

Handbook on Organic Farming and Processing

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India is an agro based country. So organic farming plays an important role in agro field. The popularity of organic farming is gradually increasing and now organic agriculture is practiced in almost all countries of the world, and its share of agricultural land and farms is growing. As the organic food market continues to expand, so do the opportunities for small farmers.

Organic farming has emerged as the only answer to bring sustainability to agriculture and environment.

This handbook is a comprehensive guide to growing, certifying, and marketing organic produce. Organic farming is not only a philosophy, but also a well-researched science that combines soil fertility, plant pathology and other biological and environmental sciences.

The major contents of this book are Sustainable Agriculture, National Programme on organic farming, Integration with organics and biofertilizers, Bulky organic manures and crop residues, Manuring on sight, Manuring potentials, Green Manuring, Production and promotion of organic fertilizers, Vermi composting, Response of crops to organic fertilizers, Phosphate solubilizing, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, Crop residue management, Integrated nutrient management towards sustainable agriculture, Integrated farming system, Mechanism of nitrogen fixation, Economics and marketing of organic farming.

As we have seen, the booming development taking place in organic farming and marketing offers many opportunities. We will be able to go on contributing to the establishment of organic production systems and this could lead to changes in life style and consumption patterns that will reach far beyond food and nutrition.

This book will be very helpful to soil scientists, microbiologists, biologists, students, new entrepreneurs, fertilizer industries, training centers and to all those interested in efficient use and sustainable farming.

1. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Evolution of Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable Livelihood

2. NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON ORGANIC FARMING

National Programme for Organic Production

Operational Structure of NPOP

Accreditation Agencies

Evaluating Agency

Accredited Inspection and Certification Agencies
Inspectors
Accreditation Regulation 2001
Committee for Accreditation
Application for Accreditation
Updating and Renewal of Accreditation
Power to Issue Guidelines
Logo
Suspension/Termination of Accreditation
Categories for Accreditation
Reciprocity
The National Standards for Organic Products
Guidelines for Organic Production and Processing
Package of Practices

3. INTEGRATION WITH ORGANICS AND BIOFERTILIZERS

Fertilizers
Nutrient Uptake and Removal by Crops
Fertility Status of Soils
Crop Responses to Fertilizer Application
Optimum Application Rates
Integration of Diverse Sources of Plant Nutrients
Some Basic Issues
Farmyard Manure
Green Manures
Rhizobium
Blue Green Algae
Azolla
Conclusions

4. BULKY ORGANIC MANURES AND CROP RESIDUES

Organic Manures and Their Composition
Potential and Available Supplies
Technologies for Quicker and Better Compost Production
Competing Uses of Resources
Fate of Organic Materials in Soil
Effect on Soil Properties
Effect on Crop Yields
Long-term Effects of Organic Manures
Management Aspects
Constraints in Adoption
Future Research Needs

5. MANURING ON SIGHT

In-situ Manuring by Animal
The System
Advantages
Limitations
Verification of Farmers Experiences
Sustainability
Prospects
In-situ Manuring with Plants (Green Manures)
Benefits of Using Green Manures

Enhance Soil Fertility
Supplement for Nutrients
Improved Soil Structure
Prevention of Soil Erosion
Weed Control
Method of Use
Green Manuring in Situ
Green Leaf Manuring
Place in Farming System
Green Manures in Rotation
Green Manures and Undersowing
Long Term Green Manures
Green Manures as Mulch
Green Manures in Agroforestry
Management of Green Manuring
Time of Sowing and Seed Rate
Seed Treatment
Stem Cuttings
Mixed Cropping
Inter Cropping
Border Planting
Phosphorus Response
Digging in Green Manures
The Choice of Green Manure
Other Important Considerations
Achieving Sustainability in the Use of Green Manures
Sustainability
Experiences Worldwide
Conclusions

6. MANURING POTENTIALS

Available Potential of Organic Materials for Ex-Stu Manuring
Organic Resources and Potential
Livestock and Human Wastes
Crop Residues, Tree Wastes and Aquatic Weeds
Urban and Rural Wastes
Agro-Industries Byproducts
Marine Wastes
Agricultural Waste
Crop Residues
Agro-industrial Wastes
Rice Husk
Bagasse
Pressmud
Tea Wastes
Coir Waste
Characteristics of Agricultural Wastes
Nitrogen
Phosphorus
pH
Bio Plant Growth Promoters
Livestock Wastes
Type of Production Unit

