

## Vegetable cultivation in Pandal (Bower) system – A profitable venture

Mr. S. Maheswaran  
S/o Samudirapandi  
16 Kattabomman street,  
Thalavaipuram, Panakudi,  
Tirunelveli – 627 109  
Mobile No. 75941961



### Farmer Introduction

- ) Mr. Maheswaran, a progressive organic farmer from Panakudi village of Tirunelveli District.
- ) He was cultivated traditional paddy varieties such as Kattuyanam, Kullakar, Thuyamalli, Kichadi samba, karunkuruvai, Poonkar, Salem senna in about 3.5 acres.
- ) Mr. Maheswaran attributes his success to the technical inputs provided by Agriculture department, Krishi Vigyan Kendra and encouragement and support of his family.
- ) He adopted methods of agronomic practices such as System of Rice Intensification (SRI), incorporation of green manures for field preparation, agniasthiram, Panchakavya, fish amino acid were used for seed treatment, pest repellent and plant growth regulator.

### Achievements

- ) He obtained a grain yield of around 8 tonnes from traditional paddy variety and he directly sales as organic rice to the consumers it fetches a premium price in the market at Rs. 70/kg.
- ) He mobilized farmers to form a group as “Valliyoor Vattara Mahandragiri Parampariya Vivasayigal Sangam” for promotion of traditional paddy practices. Around 30 farmers from this group were cultivated traditional paddy varieties.
- ) Initially he started to cultivate around 2 acres of traditional paddy varieties from his village now it extends up to an area of 30 acres in Valliyoor Block of Tirunelveli district.
- ) He supplied seeds and organic inputs to the farmer groups

### Impact of the activity

- ) He is recognized as progressive farmer and Master Trainer for organic farmers of the district
- ) He shared his experience during the training programme and campaign organized by the Department of Agriculture and Krishi Vigyan Kendra.
- ) He used social media to disseminate the organic farming practices to other farmers

### Recognition

- ) He conferred “Bharat Ratna Dr.M.G.R. Traditional variety conserver award “for cultivating traditional paddy varieties given by Department of Agriculture, Tirunelveli District.
- ) “Namma Oooru Vivasayi 2018” awarded by RMS International School, Panakudi
- ) “Best Organic Rice Farmer” 2018 presented by Kalapai, Chennai.

### Photographs



**Edited by:** Ms. C. R. Monikha, SMS (Agricultural Extension), KVK, Tirunelveli