

PROGRESSIVE FARMER TRIES CROP DIVERSIFICATION AND REAPS A BUMPER HARVEST

- A Case study of Papampalli village.

Rameswar Reddy a farmer from Papampalli village in Kudair area used to cultivate paddy or maize in his 3 acres of land for a period of 8 continuous years. He never got sufficient income for the family, as he was investing more money on chemical fertilizers and pesticides. There was high infestation of pests and diseases due to mono cropping, resulting in high investment costs.



This year, motivated by AF staff he went for crop diversification and has grown chilly, tomato and some vegetables in his entire land (3 acres). He has invested Rs.6000/-.

"Thanks to AF for suggesting crop diversification in time, for the supply of good quality of vegetable seeds and for providing awareness on LEISA, NPM practices."

*Rameswar Reddy and his family,
Papampalli.*

He used the self-made Bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides for his vegetable crop. So, the investment on chemical fertilizers and pesticides which he used to spend previously became a saving / income for the family now. The net return on investment increased. No disease was found except a little amount of leaf spot. He had a bumper crop of tomato and chillies and till September end he has earned Rs.28,000/- by selling chillies and tomatoes in 4 months time and still can harvest tomato yields for 2 months and chillies for 4 more months.

The farmer and his family are happy for the shift from mono-cropping to crop diversification to vegetable cultivation which gave high return on investment than paddy / maize. This in turn helped their family members to eat nutritious food with fresh vegetables and increased income levels for a better quality of life.