

Ragi Seed Treatment followed by Mr. Kumar in Javvadhu Hills



The innovator name is Mr. Kumar, Kalyanamanthai village , Palamarathur post , Jamunamarathur (Via) , Thiruvannamalai District . His age 35 years and has 3 children (2 boys + 1 girl). His brothers viz Natarajan, Sounder and his mother (Kamala) are living separately adjacent to his family . He learned herbal healing practices for , plants and animals from his father Mr Kulanthai who is no more . He is small farmer living in the midst of forest jungle and belongs to *malayala gounder* a tribal community . He raises minor millets viz. Samai, ragi, paddy in his field (forest land) with a shallow well. His practices are given below

1.Ragi seed treatment



Mr Kumar is showing the plant of Peenjathalai

Hand full of (50 gm) Peenjathalai tender leaves (*Gmelina arborea*) Karpooravallithalai (*Plectranthus amboinicus*) leaves 50 gm, Sotrukatalai jelly (*Aloe vera*) 50 gm are taken and quashed / pounded in to small particles and then mix them along with ragi seeds 1 kilo for sowing in the nursery bed. Then it is transplanted. This practice will control ragi blast or blight disease caused by fungus.

There are other tribal farmers who little modified by adding additional leaf extract viz. Arugampul (*Cynodon dactylon*) and charcoal powder (obtained from kitchen) and mixed with ragi seeds and it is sown in the nursery.

2. Green Manuring

Paddy is grown in low lands. Paddy nursery is raised and seeding are planted in the main field. Before planting the green manure is incorporated in puddle field. About 8 bundles (20 kilos each bundle) will be incorporated in about 20 cents of field. The following green manure plants / tree foliage are used for this purpose :

Leaves of Avilimaram (*Holoptelea integrifolia*)

Leaves of Ottanthalai (*Cleistanthus collinus*)

Leaves of Ettimaram (*Strychnos nuxvomica*)

Plants of Kavali (*Theprosia purpurea*)

Leaves of Tharani Kattai (?)

Leaves of Sevattaithalai (*Gibbadessa* sp)

When leaves of Ottanthalai & Ettithalai (*Strychnos nuxvomica*) is incorporated the paddy plants show no pest or disease incidence for paddy crop as claimed by them.



The innovator along with his mother Kamala (55)



**Mr Kumar's wife Mrs Selvi (30) is engaged in Agarpathi making
Kumars wife is earning extra income by rolling agarpathi manually . She gets Rs
Rs 60 from the contractor if she completes rolling of 2000 number the average
number performed in a day.**

Address :

Mr K.Kumar

Kalyanamanthai village ,

Palamarathur Post, Jamunamarathur (Via) ,

Thiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu

Pincode -635 703

Cell phone (PP) : Natarajan , Brother -9585567910

Contact details : A. Anbalagan, Dhan Foundation , NGO Staff

Documented by : P. Vivekanandan, SEVA 14 Sep 2013