

Livelihood security to urban and peri urban farm families through two tiers horticultural based cropping system

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out during 1997-98 to 2003-04 under Diversified Agricultural Support Project-a-World Bank Funded Project of Uttar Pradesh. The objective of this study was to increase the income and improve the cash flow system of small-marginal farmers, residing in the vicinity of town and urban. The pilot area was selected at Kaimganj in Farrukhabad district, having sandy loam to loam soils and maximum area cover with plantation crops viz., mango, ber and guava. Five to seven year old mango fields were selected for two tier cropping system. The alleys of mango tree intercropped with important vegetable crops like potato, brinjal, pumpkin, vegetable pea, garlic and onion, because the local market is available for the disposal of these vegetable crops. Generally, farmers planted Dashari mango at the distance of 8 x 8 m in rows. The associated crop of potato planted at the distance of 50 cm apart on 12 ridges between two rows of mango and adjusted 75% plant stand. Onion planted in 40 rows at 15 cm apart in the interspaces of two rows of mango and 75% plant stand was adjusted. Three rows of pumpkin were planted between two rows of mango at 200 x 50 x 75 cm apart and adjusted 75% plant population. Vegetable pea planted in 20 rows at 30 cm apart between two rows of mango and plant stand was adjusted 75%. Brinjal planted at 60 cm apart in 10 rows between two rows of mango and adjusted 72% plant population in interspaces of mango. The 75% plant stand of garlic was adjusted with plantation of 40 rows at 15 cm apart between two rows of mango. Potato, brinjal, green fruits of pumpkin, green pods of vegetable pea, garlic and onion yield 225, 218, 278, 92, 73, and 255 q/ha, respectively. The mango based cropping systems have maintained cash flow system and improved the economic status of farming community. The standards of living of small and marginal farm families scaled up and created eco- friendly environment.

Key words : Dashari mango, Eco-friendly, Scaled up, Farming community