Species and Age of Animal

Other Factors

Beef Cattle

Slotted Floors

Dairy Cattle

Utilization of Agricultural Organic Waste

Recycling of Organic Materials for Fertilization

Organic Mulch

Concentrated Organic Manures

Aquatic Weeds

Aquatic Weeds as Source of Energy

Aquatic Weeds as Organic Manures

Oilcakes

How to Use Oilcakes

Cattle, Pig, and Poultry Manures

Poultry

Litter Grown

Cage Grown

Meat-meal

Bloodmeal

Fishmeal

Horn-and-hoofmeal

Collection and Storage of Organic Waste

Economic Value of Organic Waste

Availability of Organic Waste in India

Processing of Agriculture Waste

Conclusion

Economic Considerations

Public Policy

7. GREEN MANURING : NUTRIENT POTENTIALS AND MANAGEMENT

Green Manures

Role of Green Manuring in Cropping Systems

Fate of Green Manures on Application to Soils

Availability of Essential Nutrients

Crop Responses and Residual Effects

Green Manure Management

Residual and Long-term Effects

Economics of Green Manuring

Constraints of Green Manuring

Future Research Needs

Conclusions

8. PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION AND PROMOTION OF ORGANIC FERTILIZERS

Definition and Classification

Practical Significance of Biofertilizers

Requirement of Biofertilizers

Production Technology of Biofertilizers

Production of Biofertilizers

Standards and Quality Control

Government Support and Programmes

Constraints

Areas for Future Development

Conclusions

9. VERMI COMPOSTING

Earthworms as Indicators of Soil Fertility

Earthworms and Plant Growth

Interaction of Vermicompost-Earthworm-Mulch-Plantroot (Vemp)

Vermicompost

Recycling of Wastes Through Verm-composting

Minimizing Pollution Hazard

Advantages of Vermi-Compost

Adverse Effects on Crops

Economic Viability

Vermiculture Process

Selection of Suitable Species

Epiges

Endoges

Aneciques

Basic Characteristics of Suitable Species

Fixing Earthworms for Identification

Transport of Fixed Worms to Laboratory

Description of Suitable Species

Family: Lumbricidae

Eisenia foetida (Sav.)

Family: Eudrilidae

Eudrilus eugeniae (Kinb.)

Family: Megascolecidae

Lampito mauritii (Kinb.)

Metaphire anomala Mich. (= *Pheretima anomala*)

Metaphire posthuma (= *Pheretima posthuma*)

Perionyx excavatus E. Perr.

Perionyx Sansbaricus Michaelson

Maintenance of Base Culture

Vermicomposting Materials

Animal Dung

Agricultural Waste

Forestry Wastes

City Leaf Litter

Waste Paper and Cotton Cloth etc.

City Refuge

Biogas Slurry

Industrial Wastes

Preliminary Treatment of Composting Material

Pre-Treatment of Leaf Litter and Agricultural Waste

Small Scale or Indoor Vermicomposting

Large Scale or Outdoor Vermicomposting

Requirements for Vermicomposting

Container

Bedding Material

Moisture Content

Temperature

Initiation of Vermiculture in India

10. RESPONSE OF CROPS TO ORGANIC FERTILIZERS IN SALT AFFECTED SOILS

Response of Crops in Salt-Affected Soils of Punjab and Haryana

11. PHOSPHATE SOLUBILIZING SOIL ACTINOMYCETES AS BIOFERTILIZERS

Material and Methods

Results and Discussion

Summary

12. VERMICOMPOSTING OF KITCHEN WASTE

Material and Methods

Results and Discussion

Conclusion

13. BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS : AN EFFECTIVE BIOINSECTICIDE

Criteria for Microbial Insecticide

Material and Methods

Results

Discussion

Summary

14. COMPOSTING OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL WASTES

Definition

Principles of Composting

Agricultural Wastes

Methods for Composting of Agricultural Wastes

Indore Method

Activated Compost

Banglore Method

NADEP Compost

Coimbatore Method

Synthetic Compost

Windrow Composting (Leaf Compost)

Accelerated Composting and Enrichment

Vermi-composting

Animal Waste Composting

Oil Palm Waste Composting

Phospho-Compost

Reinforced Compost from Sugarcane Trash and Pressmud

Enriched FYM (EFYM)

Weed Composting

Composting of Parthenium

Hints for Composting Agricultural Wastes

Industrial Wastes

Composting of Coir Pith

Composting of Pressmud

Using Distillery Effluent

Using Microbial Inoculum

Using Pressmud and Distillery Effluent

Conclusion

Future Needs

15. CROP RESIDUE MANAGEMENT

Residue Management
Crop Residue Potential
Crop Residue Components
Crop Residue Uses
Effect on Soil Management
Residues with Fertilizer
Effect of Residues on N Fertilization
Future Research Needs

