

## Agro-Astro for Success

Agro Astrology will help sure for successful farming – tells Mr. Velayudham, a Beetroot farmer of Udumalpet.

He is cultivating all crops in his field. His lifeline is beetroot. He has studied all aspects of beetroot. Before cultivating a crop one should analyze the following how many acres of beetroot is being cultivated around the country, when do they come to harvest, future of market, expected yield, are there chances for inflow from other states, etc., this is known as crop astrology. Number of farmers seeks his advice to cultivate their crops.

Mr. Velayudham a graduate in Agriculture had been working as Agricultural officer for many years. The farmers harvest the entire produce and sell it in the nearby markets, so they do not get higher prices. Farmers should know the market rates of various places. To get this information he has planned to set up Agricultural Information and Advisory centre at Udumalpet.

Beetroot is a short duration crop (50 -60 days). It is usually grown in cool areas of Ooty and Kodaikanal but now it is being cultivated in Udumalpet too. Since the climate is similar for most seasons. Beetroot has high demand in Madurai, Ottanchatram, Dindigul, Kerela, Thirupur, and Theni. 2 – 3 farmers can join together to sell it in these markets.

Establishment of cold storage and post harvest techniques is a must for farmers. Establishment of Agricultural produce Procurement Corporation will give higher income to the farmers.

<b>Economics of Beetroot Production in 1 acre of land</b>				
Price of 1 kg is Rs.4 to Rs.13.				
<b>S.No</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>
1.	Seeds	2kg	1500	-
2.	Sowing	8 persons	800	-
3.	Weeding - 3 times	30 persons	3000	-
4.	Pesticide - + Labour	3feet	1500	-
5.	FYM	2load	1600	-
6.	Poultry manure	1 load	1200	-
7.	Tractor ploughing	1.15 hr	400	-
8.	Ridges and Furrows (Labour)		400	-
9.	DAP	1bag	450	-
10.	Potash	1 bag	250	-
11.	ZnSo4	10kg	300	-
12.	Micronutrient	5kg	250	-
13.	Granular pesticide	5kg	300	-
14.	Potash	1 bag	250	-
15.	Urea	1 bag	250	-
16.	Irrigation (14 irrigation) Labour	60 days	1400	-
17.	Harvest		4500	-
18.	Total Income (Rs.4 x 9000kg)			36,000
	Total		18,350	36,000
	Net profit			17,650

**Contact:** Mr. Velayudham, 9443748966

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