



Kitchen Garden in Kadavakurichi Watershed

Amarawathi in Pappinaickanpatti has a kitchen garden which provides her family with greens and vegetables. In her garden she cultivates different herbs for medicinal and cooking purposes such as tulsi and curry leaf. In her garden she also has trees of drumstick, papaya and mango as well as different kinds of gourds, chilies and beans

CIRHEP provided her with seeds and seedlings to initiate the kitchen garden. In the field next to the house she also cultivates red gram and other pulses which she shares with the other people in the village.



Gourds of different kinds ready for harvest.



Sugar canes in front of Kadavakurichi hill.

The implementation of the kitchen garden has made it possible for Amarawathi and her family of five to save 2000 rupees a month. Today they are able to live a self-sufficient life and they don't have to go to the local market to buy vegetables anymore.

From the house they have connected the greywater drainage directly out to the garden. In this way the nutrient rich water, which otherwise would have gone to waste, is being used for a suitable purpose. Work effort is limited and resources are being fully used to create this garden which works as one family's food supply.

Amarawathi earns her income from selling millets and pulses in the Nilakottai market. This means that the net-income has increased since the family spendings have decreased. Amarawathi also has chickens that are mainly for use of the family. The initiation of this environmental proofing process has showed good results and has improved the lives of Amarawathi and her family along with the environment surrounding them.



Amarawathi in her lush kitchen garden.



Amarawathi's field of red gram, field lab and country beans.

ACTIVITIES APPLIED

- Summer ploughing.
- Supplying seeds, pheromone traps and organic fertilizer and pesticide.
- Spreading knowledge about environmental proofing

RESULTS

- Sustainable livelihood.
- Environmental improvement.
- Enhanced soil fertility due to organic agriculture.
- Secured income and reduced costs.