16. INTEGRATED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Need for INM
Concepts and Approaches
Components of Integrated Nutrient Management Strategies
Reduction of Losses from Applied Inorganic Fertilizers
Application to synchronize with the demands of Crops
Timing, Placement and Choice of Fertilizers
Controlled Release of Nutrients
Crop Choice
Retention of Native Soil Nutrients
Alternate or Supplementary Sources of Nutrients
Biofertilizers in INM
Blue Green Algae
Azolla
Azospirillum spp. (A. Lipoferum and A. brasilense)
Rhizobium
Phospobacteria
VAM
Organic Manures
Municipal and Sewage Wastes
Composting of Organic Wastes
Crop Residue Management
Green Manuring
Non-conventional Green Manures
Oil Cakes
Legumes in INM
Legumes Grown in System
Legumes as Intercrops
INM Cropping System
Rice-based Cropping System
Cotton-based Cropping System
Wheat-based Cropping Systems
Sugarcane-based Cropping System
INM and Long Term Studies
Future Strategies

17. MECHANISM OF NITROGEN FIXATION

18. INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEM

Definitions
Advantages of IFS
1. Productivity
2. Profitability
3. Potentiality/Sustainability

4. Balanced Food
5. Environmental Safety
6. Recycling
7. Income Round the Year
8. Adoption of New Technology
9. Saving Energy
10. Meeting Fodder Crisis
11. Solving Fuel and Timber Crisis
12. Employment Generation
13. Agro-industries
14. Increasing Input Efficiency
15. Increasing the Standard of Living of the Farmer

Integration of Subsystem in Farming System

Aquaculture

Paddy-cum-fish Culture

Duck-cum-Fish Culture

Fish-cum-Poultry Farming

Fish-cum-Pig Farming

Sericulture and Fish Farming

Biogas Plants

Mushroom Cultivation

Mushroom Cultivation

Spawn Running Room

Cropping Room

Approximate Size of the Rack of Cropping Room

Materials Required

Preparation of Cylindrical Beds

Making Ready the Substrate

Making Ready the Polythene Bags

Making Ready the Spawn

Spawning the Bed

Spawn Running and Opening of Beds

Cropping

Harvesting Mushroom

Packing and Storage

Animal Husbandry

Dairy Farming

Sheep and Goat

Piggery

Rabbit

Poultry Farming

Japanese Quail

Ducks

Pigeons

Disease

Agroforestry

(i) Agri-silviculture System

(ii) Silvipasture System

(iii) Silvi-horti-pastural System

I. Coastal Alluvium

II. Riverine Alluvium

III. Red Gravelly Soil

IV. Lateritic Soil

V. Black Soil (clay loam soil)
VI. Sandy Red Loam
VII. Calcareous Soil
VIII. Problem Soils
(a) Saline and Alkaline Soils
(b) Mined Areas
(c) Theri Soils
Sericulture
Manuring
Season
Planting
Quantity of Cuttings
Varieties
Pruning
Leaf Harvest
Leaf Yield
Silkworm Rearing
Life Cycle
IFS under lowland Condition
IFS Under Garden Land Conditions
IFS Under Rainfed Conditions
Coconut based Integrated Farming System
Crop Components
Future Needs

19. RECOMMENDATIONS

20. ECONOMICS AND MARKETING OF ORGANIC FARMING

Economic Viability
The Challenge of Going Organic
Farm Production and Profit
Microeconomic Aspects
Output Mix
Output Value
Input Mix
Input Value
Labor Costs
Benefits for Farmers
Employment Generation
Total Concept Approach
Rural and Community Development
Quality of Organic Product
Product Prices
The Organic Market
Growth
Constraints and Opportunities
Unfair Trends in the Market
Fair Trade
Fair Trade and Trade Development
Small Farmers Disadvantaged
Dilemma
Fair Trade Labeling
Promoters of Fair Trade

Action for Fair Trade
Progress in Fair Trade Marketing
Protectionism
Priority to Local Economics
Strengthening Local Economics
Critical Factors
Challenges
Trade Opportunities
New Opportunities in a Growing Market
Alternative Markets
Role of the Trader
Quality Guarantee
The Consumer
Retailing Arrangements
Dilemma of the Farmer
Processing
Marketing of Perishables organic Produce-study in Bangalore, India
Fruits and Coconuts
Milk
Potatoes
Exclusive Outlets for Organic Products
Lessons Learnt
Certification of Organic Produce
The Standards
Trading
Serious Barriers
Meaning of Certified Organic
Partnerships are Needed
Organic Farmers and Export Markets: The Role of Co-operative - Case Study form India
IFOAM and Certification
IFOAM and Accreditation
Organic Foods Certification in India
Introduction of Certification in India for Organic Agri Exports
Suggestion
India Needs
Conclusion

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