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Mushroom production technology in India: A source of income and employment generation

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ushroom production can play an important role in contributing to the livelihood in rural & peri-urban areas through food security and income and employement generation. It make a valuable dietary supplement through protein and other nutritional components including vitamins and medicinal properties. It can represent an agribusiness enterprise option. At present more than 60% young population in India looking for job/employement for their better life. The temperature of Bihar ranges from 100C (min) and 380C (max) as mushroom production technologies suitable in between the temperature range. The mushroom production technologies comprised round the year mushroom cultivation spawn production, compost & spawn bag production, processing packaging, product development, marketing and skill development components. Out of these spawn production needs control condition but other components can be excuted under natural condition. Five mushroom genera i.e. is pleurotus (Dhingri mushroom), Agaricus (Button mushroom), Calocybe & Tricholoma (Milky mushroom) and *Valvariella* (Paddy mushroom) are commercially cultivated in different parts of India.

The adoption of technology resulted that 7000 families involved in mushroom production and many involved in commercial way. Case study resulted that Sonia Tuddu, Madhubani, Bihar earning Rs. 35000/ month by mushroom production from 2000 sq.ft. hut. Similarly, Smt. Manorama Singh Vaishali, Mohan Kesri Jamui, Vinita Banka, and many other are earning Rs. 35000 to 50000 per month by single or two enterprise of mushroom production technology. They have engaged 2 to 5 trained local person @ Rs. 5000 to 10000 per month as employees. The detail module is to be presented & discussed. Babita Jha, Pushpa Jha earning Rs. 15000 to 25000 per month by mushroom production and pickle selling. Nagendra Sahni Saran earned Rs. 5 lakh by mushroom production & compost selling. Beside income and employement generation, consumption of mushroom in poor/rural areas in increase many fold as it is included in their diet.

Biography

Khem Raj Meena completed his M.Sc, Ph.D and worked as Assistant Professor cum Scientist, from Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar- 848125, India Currently working in the Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Basic Sciences & Humanities.

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