

# **KVK INDUCED TO DEVELOP AN STATE LEVEL ENTERPRISING FARMER ON FARM MECHANIZATION**

## **1. Background**

The rice cultivation in Nagapattinam district has undergone a series of changes given the unprecedented labour shortage and enhanced labour wages for important cultural operations like leveling, nursery preparation, transplanting, weeding and harvesting. The labour scarcity become acute leading to delay in agricultural operations in Nagapattinam district. Total mechanization is the only option for the acute labour problem in Nagapattinam district. By Understanding the critical needs of complete mechanization, 54 years aged progressive, innovative farmer Mr. S.Narayanasamy, Sikkal village change his mind set up from conventional farming to mechanization. He has 18 acres including fourteen acres of leased land.

## **2. Intervention Process**

Hence, to address the above said problems Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagapattinam is working with the thrust area of “Mechanization in rice cultivation”. KVK, approached the problem through popularization of direct sown drum seeder and machineries for transplanted rice. KVK took various interventions like On and Off campus trainings, FLDs and various small and large scale demonstrations etc, to promote the mechanization in rice cultivation. FLDs on total mechanization were conducted in several villages. He used to actively involved in all the extension programmes conducted by KVK. He attended 5 days training on Farm machineries at CODISSIA, Coimbatore. Ten numbers of trainings related to farm machineries at KVK, Nagapattinam. Also attended Farmers Day conducted by TNAU, Coimbatore regularly.

## **3. Intervention Technology**

### **Farm mechanization**

The scientists at KVK, Nagapattinam to fulfill one of the most important thrust areas, mechanization in rice cultivation has planned a series of interventions namely on campus demonstration cum interactions, Front Line Demonstrations in farmers field, On Farm Trials, Farmers Field Schools and trainings in farmers field to reinforce the potential of farm mechanization in rice. Apart from these initiatives, efforts has been made to bring to reality the much spoken Public- Private

partnership in Agricultural Extension through engaging influential farmers as Para-extension workers who can take the advantage of Mechanization in Rice cultivation to their fellow farmers.

By getting motivation from various interventions, he owned Machineries like Rice Transplanter, Power tiller, Conoweeder, Single row, Two row and Three row power weeders and tractor with cultivator and cage wheel , Hand Sprayer, Power sprayer and Oil engine for Irrigation purpose and extensively used in his farm.

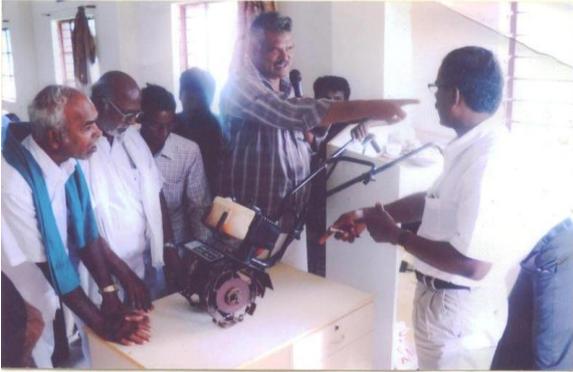
#### 4. Impact Horizontal Spread

Since 1993, he is being popularized the tractor drawn cultivator as hiring basis to the nearest area and about 100 acres were covered in a year. Sprayers and Power weeder is being popularized by the farmer since 1993 as hiring basis. He provided power weeders for conducting On Farm Trails on Assessment of different weeders under mechanized rice transplanting during 2012-13 in the farmers field of Nagapattinam district. He was selected as **Innovative farmer** for his invention of Single row rice power weeder(reducing the drudgery in weeding) in Farm Innovators Day Meet conducted by KVK, Sikkal on 06.09.2011. He received **State level enterprising farmer on farm mechanization award** on 20.03.2015, during demonstration of Farm machineries held at TNAU Coimbatore. The farmers realized that complete mechanization is the only way despite of the productivity aspects. The general feeling among farmers is to own their own power weeder so that they can anytime use it for weeding purpose. The economic well being of farmers has been enhanced substantially as they could earn at least Rs.5000- 6000 more by switching over to mechanized cultivation of rice from conventional cultivation

#### 5. Impact Economic Gains

Presently he is a successful entrepreneur/ farmer having knowledge on crop cultivation rice, Rice fallow pulses. He also the first person in Nagapattinam to adopt farm mechanization. He got yield of Rice 2170 Kgs/acre through farm mechanization and also saved Rs 4000/acre/season over conventional method of cultivation. Rs. 50,000/year was earned as additional income through hiring of machineries during 2013-14. The change has been fully dominated by complete mechanization of rice only.

## ACHEIVEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS



**Farm Innovators Day Meet**



**Demo-Single row rice power weeder**



**State level enterprising farmer award**



**KVK Scientists with awarded farmer**