

BEST PRACTICE - 2

1. Title :

Organic Farming and Vegetable Cultivation

2. Goal:

- Create awareness about organic farming
- Bring back the culture of agriculture in students
- Effective use of extra time in the campus
- Create environmental consciousness

3. Context:

Kerala is traditionally known for its agriculture, paddy fields, vegetable cultivation and its climate. But the last decade witnessed a drastic change owing to many reasons. Paddy fields have disappeared, water level lowered, farmers are dwindling in number, forced to bring vegetables with pesticide content from outside the state. In this context it was imperative to make the students as well as the general public aware of the need and importance of agriculture and organic farming.

4. The practice:

Vegetables are cultivated in 2 acres land of the college campus. Bitter guard, Brinjal, Beans, Tapioca, Agasthya poovu, Papaya etc were cultivated and 2300 kilograms of vegetable produced. In Karipoor ela of Anad punchayath, under the initiative of NSS college unit leased out 3 acres of barren land and converted it into agricultural land with the help of local self government. Nadeel ulsavam(planting), and Koythulsavam (harvesting) are celebrated by our students as well as the local people. Around 3000 kgs of rice received till this season.

5. Evidence of Success:

The quantity of vegetables and rice received from the cultivation is the evidence of success of the programme. This programme brought out a thorough shift in the attitude of the students and they became more environmental conscious.

6. Problems encountered and Resources required:

Converting barren land to agricultural land and initial expense for cultivation were the biggest challenges. By ensuring the cooperation of local self government, department of agriculture and college PTA we managed to mobilised resources and funds