

## AN EXPERIENCE OF PRECISION FARMING IN TURMERIC CULTIVATION

Theeran chinnamalai Precision farming farmer's welfare association,  
 Pullagoundan pudur,  
 Devarayapuram village,  
 Thondamuthur Union,  
 Coimbatore district.

We used to practice conventional farming in our lands. Before one year we have attended precision farming training conducted by the extension department of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. We came to know the details of precision farming and decided to start the cultivation in the precision farming. Then we approached the Horticulture Department and they advised us to follow the precision farming as a group to get high profit. So we formed a group with 21 members and practiced precision farming in 20 hectares of land in 2009 January. we planned to cultivate small onion, tomato, brinjal, cauliflower, chillies and turmeric in the Drip irrigation system. We visited to Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri where the precision farming is being practiced successfully. There we visited to fields and discussed with precision farming farmers got detailed information about precision farming from their experience. Then we cultivated crops with the help of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Horticulture Department. We conducted meetings every Wednesday to discuss about the cultivation practices and techniques. We followed the precision farming techniques like drip irrigation, Fertigation, farming with less work load etc.

I'm A.Rajamani, a young farmer of precision farming group. I practiced precision farming in turmeric and I would like to share my experience of turmeric cultivation.

I sowed the turmeric rhizomes after ploughing the land well. I also grew onion, coriander, chillies and redgram as intercrops. In precision farming, plants grew well without much competition of weeds. I got high yield by using sufficient water and fertilizers at correct time. Also, I got good quality farm produce from this cultivation. Particularly onion fetch high price in markets because of same size and good quality.

Retailers Came to field to take the produce directly. I got high profit of Rs. 9,60,000 per hectare in one year in turmeric cultivation. I got this huge profit because of shifting conventional cultivation into precision farming. We all the farmers of our group decided to follow precision farming in the forthcoming years. For that, preparatory works are going on.

At the present critical situation of farming, this type of good schemes will help farmers to get success in farming. Especially young farmers can follow this type of good schemes to lead a better profitable farming.

### Cost of Cultivation

S.No.	Particulars		Cost
1.	Drip irrigation instatllation Total cost: Govt.Subsidy:	Rs.1,10,000 Rs.28,500	Rs.81,500
2.	Land Preparation 9 Ploughs: 5 Ploughs:	Rs.3,000 Rs.2,450 Rs.900	Rs.6,350

	Forming ridges:		
3.	Basal fertilizer Farm Yard Manure: D.A.P :	Rs.30,000 Rs.2,430	Rs.32,430
4.	Seeds and seedlings Turmeric seed: Onion: Coriander: Chillies:	Rs.25,000 Rs.20,000 Rs.100 Rs.300	Rs.45,400
5.	Transplanting Turmeric: Onion: Coriander: Chillies:	Rs.2,000 Rs.2,800 Rs.200 Rs.300	Rs.5,300
6.	Weed control Weedicide: Spraying cost: Hand weeding:	Rs.1,700 Rs.800 Rs.3,000	Rs.5,500
7.	Pest and disease management: Onion: Turmeric:	Rs.7,500 Rs.2,100	Rs.9,600
8.	Top dressing For Onion 10 times For turmeric 10 times	Rs.15,000 Rs.20,000	Rs.35,000
9.	Irrigation Approximately 200 days	Rs.20,000	Rs.20,000
10.	Harvesting Turmeric Onion Coriander Chillies Redgram	Rs.17,700 Rs.12,500 Rs.500 Rs.2,000 Rs.500	Rs.33,200
11.	Processing Onion storage Turmeric boiling Turmeric Polishing	Rs.2,500 Rs.17,500 Rs.5,000	Rs.25,000
12.	Farming expenses Land leasing Land tax Electric motor protection Power protection	Rs.25,000 Rs.120 Rs.10,000 Rs.1,000	Rs.36,120
		Total	Rs.3,35,400
13.	Income	Rs.2,000	Rs.13,02,000

	Coriander leaves	Rs.7,500	
	Coriander seeds	Rs. 2.47,000	
	Onion	Rs.24,000	
	Green Chillies	Rs.1,500	
	Red Chillies	Rs.7,500	
	Red gram	Rs.10,12,500	
	Turmeric		
14.	Net Profit	Rs.13,02,000	
	Total Income	Rs.3,35,400	Rs.9,66,600
	Total Expenses		

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