

Challenges and Apportunities of Organic Farming in Jammu and Kashmir

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ABSTRACT

This article provides information about impact of organic farming in Jammu and Kashmir after removal Article 370. The valley of Jammu and Kashmir with its different ecological, better climatic condition and its characteristics provides good condition for crop cultivation.

Therefore Jammu and Kashmir is the ultimate destination for agriculture if we can practice organic farming in Jammu and Kashmir we can improve crop productivity along with disease free food. Organic farming mainly consist of cultivation of plant and crop production by maintaining the fertility of soil with the help of plant waste, biological material waste, organic waste and bio fertilizers which release important nutrient to the crops which are necessary for plant growth and productivity.

The major advantage of organic farming is sustainable crop production along with healthy environment. It will also help to attract the young of Jammu and Kashmir towards the farming. Therefore it is necessary to develop organic farming in Jammu and Kashmir.

Keywords: Organic farming, semi-organic cultivation, crop productivity, Pollution free environment, Jammu and Kashmir.

INTRODUCTION

For the continuously increasing population supply of living resources are decreasing day by day. Hence somewhere down we need to think about and have look at organic farming. Organic farming is a very eco-friendly way of doing farming which will lead to give a wide berth to exclude the natural product use of inputs like pesticides, fertilizers, hormones, etc. which reduces the soil fertility after continuous usage over a long period of time. Organic farming is all about relying on techniques like the alteration of growing of different crops, farming methods, rock additives and crop residues for plant protection and nutrient utilization. These organic fertilizers are reaching in nutrients which are necessary for proper improvement of crops yield and their productivity.

Jammu and Kashmir state revenue is hugely depends on the agriculture. Hence in order to maintain fertility of land and stop the migration of youth in other states for employment, we need to have different look at organic farming. This will bring revolution in the Kashmir and Jammu agriculture where near to 60 per cent of state income depend on agriculture. Organic farming in Jammu and Kashmir will help to eliminate use of fertilizers which are reduces fertility over a period of time usage. National commission on farmers concluded that organic farming is important tool for second green revolution especially in mountainous area. Jammu and Kashmir from the couple of year have adopted organic farming practices in agriculture.

After the removal of Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, Organic farming will have enormous scope to increase the attraction towards farming and Food industries. The food industries will increase employment opportunities for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. There is large capacity for organic farming because are already under semi-organic cultivation and there is also lack of availability of fertilizers there are various types of crops which are exportable Jammu and Kashmir like red rice, Machil, Turmeric of pouni, Ginger and potato. We can explore markets in other states of country and abroad for saffron, Basmati and some spices. There is essential to provide logistic support for organic farming to the farmers so that they can have maximum benefits from it .After the 370 act removal, the region will now able to progress the youth for same stride and scale as the rest of country. And now its easily available to transportation after 370 act which

will helps to economical growth of Jammu and Kashmir.

CONCEPT AND BASICS OF ORGANIC FARMING

Organic farming is very well known concept all over the country. It consist of following principles:

Soil is most important entity Nature is best teacher for farmers as it does not use external resources. Organic farming is all about to perform such a way where nature will never be harmed. This way of doing farming will always nurture the soil fertility as well as the micro organisms

FEATURES OF ORGANIC FARMING

- Soil fertility protection
- Enhancing biological activities in soil
- Reusing the organic matters
- Increases crop productivity
- Use of conventional resources
- Decreasing the chances of diseases of consumer
- Organic farming to help the conservation of water
- It reduce the human being as well as animal health hazards
- It helps to make it sustainable
- It increases farmer's income with reducing external input cost.

OBJECTIVES

- To improve organic farming practices in Jammu and Kashmir
- To enhance crop yielding capacity.
- To reduce risk of crop yield of failure.
- To maintain eco-friendly environment in Kashmir andJammu.
- To improve high degree of diversity.

ORGANIC STRATEGIES: JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Jammu and Kashmir the new market options for produced organic food product in J&K need prioritization and certification under WTO regulation. International bio safety measures, Grading and packaging of available fruits, initiatives for development of new varieties of fruits like kiwi fruit, wild apricot, black cherry, broccoli and mushroom are the suggested ways to development of this sector.

Marketing Strategies - In the case of organic food produced by a large number of farmers, marketing has to be arranged at village or taluk level. New crop zones that have been created during the last several years (e.g. RS Pura, Jammu for basmati rice) may boost such exports, because export has advantages over local/retail marketing.

Government supports farming for all crops grown under organic agriculture and biotechnological opportunities are foreseen because of maintenance of soil health, avoidance of environmental pollution, no risk of chemical residues in food and fodder, opportunities for rural employment, etc. These parameters lead to sustainable agriculture.

This system will augment the farmer's income; help in the conservation of natural resources, and will have positive effects on the socio-economic aspects of the farming communities e.g. generation of rural employment, improved household nutrition, assuredlocal food security, reduced independence on external farm inputs, etc.).

CONCLUSION

It appears that Jammu and Kashmir needs to grow towards the organic farming considering the suitable climatic condition to increase and maintain Long-term soil fertility with crop productivity.

Following are some issues which require attention of government policy to spread awareness about organic agriculture:

- Financial support from government to promote organic farming
- Local market development to increase domestic sale
- Awareness programmes to be organized by government which will help to attract the youth.
- Organic products should get higher prices in order to encourage farmers towards organic farming

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