

Modern Agriculture and its impact on environment

Objective

To investigate the impact of modern agricultural practices on the environment.

Background

With the advent of technological advancements in agriculture such as better irrigation systems, use of high yielding seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, multiple cropping system, etc. farmers are getting better yields and profits. However, most of these practices, if not properly monitored or judiciously practised, can have an adverse effect on the quality and fertility of soil, water table, quality of water in river and lakes and others.



Methodology

The project should be carried out in groups.

1. Select an area where modern agricultural practices are being followed.
2. Select another area where traditional practices of agricultural farming are followed.
3. Find out the yield per unit area in each case for the same crop.
4. Collect samples of water from ponds, wells, lake or tanks, if any, from the area surrounding the agriculture fields. Test the water samples with the help of pH papers.
5. Find out the alkalinity or acidity of the soil with the help of pH paper.
6. If a microscope is available, examine a drop of each sample for presence of living organisms.



7. The above information can be further substantiated from the village elders, agriculture scientists, and Block Development Officers of the area.
8. Obtain more information about soil and water.

Conclusion

At present we are habituated to harvest any one type of the crops in form area we have. All the farmers are harvesting the same crops in their fields. If the crop is affected by any disease in a field it spreads to all the fields. Preventing it also becomes difficult. For this we use pesticides beyond the limits, and use hybrid seeds which harm the environment. If people cultivate same kind of crop in a place, they have to use some machanisms like harvesting, planting at a time which makes the agricultural labourers to lose their lively hood. If the production increases automatically the rates drop down. Sometimes people suffers to purchase because of production drops drastically. Hence, let us recognise that we should grow different kinds of crops.

Compare the two situations and present your report based on the data collected.

Follow-up

Share your experience with your classmates, and the people involved in agriculture and users of the water

Agriculture implements and machines such as tractor, power tiller, power threshers, sprinklers, drip irrigation, animal drawn implements self propelled reaper, paddy transplanter, etc are available on subsidy at the rate of 25% of the cost of equipment subject to certain ceiling limits under Central sector plant schemes.