

SUCCESS STORY: ICAR-KVK, KASARAGOD SHOWS THE WAY IN BEE KEEPING

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CPCRI conducts vocational training programmes on beekeeping regularly since its inception. Generally three to four programmes are conducted every year with the participation of around 40-50 trainees each.

Sri.Devaraj, aged 41 years, is one among the trainees who attended the vocational training programmes on Bee keeping and Stingless bee keeping organized by KVK, Kasaragod during the year 2014 – 2015. As a part of the training programme, he was given ten bee colonies with 40% subsidy from HORTICORP. He managed the colonies very well as per scientific norms and could able to divide the colonies to 30 by the honey flow season of 2015 – 2016 (December - January). His main occupation is farming activities and also served as an employee of a catering unit for around two years.

Once he got trained on bee keeping enterprise, he quitted his temporary job and expanded his farming activities for which he got full support and help from his family members. He owns around one acre of land where he cultivates Coconut and Arecanut and he also cultivates vegetable crops in around 80 cents taken on lease. To do his farming organically, he maintains two cows also



During the current year his total earnings was Rs.2,19,500/- as compared against previous year's Rs. 1,35,000/- (4 qtl of arecanut, 2000 coconuts and around 10 qtls. of different vegetable crops). This year he got additional income of Rs.79,500/- from the sales of 2.4 quintals of honey from Indian bees and 5 kg from stingless bees so far. This year he also expects more yield from cultivated crops due to enhanced pollination by honey bees.

This bee keeping unit serves as a model for aspirant youth who like to integrate bee keeping along with farming and he extends all help to them. Around 30 rural youth from the area has approached KVK for getting trained on bee keeping which is an evidence for the spread of the technology.

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