

## LEISA practices produce better yields in paddy

- CASE STUDY OF A SMALL FARMER FROM KATTAKINDAPALLI VILLAGE

Ramana is a small farmer from kattakinda palli village of Dharmavaram area. He has 2 acres of wet land in the village tank ayacut. He has been cultivating paddy in his 2 acres of land, following traditional methods, using chemical fertilizers and pesticides for the past 25 years. During a good crop year, he used to get 44 bags of paddy @ 22 bags per acre. So, the income, valued as per the current market rate of Rs.950 per bag, was Rs. 41,800 per annum. The crop investment was about Rs.12,000 @ Rs.6,000 per acre. Finally, he used to get an annual net income of about Rs.29, 800 from his 2 acres of land.



At the start of kharif 2008 season, he attended AF's campaign on Sustainable Agriculture in his village. He got motivated and decided to adopt LEISA practices in paddy cultivation. So, on the advice of AF staff, he made the following changes in paddy cultivation:

- Applying bio-fertilizers like Jeevamrutham and growing azolla, instead of using chemical fertilizers.
- Adopting mechanical measures like installing white & yellow boards, providing alleys in the field at regular intervals and biological measures like spraying neem kernel extract and decoctions of wild herbs for pest control, instead of using chemical pesticides.

By adopting the above LEISA practices, he could bring down the crop investments drastically from Rs.12, 000 to Rs. 4,000 for his 2 acres of paddy crop. The yields increased from 22 bags/ac to 28 bags/ac. Since his produce was totally organic, he got a better rate for his produce @ Rs.1,100/bag.

Presented here under are the income and expenditure particulars under the two methods:

### A) TRADITIONAL PRACTICE

TOTAL INCOME= Rs. 41,800

(2 acs \* 22 bags/ac \* Rs.950/bag)

EXPENDITURE= Rs. 12,000

(2 acs \* Rs.6,000/ac)

NET INCOME= Rs. 29,800

### B) LEISA PRACTICE

TOTAL INCOME= Rs. 61,600

(2 acs \* 28 bags/ac \* Rs.1,100/bag)

EXPENDITURE= Rs. 4,000

(2 acs \* Rs.2,000/ac)

NET INCOME= Rs. 57,600

From the above statistics, it can be seen that the net income of Mr.Ramana, has almost doubled by shifting to Sustainable Agriculture practices. Now his family is very happy and they have vowed never to go back to traditional agriculture again.

"We are getting double income through LEISA practices. We are also eating chemical-free food. We will never use chemicals again."

Mr.Ramana & his family  
Kattakinda palli village