

**UNIVERSITY**  
Gwalior • MP • INDIA

“ CELEBRATING DREAMS ”

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**PROJECT REPORT ON EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING  
PROGRAMME (ELP)**

**ELP-Mushroom Cultivation technology  
ELP-PP-401**

**Bachelor of Science (Agriculture)**

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India is embracing Big Data in agriculture to manage its vast and diverse agro-climatic conditions through a centralized database accessible to scientists, students, farmers, and industry. This aligns with initiatives like Make-in-India, Start-up-India, and Digital India, emphasizing the need for a modernized agricultural education system that integrates creativity, technology, and entrepreneurship. Programs like ICAR’s READY and ASPIRE are crucial in fostering rural entrepreneurship and retaining youth in agriculture. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s initiatives and proposed incubation centers at research universities aim to stimulate innovation and link agriculture with digital communication. Education should focus on business management in agricultural courses and prioritize graduates for roles in the sector. By integrating contemporary challenges into curricula and promoting trans-disciplinary studies, India can attract talent and investment, enhancing its position in global agricultural education and addressing evolving socio-economic and environmental demands.

**OBJECTIVE:**

| S. No. | Module   |
|--------|--|
| 1      | <b>Module-1</b><br>Introduction to mushroom- Taxonomical rank- History and Scope of mushroom cultivation- Edible and PoisonousMushroom- Vegetative characters.         |
| 2      | <b>Module-2</b><br>Identification of common edible,medicinal and poisonous mushroom.   |
| 3      | <b>Module-3</b><br>Health benefits of mushroom, Nutritional and medicinal valuesof mushroom. Therapeutic aspects- antitumor effect.                                    |
| 4      | <b>Module-4</b><br>Spawn production- culture mediapreparation- production of pure culture, mother spawn preparation.   |
| 5      | <b>Module-5</b><br>Sterilization and sanitization of mushroom houses, selection ofsubstrate for mushroom cultivation, Compositingtechnology, Mushroom bed preparation. |
| 6      | <b>Module-6</b><br>Spawning, Spawn running, Cultivation technology of oyster,milky and paddy straw mushroom and harvesting.  |
| 7      | <b>Module-7</b><br>Problems in mushroom cultivation- disease, pests and nematodes, moulds and their management strategies.   |
| 8      | <b>Module-8</b><br>Post-harvest technology: Preservation of mushrooms- freezing, dry freezing, drying, canning, quality assurance and entrepreneurship.                |

## Module-1

### **Introduction to mushroom- Taxonomical rank- History and Scope of mushroomcultivation- Edible and Poisonous Mushroom- Vegetative characters.**

#### **Introduction to Mushrooms**

Mushrooms are fleshy, spore-producing fungi typically found above ground. Unlike plants, they lack chlorophyll and depend on organic matter like straw or manure for nutrients. Their diverse forms include gilled mushrooms, puffballs, and morels. The mushroom's morphology consists of two main parts: the vegetative body (mycelium) and the fruiting body. Mycelium, an underground network of hyphae, absorbs nutrients and forms the mushroom's vegetative structure. The fruiting body, visible above ground, comprises the cap and stalk, with spore-bearing structures such as gills, pores, or teeth on the underside of the cap. Mushrooms reproduce through spores, which are microscopic and released in large numbers.

#### **Taxonomic Rank**

Mushrooms belong to the kingdom Fungi, distinct from plants and animals, and are classified into various phyla, classes, orders, families, genera, and species. Edible mushrooms often belong to the phylum Basidiomycota, specifically the class Agaricomycetes.

#### **History and Scope of Mushroom Cultivation**

Mushroom cultivation dates back thousands of years, originating in East Asia. Today, it is a global industry with significant economic impact. Common cultivated species include white button mushrooms (*Agaricus bisporus*), oyster mushrooms (*Pleurotus* spp.), and shiitake mushrooms (*Lentinula edodes*). Cultivation involves controlled environments with specific conditions for temperature, humidity, and substrate.

