

“SUCCESSFUL LIVELIHOOD THROUGH MUSHROOM CULTIVATION”

The project was designed to popularize mushroom cultivation among the rural housewives to help them to earn their own. In this work we selected two hundred house wives interested in mushroom cultivation and provided them with timely awareness classes and training about the various types of mushrooms for cultivation, its maintenance, pest management, fertilizer application etc. with classes delivered by resource persons of Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur and experts of this cultivation.

The spawns of different mushrooms, growing substrata, fertilizing agents, sterilizing agents, other necessary substances were distributed among the selected members for cultivation in regular intervals as per the advice of scientists from Agricultural University.

Frequent visit to the homestead cultivation areas of house wives were made by us and studied the problems and arranged the advice of experts and other successful farmers. They were encouraged to do the cultivation with the support of entire family. Our students were also provided with awareness classes and training.

Successful cultivation is seemed to be practiced in every house as per the training given. Regular date collections were also made. After the training on cultivation, we provided them with the training on preparation of value added products from mushroom with the help of experts.

Even though the flood greatly affected our area, after recovery all the participants of this programme actively restarted the mushroom cultivation programme and began to cultivate it in much more quantity. They used to sell it to the interested people. Now they are trying to cultivate in large scale.