



Success Stories on Scientific Pig Rearing by Tribal farmers of Meghalaya under Biotech- KISAN Project

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Background:

Biotech-KISAN Project sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India is implemented in aspirational district, Ri- Bhoi, Meghalaya by ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya as Main Hub with two Partner Institutions ICAR- NRC on Pig, Rani, Guwahati & ICAR- KVK RiBhoi, Meghalaya. The Project is being executed in eight adopted villages (Mawlein, Mawkhan, Nonglakhiat, Lumshyiap, Thadnongiaiw, Mawbri, Umshorshor and Lummyrnri) of RiBhoi District. These eight villages were clustered into 4 clusters (comprising 2 villages in one cluster). The Project is based on pig production to increase farm stock density and marketing of piglets and fattened pigs.

North-eastern states of India including Meghalaya comprise of tribal inhabitants and their main occupation is agriculture and livestock rearing. Natives of Meghalaya are mostly non- vegetarian in their food habit and would always prefer meat in their meal and pork is largely consumed by the inhabitants. Pig rearing is primarily practised by the population for their own consumption mainly in their backyard, and the deficit is met by importing live pigs from other states of India. Under the circumstances, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam with its partner institutions through Biotech- KISAN Project came forward and volunteered 169 nos. of piglets (144 nos. Hampshire cross breed by ICAR RC NEHR, Umiam, Meghalaya and 25 nos of Yorkshire breed by ICAR- NRC on Pig, Rani, Guwahati) to 96 selected tribal farmers of Ri Bhoi District. To further support them in healthy rearing, the beneficiaries were also provided with pre-mixed concentrate feed, medicines and vaccines. Several demonstrations and trainings programmes were organised to make the farmers aware of the importance of scientific pig rearing, maintaining pigs in hygienic manner and to make them realised that pig rearing, pig production and further marketing can be considered as one of the main source of income that may play a significant role to sustain their livelihood.



Distribution of piglets to farmers by ICAR RC NEHR, Umiam, Meghalaya & ICAR- NRC on Pig, Rani Guwahati

Impact:

Within a span of one year after the tribal farmers started pig rearing and with constant support from the implementing Institutions, farmers willingly agreed to bred Sows by both Natural Breeding methods and Artificial Insemination (AI) and out of 144 nos. of pigs distributed by Main Hub, 22 Sows gave birth to 175 nos. of piglets which were later sold by the farmers/ beneficiaries and earn a considerable amounts of Profit, several other sows has been bred by both natural breeding and Artificial Insemination and more piglets are expected hereafter. Pigs reared for fattening purposed were sold by beneficiaries and till now 31 nos. of fattened Pigs have been sold out of 169 numbers distributed under the Project.

Progressive farmers under the Project

1. Mr. Building Mawthoh residing in Nonglakhiat Village received two pigs (both females) from the Project, both the Sows were bred and delivers 16 piglets, he then sold all piglets @ Rs. 3,800/- and earn an income of Rs. 60,800/-. His expenses total to an amount of Rs. 14000/- and he earns a profit of Rs. 46800/-. He again bred his sows and both the pigs are pregnant.
2. Mrs. Dorbatemon Suphai from Mawbri Village received two pigs (both females) from the Project, after rearing them for a period of 10 months she bred both pigs and a total of 14 piglets were born. She sold all piglets @ Rs. 4000/- per piglet and earn Rs. 56,000/-. Her total expenditure comes to a total amount of Rs. 9000/- and earn a profit of Rs. 47,000/-
3. Mrs. Rosalin Lyngdoh residing in Mawbri village Ri-Bhoi received two piglets (one Male, one female). The female pig gave birth to 5 piglets during the first parturition and 9 piglets during second parturition giving a total of 14 piglets. She sold all piglets @ Rs. 3000/- and earn an income of Rs. 42,000/-, she also sold her male pig after rearing for a period of 11 months and received an income of Rs. 12,000/- giving her a Gross income of Rs. 54,000/-. The expenditure for both piglets is Rs. 5600/- and she earns a profit of Rs. 46,000/-
4. Mr. Strom Mawlong from Lummyri village, Ri Bhoi received two pigs from the Project both females, he bred one of his sow and six piglets were born, he sold all piglets and gain Rs. 21,000/- by selling them @ Rs. 3500/- per piglet. Total expenditure amounting Rs. 7000/- with a profit of Rs. 14000/-
5. Mrs. Agnes Mawlong residing in Mawlein village, Ri- Bhoi also received 2 pigs both females she also bred both pigs and a total of 14 piglets were born. She sold all pigs and gain an income of Rs. 24,500/- (@ Rs. 3,500/- per piglet). Total expenditure for both pigs and piglets produced amounting Rs. 6,000 and a total of Rs. 18,500/- profit earned by her by only selling piglets.
6. Mr. Lenowot Lyngdoh from Mawbri village, Ri Bhoi received two piglets (one male, one female), after rearing for a period of 11 months he sold his male pig @ Rs. 11,000/-. The female pig received was bred and delivers eight piglest, the piglets are yet to be sold.
7. Mrs. Kder Ryntathiang residing in Mawkhan Village, Ri Bhoi received two pigs from the Project, in a span of 10 months of rearing pigs she sold one pig @ Rs. 15000/-, she bred one of her pigs and a total of 8 piglets were born, she then sold 7 piglets and gain an amount of Rs. 23,625 (@ Rs. 3375/- per piglet) giving her a Gross income of Rs. 38,625/-. With the total expenditure amounting Rs. 8000/- she earns a profit of Rs. 30,625/-.



Income generated:

Out of 169 piglets distributed under the Project to 96 beneficiaries of eight villages 31 (thirty one) pigs reared for fattening purpose were sold by farmers and earn an income of Rs. 3,82,000/- and Rs. 3,52,425/- by selling 100 (one hundred) piglets out of 175 nos. delivered under the project giving them a Gross Income of Rs. 7,34,425/-. The total expenditure for both pigs and piglets is Rs. 1,86,650/- and farmers earns a total profit of Rs. 5,47,775/- from both pigs and piglets.

Conclusion:

Farmers selected under the Project have executed scientific pig rearing efficiently, most of the female pigs distributed under the project were kept for breeding purpose & male pigs as boars and some for fattening purpose. The farmers in the region are now well aware of the importance of Scientific Pig rearing and to maintain pigs in a hygienic manner. With 169 piglets distributed under the Project, 175 piglets were produced within a period of one year and more are to be adding up in the coming days.



Piglets produced by Sows distributed under the project

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