#### **Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms**

While many mushrooms are safe and nutritious, some are poisonous and can cause severe illness or death. Accurate identification is crucial, and foraging for wild mushrooms should be done only by trained experts.

#### **Vegetative Characters**

The vegetative part of mushrooms, the mycelium, plays a key role in nutrient uptake and ecosystem functioning by decomposing organic matter. The visible mushroom represents only a small portion of the fungus's life cycle.

#### **Life Cycle of Mushrooms**

The mushroom life cycle includes spore germination, colonization by mycelium, fruiting where the mushroom develops, and sporulation where spores are released to continue the cycle. This process involves growth from a spore to a mature mushroom capable of reproducing.

## Module-2

### Identification of common edible, medicinal and poisonous mushroom.

1. Button Mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*): White with a smooth texture, turning brown with age. Cultivated commercially and sometimes found in meadows.
2. Oyster Mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus*): Fan-shaped cap in colors like grey, white, brown, or pink, with a velvety texture. Grows on straw, wood, and dead trees.
3. Shiitake Mushroom (*Lentinula edodes*): Brown, dome-shaped cap with rolled edges and white to light brown gills. Cultivated on logs and occasionally found in hilly regions.
4. Milky Mushroom (*Calocybe indica*): White or cream-colored cap with a smooth texture and milky latex. Found in forests under *Shorea robusta* trees.
5. Straw Mushroom (*Volvariella volvacea*): Bell-shaped cap, brown or yellowish-brown, with white gills turning pink with age. Cultivated on rice straw.
6. Morel Mushroom (*Morchella* spp.): Elongated, pitted cap, beige to brown, with a honeycomb appearance. Found in forests near elm or ash trees.
7. Enoki Mushroom (*Flammulina velutipes*): Clustered, needle-like white or light brown caps with white gills. Cultivated on logs and found on dead hardwood trees.

#### Medicinal Mushrooms

1. Reishi (*Ganoderma lucidum*): Reddish-brown with a shiny cap, known for immune-boosting and stress-reducing properties. Found on decaying hardwood trees.
2. Turkey Tail (*Trametes versicolor*): Colorful concentric rings resembling a turkey's tail. Rich in antioxidants, found on dead hardwood trees.
3. Lion's Mane (*Hericium erinaceus*): White spines, potential cognitive and nerve regeneration benefits. Grows on hardwood trees, especially oak and beech.
4. Cordyceps (*Cordyceps sinensis*): Slender, elongated fruiting bodies parasitizing insects. Used for energy and stamina. Found in the Himalayan region.
5. Chaga (*Inonotus obliquus*): Black, charred mass on birch trees. High in antioxidants and immune-boosting. Found on birch trees in temperate forests.
6. Maitake (*Grifola frondosa*): Fan-shaped clusters, known for immune support and anti-cancer properties. Found at the base of oak trees.
7. Shiitake (*Lentinula edodes*): Brown, umbrella-shaped caps, used in culinary dishes and for immune support. Cultivated on hardwood logs.
8. Almond Mushroom (*Agaricus blazei*): Mild taste, valued for immune-boosting properties. Grows in composted soil or decaying organic matter.
9. Tremella (*Tremella fuciformis*): Gelatinous white to yellowish fruiting bodies, used for skin health and anti-aging. Found on dead branches in forests.

#### Poisonous Mushrooms

1. Death Cap (*Amanita phalloides*): Greenish-yellow, convex cap with white gills and a bulbous base. Found in deciduous and coniferous forests.
2. Destroying Angel (*Amanita virosa*): Smooth, white cap with white gills and a bulbous base. Often in mixed woodlands.
3. Deadly Webcap (*Cortinarius rubellus*): Bright red or orange-red, bell-shaped cap with reddish gills. Mycorrhizal with trees like beech and pine.
4. Fool's Funnel (*Clitocybe rivulosa*): Yellowish to brown, convex cap with white, crowded gills. Found in grassy areas, lawns, and meadows.

