Millet Cultivation

Seeds, practices, yield, productivity ...

Dwiji Guru

22nd May 2020

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
About the Know Millets Webinars

- Different aspects of millets
  - Ecology
  - Historical context
  - Sustainable food systems
  - Community centric
  - Nutrition & Socio - economics
  - Technology & Engineering

Sustainable food systems perspective

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
In this presentation

❖ Method
  ✦ Vision, Objectives
  ✦ Aim, Praxis

❖ Aspects of cultivation
  ✦ Choice of crop
  ✦ Seeds
  ✦ Cultivation Practices
  ✦ Soil health
  ✦ Inputs & Interventions
  ✦ Yield & Productivity

❖ Summary
Method

▲ Vision
- Sustainability
  - Long term perspective
- Equity
  - Right to food

▲ Objectives
- Actionizing vision
- Achievable, Concrete

▲ Aim
- Definite target for task being planned / undertaken
- Realizing objectives & vision

▲ Tasks / Praxis
- Steps to achieve Aims & objectives

▲ Critical to
- Innovate
- Review
Aspects of cultivation

- Choice of crop
- Seeds
- Cultivation Practices
- Soil health
- Inputs & Interventions
- Yield & Productivity
Choice of crop

Vision
- Multi cropped farms with flora and fauna

Planning
- Agro climatic zone
- Soil
- Available resources
  - Water
  - Labour

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
Seeds

- Local varieties
  - Selection process – multi season
  - Ongoing exercise
  - Dynamic equilibrium

- Objectives
  - Naturalization
  - Adaptations
  - Improvement

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
Cultivation Practices

- Strongly dependent on
  - Local conditions
  - Available resources

- Traditional knowledge
  - Collate practices
  - Identify the aims and objectives
  - Innovate
  - Contemporize

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
Soil health

- Current state of the soil
  - Learn the language
    - Touch, Smell, Look
- Identify milestones
  - Chart out choice of crops
  - Identify tasks and inputs
- Long term action plans
Inputs & Interventions

- Informed decisions
- Restorative / Curative
- Systemic, Holistic
- Cost benefit analysis
  - Ecological
  - Financial
- Principled, but moderated by reality

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
Yield & Productivity

- Set yield and productivity targets
  - For human consumption
  - Fodder
  - Other fauna
  - Soil

- Review & revise for next season

- Higher is NOT necessarily better
Summary

✦ Focus on
  ✦ Process & people
  ✦ Not on ‘ism’ or product

✦ Has to serve short term requirements

✦ Cannot compromise on objectives or vision

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org
Thank you!

For more info...

http://themillet.org
http://millets.wordpress.org
http://rainfedindia.org

http://themillet.org/kmw2020
+91-99000-54878, dwiji@themillet.org