

Success story (2017-18)

Employment and income generation in rural/urban youths through round the year mushroom production module (Chandra Bhanu)

ICAR-IIFSR developed a year round production module of mushroom and started agro-advisory on mushroom production for employment and income generation in rural/urban youths in 2016. Many farmers visited the office and shown their interest in mushroom production, but due to unviability of organized market facilities in the region they were hesitating to start the business of mushroom. Recently three farmers (S. No.1, 2 and 3 in Table 1) took marketing risk and started mushroom production at their own home/rented rooms. The details of growers, type of advisory provided by IIFSR, production capacity of their mushroom farm/rooms, gross and net income from mushroom production are given in Table 2. One urban youth Dr. Anuj who is



Oyster mushroom farm of Dr. Anuj at Noida (U.P.)



Dr. Anuj and his office employees at oyster mushroom farm Noida

an agricultural graduate and having his own business in Noida, started oyster mushroom production as a side business in 2016 after taking proper advice from IIFSR. He has targeted Noida and Delhi market and established his own market of oyster mushroom. He earned about Rs.70000/- of net income in 2016 and Rs.280000/- in 2017 and generated round the year employment for two unskilled personnel at his farm. At present he is a well-known oyster mushroom provider in Delhi-NCR. The success of Dr. Anuj indicates that there is also a scope for income and employment generation through oyster mushroom if it is grown after proper market survey.

Two other mushroom growers, Saksham Singh Rana (S. No. 2) and Sh. Virendra Kumar (S. No. 3) from Meerut successfully grew Button mushroom during this year after taking proper advice from the ICAR-IIFSR. They earned remunerative prices of their produce and built their marketing skill at local level. These two and rest of other mushroom producers got a successful training and confidence in mushroom production at their own farm and with their own hands and skills by applying the advice of IIFSR. These farmers are planning to grow mushrooms at larger scale as a full-fledged business in years to come. This may led the foundation of mushroom

Table 2: Production capacity of mushroom farmers and income generation at their farms

S. No.	Name of farmer /grower	Address	Month/year of Ist contact/visit and type of Technology provided	Mushroom species grown	Quantity of substrate used (kg)	Mushroom production (kg)	Sale rate of mushroom (Rs./kg)/(Average/kg)	Gross income (Rs.)	Net Income (Rs.)	Recycling of spent substrate in field crops/animal feed/sale (kg)	Remarks
1.	Dr. Anuj (Vegan Fresh Mushroom Farm)	Plot No.240/241, Surajpur Police line, Greater Noida, (U.P.)	March, 2016 ➤ Oyster mushroom production technology ➤ Design of crop room and mushroom cropping schedule ➤ Need based advise on crop care and IPM on phone/visits	Oyster mushroom (<i>Pleurotus florida</i>)	30 q (2016) 40q (2017)	1000 kg 3000 kg	100-150 (120) 150-180 (160)	120000 480000	70000 280000	Compost making	-
2.	Sh. Saksham Singh Rana (Gayatri Mushroom SHG)	Sarai Colony, Near Radha Govind College, Garh Road, Meerut	Oct., 2017 ➤ Button/Oyster mushroom production technology ➤ Design of crop room and mushroom cropping schedule ➤ Need based advise on crop	Button mushroom (<i>Agaricus bisporus</i>) Oyster mushroom (<i>Pleurotus florida</i>)	25 q 1q	375 kg 50 kg	100-140 (110/-) 100	41250 5000	26250 3000	Recycled in crop fields	-

			care and IPM on phone/visits								
3.	Sh. Virendra Kumar	Vill. Pabarsa, Daurala, Meerut	Nov., 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Button mushroom production technology ➤ Design of crop room and mushroom cropping schedule ➤ Need based advise on crop care and IPM on phone/visits 	Button mushroom (<i>Agaricus bisporus</i>)	10 q	180 kg	80-120 (90/-)	16200	11000	Recycled in sugarcane crop fields	-
4.	Nayab Subedar Suresh K. Singh and Nayak Vijay Kumar	22 Punjab Regement, Meerut Cantt., Meerut	Feb., 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Oyster mushroom production technology ➤ Design of crop room and mushroom cropping schedule ➤ Need based advise on crop care and IPM on phone/visits 	Oyster mushroom (<i>Pleurotus florida</i>)	12 kg	10kg	Self-consumption	-	-	Animal feed in dairy	Grown Ist time as a training for army personals
5.	Sh. Arvind Kumar	Vill. Gotka, Sardhana, Meerut	Dec., 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Oyster mushroom production technology ➤ Design of crop room and 	Oyster mushroom (<i>Pleurotus florida</i>)	1.10q	65kg	130-160 (145)	9425	5625	Animal feed	-

			mushroom cropping schedule ➤ Need based advise on crop care and IPM on phone/visits								
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cultivation at larger scale and also the employment and income generation opportunities to youths in the region.



Photo: Sh. Shaksham Singh Rana and his SHG members at his mushroom farm, Meerut



Photo: Dr. A.S. Panwar, Director visiting the mushroom farm of Ch. Virendra Kumar at Pabarsa, Meerut