These summaries provide a guide to identifying and understanding the roles of various mushrooms found in India, highlighting their edible, medicinal, or poisonous nature and their typical habitats.

TYPES OF EDIBLE MUSHROOMS IN INDIA



Fig. Button Mushroom



Fig. Oyster Mushroom



Fig. Shiitake Mushroom



Fig. Morel Mushroom



Fig. Milky Mushroom



Fig. Straw Mushroom



## TYPES OF MEDICINAL MUSHROOM IN INDIA



Fig. Reishi Mushroom



Fig. Lion's Mane Mushroom



Fig. Turkey Tail Mushroom



Fig. Tremella Mushroom



Fig. Shiitake Mushroom



Fig. Cordyceps



## TYPES OF POISONOUS MUSHROOMS IN INDIA



Fig. Death Cap Mushroom



Fig. Destroying Angel



Fig. Deadly Webcap Mushroom



Fig. Fool's Funnel Mushroom

## Module-3

### Health benefits of mushroom, Nutritional and medicinal values of mushroom. Therapeutic aspects- antitumor effect.

#### Health Benefits, Nutritional and Medicinal Values of Mushrooms

Mushrooms are a nutritious and versatile food with a range of health benefits:

- **Rich in Nutrients:** Mushrooms are low in calories but high in essential nutrients like vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants. They support overall health by providing important nutrients without adding excessive calories.
- **Immune System Support:** Many mushrooms contain compounds that boost the immune system. For example, polysaccharides such as beta-glucans found in Shiitake and Reishi mushrooms can enhance immune response and potentially help in fighting infections and cancer cells.
- **Reduced Inflammation:** Mushrooms like Reishi and Lion's Mane have anti-inflammatory properties, which can aid in managing conditions like arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease.
- **Heart Health:** With no cholesterol and potential to lower LDL (bad cholesterol), mushrooms contribute to cardiovascular health. Shiitake and Enoki mushrooms, in particular, have been noted for their heart health benefits.
- **Weight Management:** Low in calories and fat, mushrooms are an excellent choice for those looking to manage their weight while still getting important nutrients.
- **Gut Health:** Certain mushrooms provide prebiotic fiber that fosters the growth of beneficial gut bacteria, improving digestion and gut health.
- **Vitamin D Source:** Exposure to sunlight can increase the vitamin D content in mushrooms, essential for bone health and immune function.
- **Cognitive Function:** Early studies suggest mushrooms like Lion's Mane may enhance cognitive function and reduce the risk of dementia by promoting nerve growth.

#### Medicinal Values

- **Immune System Enhancement:** Mushrooms such as Shiitake and Maitake contain beta-glucans that stimulate immune cells, aiding in the body's defense against diseases.
- **Anti-Cancer Properties:** Mushrooms like Maitake and Reishi have shown potential in inhibiting cancer cell growth. Compounds in these mushrooms may work through immune modulation, antioxidant activity, and inducing apoptosis (programmed cell death).
- **Anti-Inflammatory Effects:** Mushrooms with anti-inflammatory properties, such as Reishi and Turkey Tail, can help alleviate symptoms of inflammatory conditions.
- **Cardiovascular Health:** Some mushrooms may help lower cholesterol and blood pressure, benefiting cardiovascular health.
- **Cognitive Function:** Lion's Mane is noted for its potential to improve cognitive function and memory.

#### Therapeutic Aspects



- **Antitumor Effects:** Mushrooms like Maitake, Shiitake, Turkey Tail, and Cordyceps show promise in cancer therapy through mechanisms such as immune system activation, inhibition of new blood vessel formation (anti-angiogenesis), and inducing apoptosis in cancer cells. These therapeutic properties are still under investigation but offer exciting potential for cancer treatment.



Fig. *Ganoderma lucidum*



Fig. Cordyceps

## Module-4

Spawn production- culture media preparation- production of pure culture, mother spawn preparation.

