

**Name of Farmer : Shree. Prasad Jagannath Ghongade**

**Village : Gadikhel**

**Taluka : Baramati**

**District : Pune**

**Education : B.E. (IT) & MBA**



### **Introduction**

Shree. Prasad Ghongade is software engineer by profession and has personal interests in natural farming. He bought 3 acres barren land and planted almost 2500 various fruit plants like Fig, Guava, Custard Apple, Banana, Mango, Pomegranate, Papaya & Moringa using Padmashri Dr.Subhash Palekar's 5 layer orchard model.

### **Training and guidance of KVK Baramati**

- Cultivation of fruit and Vegetable crops by natural Farming.
- Various agricultural exhibitions and training programs

### **Practices adopted**

- Implemented Padmashri Dr.Subhash Palekar's 5 layer orchard model with Fig, Guava, Custard Apple, Banana, Mango, Pomegranate, Papaya & Moringa trees.
- Started farming with Gomutra & Cow dung obtained from 1 Indian cow (Khillar).
- Used Ghan-Jeevamrut in the pit while planting trees.
- Used Bijamrit while planting trees and seeds to avoid fungus.
- Used Jeevamrit on weekly basis with irrigation water to improve health of soil and also sprayed it over plants as growth regulator.
- Used various types of natural methods of insect-pest controller like Nimastra, Sour Butter Milk, Agni-Astra, Bramhastra, Dashparni Ark as explained in Subhash Palekar Krishi (SPK).
- Cultivated mixed crops and used border crops for managing insects.
- Saved water by performing drip irrigation, rain pipes etc.
- Used live mulch and dead mulch.
- Used sticky plates and insect traps as & when needed.

### **Comparison between Natural Farming and Conventional Farming**

Parameters	Natural Farming (Area in ha)	Conventional Farming (Area in ha)
Name of Crop - Fig	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Cost of cultivation (Rs)	□ <b>2,500/-</b>	□ <b>10,000/-</b>
Production (q)	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Gross return (□ )	□ <b>28,000/-</b>	□ <b>16,800/-</b>
Net return (□ )	□ <b>25,500/-</b>	□ <b>6,800/-</b>

Parameters	Natural Farming (Area in ha)	Conventional Farming (Area in ha)
Name of Crop – <b>Green Chilli</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.15</b>
Cost of cultivation (Rs)	□ <b>700/-</b>	□ <b>2,000/-</b>
Production (q)	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Gross return (□ )	□ <b>14,000/-</b>	□ <b>8,000/-</b>
Net return (□ )	□ <b>13,300/-</b>	□ <b>6,000/-</b>

Parameters	Natural Farming (Area in ha)	Conventional Farming (Area in ha)
Name of Crop – <b>Red Pumpkin</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.15</b>
Cost of cultivation (Rs)	□ <b>800/-</b>	□ <b>3,000/-</b>
Production (q)	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>
Gross return (□ )	□ <b>45,000/-</b>	□ <b>24,000/-</b>
Net return (□ )	□ <b>44,200/-</b>	□ <b>21,000/-</b>

### **Benefits and achievements**

- Improved soil health and high earthworm count.
- Higher yields with good fruit quality, size and increased shelf life.
- Chemical-free food to the community with the use of natural fertilizers and insecticides.
- Conducted farm visits to establish trust & bonding between farmer and customers.

### **Impact of the Technology**

- Reduced input cost and cost of cultivation.
- Bijamrit helped to avoid fungus to plants and seeds.
- Jeevamrit & mulching helped to improve soil health and high earthworm count.
- Cultivation of mixed crops resulted into less requirement of insecticides & pesticides.
- Chemical-free food for society and good price for farmer.



Preparation of Jeevamrit



Preparation of Nimastra, Dashparni Ark etc



Good fruit quality & plant health



Use of live & dead mulch