a solar tunnel dryer facility of 50 sq. m area. They also own 2 Arecanut Dehusking Machines with a capacity of 100 kg per hour. Annual capacity is 75 tonnes per annum benefitting 750 farmers.

Name and address of the entrepreneur

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CONCLUSION

The declaration of Kasaragod as an organic district has spurned many opportunities to start up new enterprises for production and supply of organic inputs. Krishnan Prakodal from Madikai, Kasaragod has successfully ventured into the production of organic manure through his enterprise Bio + Madikai with the technical support from ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kasaragod. He has successfully demonstrated the theme “Wealth from Waste” in line with the policy of the Government of Kerala to promote organic Agriculture. Over the years, the enterprise has grown many fold and has gained much acceptance from the farming community.