



Bhogawati Mahavidyalaya, Kurukali

Department of Chemistry

Best Practice

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture through Farmer Awareness on Soil Analysis and Responsible Use of Fertilisers and Pesticides

Objectives of the Practice

- To create awareness among farmers regarding the *scientific and judicious use* of chemical fertilisers and pesticides.
- To promote soil testing and soil health management among farmers.
- To encourage the adoption of organic fertilisers and organic pest management practices.
- To sensitize students towards rural agricultural issues and sustainable farming practices.
- To establish a strong linkage between the institution and the local farming community.
- To contribute towards environmental sustainability and public health through responsible agricultural practices.

The Context

Bhogawati Mahavidyalaya, Kurukali is located in a predominantly rural region where agriculture is the major source of livelihood. Parents of most of students are engaged in agriculture as their occupation. Excessive use of agrochemicals affects soil fertility, environmental quality and human health. It is the need of time to improve health of soil in a sustainable way. The Department of Chemistry initiated this programme to create awareness regarding soil analysis; balanced fertiliser uses and sustainable agricultural practices.

The Practice

Teachers of Chemistry Department guided the students about the importance of Soil Analysis Testing, use of organic fertilizers and use of organic pesticides which will be good for both human health and soil health. B.Sc. Part III students visited farmers in nearby villages, collected information through structured questionnaires, discussed soil testing, balanced fertiliser application, organic fertilisers and organic pest management practices, and documented the visits through reports and geotagged photographs.

Evidence of Success

- Students of B. Sc. III Chemistry class participated in the programme.
- Many farmers of nearby village directly benefited from the activity.
- Awareness regarding soil testing and sustainable agriculture increased.
- Farmers expressed willingness to reduce excessive use of agrochemicals.
- Students gained practical exposure to agricultural practices and community engagement.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Limited awareness among some farmers regarding soil testing facilities.
- Resistance to changing traditional farming practices.
- Transportation and accessibility issues.
- Need for awareness materials, faculty guidance and documentation facilities.

Notes

The practice integrates chemistry education with community service, promotes sustainable agriculture and strengthens institution–community engagement.


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