



Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

Brief Report of Training Program on Mushroom Production

Mushroom production is a profitable and sustainable Agribusiness venture that has gained popularity worldwide due to its nutritional value, low environmental impact and high demand in various cuisines and industries. Mushrooms are an essential meal in a nation like India to combat malnutrition and food instability. Mushrooms have been suggested by FAO as a food that can help in developing nations' diets with protein. They are a wonderful option for those who follow low-carb dietary patterns because they are likewise low in carbohydrates. The cultivation of mushrooms has a number of benefits, including the conversion of complex organic ligno-cellulosic compounds into nutrient-dense food, assistance with the recycling of agricultural waste, reduction in pollution, lack of competition for agricultural land and opportunities for self-employment. Mushroom culture is one of the important components of the Integrated Farming System and farmers can get additional income from the mushroom by utilizing the leisure hours to increase their economic status. In accordance to this a training program was organized by the Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST) on Mushroom Production for Farmers and Students on 11/07/2023 at Mushroom Unit of IIAST Instructional Farm Unit 5 to educate and to make them self-reliant

The Objectives of training programme were-

- To introduce participants to the biology and characteristics of mushrooms.
- To educate participants on the cultivation techniques and requirements specific to milky mushroom production.
- To provide practical insights into the preparation and management of mushroom beds and bags.
- To impart knowledge on disease and pest management to ensure successful crop yields.



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- To equip participants with post-harvest handling and marketing strategies for mushroom products.

The training program was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd. Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, IIAST, and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. The faculty members of IIAST, Mr. Nadeem Khan, Dr. Shipra Yadav, and Dr. Sanket Kumar, along with the assistance of supporting staff Mr. Sooraj Awasthi and Syed Faisal Kirmani, effectively conducted the training program. M.Sc. (Ag.) Agronomy students also participated in the same .

Mr. Nadeem Khan (Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST) discussed the importance of mushrooms , their nutritional value, culinary versatility, potential health benefits, medicinal properties, environmental sustainability, and economic significance which aligns with the SDG 3 (Good Health and Well Being). Dr. Shipra Yadav (Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST) explained the procedure of spawn production, precautions during production like pasteurization, fungicide application and Formalin application, compost bag preparation, spawn distribution in compost bag (Mushroom seeding) along with its practical demonstration. Dr. Sanket Kumar elaborated upon the procedure and demonstration of casing the bags, harvesting, marketing and various value-added products of mushroom. He also highlighted that it is important for farmers to connect through market research, create a solid business plan, and stay updated on industry trends and consumer preferences to maximize profitability in growing mushrooms. The Mushroom Training Program employed a combination of theoretical lectures and hands-on training session. The practical session allowed participants to actively engage in substrate preparation, spawn inoculation, and other critical aspects of milky mushroom cultivation.

Around 40 farmers attended the training program. The attendees were from Palka, Rajauli, Bhakamau, Bhagatpurwa, Khwaja ka purwaa. On the conclusion of programme, one bag was distributed to each of the farmer to encourage and promote their interest towards mushroom cultivation. Few farmers namely, Mr. Shyamu (Rajauli), Mr. Mizam Khan (Palka), Mr. Kyamudhin (Palka), Mr. Shah Fahad (Para) and Mr. Virendra (Bhagatpurwa) were interested in mushroom cultivation and had given their positive feedback.



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The Mushroom Training Program effectively provided participants with valuable insights into the cultivation of milky mushrooms. The combination of theoretical instruction and hands-on experience ensured a well-rounded learning experience for all attendees. It was a strongly instructive training session that placed a strong emphasis on creating livelihoods using resources that are already in the area and that are also environmentally beneficial.

Glimpse of Program

