

IPM: A Solution for Doubling Farmers' Income

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INTRODUCTION

Past strategy for development of the agriculture sector in India has focused primarily on raising agricultural output and improving food security. That result into 45 percent increase in food production per person along with make India self-sufficient in food and exporting country. The strategy did not recognize the need to increase farmers' income and any measure to endorse farmer welfare. This cause the farmer's income remains at low level. Low income along with deteriorating disparity between farmer income and non-agricultural person build reason for agrarian distress in the country. The country also witnessed increase in the farmers suicides during 1995 to 2004 era due to losses from farming system and low returns are important factors for this. Due to this, cultivators, particularly younger age group were forced to leave farming that has serious effects on the future of agriculture in our country. Therefore, the goal of doubling farmers' income by 2022 is requires farmers welfare movement, agrarian distress reduction, equal status and income. Strong processes are needed to increase farmers' income within agriculture system as well as outside. The major sources of growth within agriculture sector are:

- a) Improvement the crops productivity
- b) Resource use efficiency or saving the cost of cultivation
- c) Increase the cropping intensity of field
- d) Diversification to high value crops
- e) Improving trade

Strategy for improving Farmers' income

- **Reducing Costs through Low Input Agriculture (LIA)**

Reducing the costs without compromising the output can increase the income. Application of overdose of fertilizers and pesticides by farmers, use low external input, adopt sustainable agriculture.

Enhancing production through yield Increase

Yield of crops can increase by minimize crop losses especially due to attacks of pests and diseases and secondly, improve productivity of crops which help in more revenues generate.

Reducing the number of stored grain pests:

To control pests in a storage warehouse the following steps must be followed

- a) **Monitoring**
- b) **Identification**
- c) **Control**
- d) **Importance of Integrated Pest Management:**

1. For obtaining higher yields of any crop, chemicals play a significant role if use them in judiciously way to increase benefits and minimize its effect on non-targeted species which could play a important role in improving farm productivity and doubling farmers incomes.
2. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the modern approach to undertake a step-by-step method in ensuring good crop health. It ensures crop quality, decrease pest infestations, reduced the potential

problems of pest resistance and increases consumer confidence.

3. IPM is a big part of the solution which includes safe and quality food production conserves non-renewable energy and improves farmer livelihoods.
4. It reduces amount of broad-spectrum pesticide that is used in the environment
5. It also minimizes the chances of pests developing resistance towards the specific pesticide and curtails the health related risk to humans.
6. IPM which includes the cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest and advocates the need based judicious use of pesticides during cropping.
7. Integrated Pest Management is an environment and ecological friendly approach for managing pest problems.

Therefore, to secure the future of agriculture in India and to strengthen the livelihood of farmers, IPM is one of the crucial measures which helps in enhance income of farmers through reducing cost of production and increasing production by maintaining the food quality and environment.