

## **Best Practice –III**

**Title of Practice:** Lab to Land work culture

### **Objectives of the Practice:**

- (1) To apply the laboratory knowledge on field.
- (2) To develop entrepreneurship among students.
- (3) To promote green farming culture.

**The context:** Students get the theoretical knowledge in curriculum but sometimes they lack the field study. The actual field study can help to flourish the subject content in students. By considering this in our college we have established lab to land work culture, where students do actual field work and correlate the theoretical concept with practical knowledge. It is the need of present scenario at global level that students should be inculcated with entrepreneurship knowledge. The actual field work will help students to achieve entrepreneurship ability. At the same time the use of organic farming adaptation is important for sustainable development. Thus applying the biotechnological concepts in field will help to achieve this goal.

**The Practice:** The best practice is done in the following manner.

We have identified the interested students by communicating with them. Then we have created three groups and provided the following tasks as field study.

- 1) Hydroponics – one group of students have worked on hydroponics system to grow plants without soil. For this students used waste pipes to create hydroponic unit. They have set trial and error work to get proper growth of plants with minimal nutrient requirements.
- 2) Fermented Organic acid – second group of students have worked on production of organic acid by fermentation of fruit waste. This organic acid is used for spraying on plants and shows enhanced growth while also contributing the pest control. Thus this organic acid can be optimized in future up to commercial level by these students.
- 3) Vermicomposting: another group of students had worked on production of vermicompost and got successful production of vermicompost. This vermicompost is used for gardening in college campus shows positive result.

At initial level the students were briefed with theoretical idea behind the said field work. Then they are allowed to apply their own skills to develop the strategy with low cost. They have tried the same under the guidance of teaching staff and established the proper required setup for their work. For their setup students are intended to reuse the waste material. Then actual work has started by them and they have got the success with their ideas.

**Evidence of Success:** Students successfully grew the plants by hydroponics system. These students in future can apply the same in their own farm. The fermented organic acid from fruit waste helps to recycle the waste and at the same time this organic acid shows positive effect against pest control on plants. The same organic acid also showed enhanced growth. These students can optimize and standardize the same for selling purpose. The vermicompost production is achieved by students successfully. The production and selling of this

vermicompost by themselves can help to generate revenue thus this has developed the entrepreneurship ability in students. This has introduced the knowledge in students about organic farming concept. These students in future can implement this organic farming in their own field.

**Problems encountered and Resources Required:**

- 1) To establish the hydroponics unit, we require the pipes, their connection, continuous water supply etc. To avail these students used waste pipes and constructed the unit successfully.
- 2) For fermented organic acid students require large quantity of fruit waste, so they contacted the local fruit vendors and collected the waste material. They require the plants to study the effect of this organic acid. For this the green shed net is used where plants are grown and the effect was studied.
- 3) The vermicompost unit requires the space, it is provided by college itself. Apart from this, it requires the earthworms (*Eisina fetida*), it is obtained from the local farmers having their own vermicompost units.

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