

Rajashri Mane, Sowing seeds of change in Ansurda

Ansurda village, Osmanabad, Maharashtra



Rajashree Mane of Ansurda, a village of 160 households, is a model leader. She belongs to a village where the women were active in development activities even before SSP's entry. SSP and the Women's Federation from Tuljapur encouraged them to start Krishi Ghat (Agriculture group), and they enthusiastically did with 16 members in 2014.

The first initiative of Krishi Ghat was to take women to Krishi Vigyan Kendra to get training in inter-crops, preparation of land, waste management, soil testing and seed preparation. SSP facilitated the training where 6 women attended from this village in 2014. These leaders motivated other women to start agriculture with fewer chemicals. They are not using chemicals now. Instead they are preparing own bio-compost and organic manure to use in their small piece of land got from their husbands to do experiments in agriculture. Their main crops are

soyabean, jowari, harbara, tur and moong.

"Agriculture is our land; we have to awaken our field. You change your life at house hold level then you change the community."

Rajashri has been cultivating brinjal, tomato, and green chilly in 4 acres of land; and wheat and vegetables in another 20 gunte as mixed crop. She also cultivates Jowar, Wheat and vegetables as mixed crop in season wise. She got training on vermi compost at Taluka Agriculture office 6 months ago.

Rajashri's family supports for her initiatives. Her husband informs her about new schemes and she share the information with other women in meetings. Rajashri is transferring her knowledge to neighbouring villages.

"You can reduce the expenses by growing organic and eat good food."