

Thulasi – A Helping Hand

The farmers of Madurai and Dindigul districts are cultivating Thulasi at low cost and harvesting more income. The expenditure for 1 acre of Thulasi is Rs.5000 (to the maximum). It gives yield from the 40th – 50th day to 5 years continuously.

Mr. Joseph Manicham of Kallupatti Dindigul explained the following. They came to know about Thulasi cultivation from Y new trust, who provided them Rs.4500/-. He cultivated Thulasi in 60 cents by forming 22 ridges. He applied Farm Yard Manure before sowing the crop at December. He started harvesting in 45 days. From each ridge he gets 100 – 110 bundles per harvest. He sells the fresh leaves at Dindigul flower market @ Rs. 1.50 to 2 per bundle. The fresh leaves can be kept for 2 days by sprinkling water over it. If the price is low, the leaves can be dried and sold.

There is no problem of pest and disease and he get around Rs.150 to Rs.200 / day. The income per month is Rs.3500 – Rs.4000/-. In the past 3 months, he has applied 74M (1 month) and ground nut cake (50 kg at 3 month). The cost has been Rs.5000 for 3 months while the income was Rs.11,000/-. The work is only for 2 hours in the morning and evening.

The farmers here are collecting Thulasi in small packets while Mrs. Jayanthi, of Thirumangalam, Madurai districts is cultivating in 40 acres successfully including intercropping in Amla. She is growing mostly for Thulasi seeds. In a single year, seeds can be obtained 4 times, each time the yield is around 3 – 4 kg. The yield is 12 kg / year. The price for 1 kg is Rs. 12, 00/-. Seeds are procured by Siddha Company. In addition to the seeds she gets 2 tonnes of green leaves from 1 acre. The price is Rs.6000 / tones. It is sent to Bangalore. Mr. Dhiraviyaraj executive 'Y New' organization says that Thulasi comes out well in areas with water scarcity. CAPART is providing Rs. 4500 for farmers cultivating Thulasi under the scheme 'Renaissance in Drought'. There is no problem in marketing. There is more demand for Thulasi as fresh leaves are used for garlands and seeds are for medicinal purposes 'Y New' group is ready to give cultivation advisory service.

Contact:

For marketing: Mr. Moithin Abdulkadhar, Virudhunagar, Mobile: 94427 – 17442

Y New Group: Mr. Dhiraviyaraj – 9842780640

Farmer: Mrs. Jayanthi – 94430 – 70089

Economic of Thulasi cultivation in 1 Acre			
S.No	Particulars	Expenditure	Income
1.	Seeds	525	-
2.	Farm Yard Manure	1200	-
3.	Ploughing	800	-
4.	Ridge formation	500	-
5.	Weeding (6 weedings @ Rs.400 / weeding)	2400	-
6.	Fresh leaves 15 tonnes / year @ Rs.6 / kg		90,000
	Total	5425	90,000
	Net profit		84,575

Tips in Thulasi cultivation:

Thulasi grows well in red and sandy soil. The spacing should be 1 x 1 feet. The seed requirement is ½ kg

/ acre in direct sowing. While in transplanted crop, the seed requirement is 350 gm. Care should be taken to buy healthy seeds.

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