Report of One Day Hands-on-Training cum Work shop and Extension Programme on Vermicomposting-A skill Development & Organic Initiative held on 02nd September, 2022









Department of Botany and Seed Technology in collaboration with Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural sciences (SKUAST-K) organized one day Hands-on-Training Workshop and Extension Programme on Vermicomposting-A skill Development & Organic Initiative on 2nd September, 2022. The workshop proceedings were held in AV room of Department. The

workshop and extension activity was aimed to acquaint students of undergraduate programmes preferably pursuing Botany at UG level with various aspects of Vermicomposting-Production, processing and usage and its ecological benefits.

Around 60 students of of the dept. of Botany, five students each from GDC Women Anantnag, & GDC Mattan alongwith faculty members viz. Mr. A.M. Chalkoo (Associate Prof. and Head), Dr. Mohd Suliman (Sr. Assistant Prof.), Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Wani (Assistant Prof.) Mr. Mir Khusrau (Assistant Prof.), Mr. Bahar Ahmad Mir (Assistant Prof.), Dr. Bilal Ahamd Wani(Assistant Prof. and Head Seed Technology), Dr. Azad Hussain Khan (Assistant Prof.) and progressive farmers from different areas participated in Hands-on-training Workshop.

1. Technical Session at Audiovisual Centre, Department of Botany.



At the outset of workshop Principal of the host College, Prof. Muzaffar Ahmad Bhat presented a brief of the workshop and welcomed the guest speaker, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Baba, and other participants. In his welcome address, Prof. Muzaffar appreciated the efforts of department of Botany in organization of agro based skill training programme Mr. A. M Chalkoo, Head Department of Botany in his brief inaugural session expressed

gratitude to worthy Principal for mentorship and necessary support services and human resource for conduct of Hands-on-Training workshop.

The technical session 1st was delivered by Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Baba, Senior Scientist, Division of Basic Science & Humanities, Faculty of Agriculture, SKUAST-K. In his lucid presentation loaded with photographs and scientific data, Dr.Zahoor said," Vermicomposting by earthworms helps stabilize active organic materials and convert them to a valuable soil amendment and source of plant nutrients. Earthworms will consume most organic materials, including food preparation residuals and leftovers, scrap paper, animal manure, agricultural crop residues, organic by-products from industries, and yard trimmings. This organic manure Vermicompost can be utilized in gardens to promote plant growth.

Dr. Zahoor informed the faculty members of department and students that SKUAST-K will provide every possible logistic support in conducting training programmes for serious agropreneurs and farmers interested in production of Vermicompost manure. Elaborating on biofertilisers, Dr. Zahoor emphasized upon use of biofertilisers (fertilizers of living origin) in improving soil health by way of circulation of macro and micronutrients, enriching Carbon-Nitrogen ratio of soil. He provided statistical data supporting the fact the J&K UT is lagging behind both in production of biofertilisers and their usage. If managed properly this industry will boost up the economy by 50 crores annually, he said.

The session concluded with Vote of thanks which was delivered by senior faculty member of the Department of Botany Dr. Mohd. Suliman Dar. Dr. Suliman extended one to one gratitude to one and all who made workshop a grand success.

2. Hands-on training session in Vermicompost Production Unit.

A live Hands- on training session was held in Vermicomposting unit of the department. The students were given hands-on-training in different aspects of Vermicomposting. The subject expert enlightened the students about various methodologies and procedures involved in preparation and processing of Vermicomposting.

The day long exercise of Hands-On-training came to conclusion with vote of thanks presented by Dr. M. Suliman. In his remarks Dr. Suliman extended sincere thanks to college Principal for extending untiring support and logistics in successful conduct of workshop. He thanked resource person Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Baba for agreeing to impart hands-on training to the student fraternity of the college and farmers of catchment areas.



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Registration of students for One day workshop on Vermicomposting: A Skill Development and Organic Initiative organized by Department of Botany and Seed Technology, GDC Anantmag.

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