



FIRST QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

JANUARY - MARCH

KUDUMBAM FARM STRENGTH



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(January 2022 to March 2022)

Covid 19 virus has become a pandemic and the country as a whole was in complete and partial Lockdown for two years from March 2020 till now. When there was full lockdown the mobility of people was completely at stake and the livelihood of people especially rural community has become very critical. This situation not only affected the community but also the farm income of Kudumbam too. We planned to increase the farm activities so that it will benefit the farm staff to get more income and also it would increase the farm income to meet out the expenses of farm activities. This will lead to self sufficiency in future.

After undergoing turmoil of Covid 19 second wave, the unusual monsoon



caused heavy flooding everywhere; the farmers' experienced difficulty in

harvest, marketing and loss in crop yield too.

With the support of Emmaus International, Kudumbam initiates online classes and train Joint Liability Group leaders on Sustainable agriculture that is on (i) Collective preparation and marketing of Milk and Bio inputs (compost, vermi compost, panchakavya, herbal pest repellent, fodder development, Azola cultivation) (ii) Designing of organic farm and integrated farming and certification (iii) Value Addition (iv) Cattle Management (v) Formation of Joint Liability Groups, Self Help Groups, Leadership qualities and responsibilities and (vi) Book



keeping. Kudumbam also explained the actual benefits of organic farming and sustainable agriculture and the importance of consumption of organic food for the betterment of our health. Many students expressed their interest in knowing about the health benefits

and nutritive values of traditional rice and millets.

In the Kolunji farm, vegetable cultivation is in progress; we harvested Ladies Finger, Brinjal (Egg, plant), Onion Sappotta (Chikkoo) fruit and sold in good quantity. The Tamarind from the farm trees have been sold to the farm staffs, micro credit staff and administrative office staffs. Similarly the traditional rice varieties has been harvested and sold to our staffs. Through sale of firewood in the farm nearly 10.5kgs of firewood has been



sold for Rs.23100/- In this season the yield of Tamarind in the farm is comparatively high. Young widows are involved in collecting, removal of seeds and in marketing. This will enhance farm income and also the income of these young widows by creating this job opportunity. These incomes from the farm produce has been utilised for the development of the farm.

In the three months continuous rain the ponds in the farm have filled with rain water and therefore we tried fish farming in the ponds. In the trial we



could harvest a few kilo grams of local fish and since summer has come the ponds have to be de-silted and deepened so that fish farming could be possible which would be supported by Emmaus International in the Annual Solidarity Project in 2022.

We provide 3 months and 6 months internship to international students associated with Emmaus Communities. We are interested in organizing trainings in Organic Agriculture and in organizing international work camps.



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