

CASE STUDY – 3

DRYLAND TURNED IN TO PRODUCTIVE ORCHARD.

Promotion of agri –horticulture in dry land is a boon to small farmers. Combination of food crops with horticulture and forest saplings can fulfill the various needs of a family. The tree based farming can ensure availability of fodder, biomass fuel and timber, in addition to that horticulture plants helps to get minimum income from fruits even in off seasons and drought like situations.



In 2007, Mr.N.M.Mahesh, is active member of Durga Farmer club from D.Nagenahalli village, Koratagere taluka of Tumkur district. He has two acres of dry land and is growing finger millet and jower crops during rainy season, once the crop was harvested the land remained vacant for six to eight months. He has participated in the AVISHKAR – NABARD- farmer club training on dry land horticulture organized by AVISHKAR NGO in D.Nagenahalli village. He has shown very much interest in growing of horticulture plants in his land. He asked the support of AVISHKAR to provide horticulture plants.

AVISHKAR has facilitated him to get 170 emblica (Indian gooseberry) horticulture saplings and 80 forestry saplings under SUJALA watershed project. He has planted all these plants as per the project guidelines. During June-2006 emblica plants were planted with the guidance of AVISHKAR organization. He has completed all the aftercare activities such as mulching, watering and basin preparation as suggested by the NGO. Watered them regularly during summer season. All the emblica plants have grown healthy and started yielding. He is taking care of plants through timely application pesticides for pests and diseases with the guidance of horticulture department. Presently Mahesh is getting 1.20 lakhs per from the sale of fruits. He also got training on value addition of emblica and making powder, candy, amla juice and pickles.

He says “I am grateful to SUJALA project and AVISHKAR NGO for implementing this project in my land and for their valuable support and guidance”