

System of Rice Intensification (SRI) for Changing Climate

2011 -12

Mr. Anbalagan, a progressive farmer from Natchalur village of Kulithalai block in Karur District with a total land holding of 12 acres was the first person in the village to adopt the SRI with the technical guidance of the KVK Scientists during 2010-11. Based upon the trainings, exposure visit and method demonstrations organized by our KVK on SRI Technology, he adopted SRI in 2 hectares under canal irrigation.

He raised the mat nursery for this purpose. He used just 5 kg of seeds per 0.4 hectare. The area and the seed rate have been considerably reduced in this method when compared to conventional method. Transplanting has been taken up using 14 days old seedling, the planting was done with rope marker. He carried out the weeding operations using improved conoweeder for 3 times at 30th, 40th and 50th days after transplanting.

He applied the fertilizers as per the soil test report. Application of urea with neemcake in split doses resulted in effective management of pest and diseases. He harvested a good crop with a grain yield of 6300 Kg/ha under SRI as against 3940 kg/ha under normal method. The cost of seeds, nursery preparation, transplanting, weeding, and labour has been reduced considerably.

The initial experience was bitter during the cropping period due to the criticism of the villagers, but at harvest, the neighboring farmers of the village were surprised to see the higher yield of rice due to SRI adoption. Now he stands as a role model not only for his own village but also for the neighboring villages.

Mr. Jeganathan is a progressive farmer of Natchalur village, cultivating paddy for the last 25 years. He has been cultivating (BPT-5204) in Samba season regularly. He owns 2 hectares of land. He used to spend more money towards seed and weeding operations. But, he was not satisfied with the economic returns.

In this situation, he on the advice of KVK followed SRI method of paddy planting to the extent of 2 hectares. He used 7 kg of seeds per 0.4 hectare and transplanting has been taken up using 17 days old seedling, the planting was done with rope marker. He got 5425 kg/ha of grain yield which was 15 % more than the conventional method practiced earlier. He opined that the yield should have been much higher, had there been intermittent rains during the crop growth period.

Mr. Karikalan, a progressive farmer from Kelapatti village of Kulithalai block in Karur District with a total land holding of 12 hectares was the first person in the village to adopt the SRI under the technical guidance of KVK during 2010-11. He adopted SRI in 7.6 hectares under canal irrigation, the planting was done with rope marker. He carried out the weeding operations using improved conoweeder for 3 times at 25th, 37th and 51th days after

transplanting. He got 5890 kg/ha of grain yield, which was 33% higher than the conventional method of paddy cultivation.

Mr. Kalaiselvan, a progressive farmer from Mudhalaipatti village of Thogaimalai block in Karur District with a total land holding of 1.2 hectares was the first person in the village to adopt the SRI under the technical guidance of the KVK Scientists during 2010-11. He got 5400 kg/ha of grain yield.