### Preparation of Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) Media

1. **Materials Required:** Potato extract, dextrose, agar agar, distilled water, beakers or flasks, pH meter or strips, autoclave, petri dishes, stirring rod or magnetic stirrer, pH buffer solutions (optional).
2. **Procedure:**
  - **Potato Extract:** Peel and dice 200 grams of potatoes. Boil until soft, strain, and measure the extract.
  - **PDA Media:** Combine potato extract with distilled water. Dissolve 20 grams of dextrose and 20 grams of agar agar in this solution while stirring. Adjust pH to 5.6-5.8. Heat until agar is dissolved, adjust volume if necessary, then pour into petri dishes. Allow to solidify at room temperature.
  - **Sterilization:** Autoclave at 121°C and 15 psi for 15-20 minutes. Cool before use.
3. **Precautions:**
  - Maintain sterility to prevent contamination.
  - Adjust pH carefully for optimal growth.
  - Ensure complete agar dissolution and handle hot solutions cautiously.

### Preparation of Base Culture

1. **Materials Required:** Mushroom, laminar airflow, PDA media, blades, forceps, ethanol.
2. **Procedure:**
  - **Preparation:** Select disease-free mushrooms, let moisture evaporate. Sterilize the workspace and tools.
  - **Culture:** Cut a small tissue from the mushroom and transfer it to a sterile PDA slant. Incubate at room temperature for 10 days. Observe for contamination and use the base spawn for preparing mother spawn.

### Culture Isolation Techniques

1. **Vegetative Mycelium Culture:**
  - Clean and sterilize basidiocarps, treat with disinfectants, cut mycelial bits, place in PDA plates, incubate at 25°C. Transfer to test tubes for further incubation.
2. **Multi Spore Culture:**
  - Scrape and suspend spores in water, add to warm PDA plates, incubate, observe spore germination, transfer to culture tubes.
3. **Single Spore Culture:**
  - Dilute spores, isolate germinating spores under aseptic conditions, transfer to culture tubes, incubate.

### Preparation of Mother Spawn

1. **Materials Required:** Wheat grains, dextrose, calcium carbonate, polypropylene bags, PVC rings, cotton, waste paper, rubber bands, autoclave, laminar airflow, BOD incubator.
2. **Procedure:**
  - **Grain Preparation:** Wash, soak, and dry wheat grains. Mix with dextrose and calcium carbonate. Fill in polypropylene bags, sterilize in autoclave, and cool.
  - **Inoculation:** Transfer fungal culture pieces into the bags in a laminar flow. Incubate in BOD for 10 days

# FLOW CHART OF MOTHER SPAWN



Wheat grain soaked for 24hrs.



Washing of grain



dried



Inserting PVC for capping



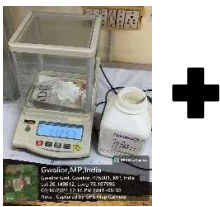
Weighing



Filling wheat grain in bag



Autoclaving



Weighing CaCO3 + Weighing Dextrose  
Mixing them with wheat grain



Making Cotton Plug



Inserting Cotton Plug



Inoculation of mycelium



Cutting mycelium



Sterilizing



UV treatment in Laminar Air Flow for 20 min



Autoclaving at 15psi for 2hr



Mother spawn ready for Storing in BOD



## Module-5

**Sterilization and sanitization of mushroom houses, selection of substrate for mushroom cultivation, Compositing technology, Mushroom bed preparation.**

### **Sterilization Techniques:**

1. **Autoclaving:** For media sterilization, use 15 psi pressure for 20 minutes. For media with sugar, use 10 psi for 15 minutes. Sterilize solid media and soil/cereal grains for 2 hours on consecutive days. Small quantities can be sterilized in pressure cookers.
2. **Surface Sterilization:** Use 0.1% mercuric chloride or 2% sodium hypochlorite.
3. **Hot Air Oven:** Sterilize glassware and metallic vessels at 160-180°C for 2 hours.
4. **Laminar Flow Chamber:** Equipped with HEPA filters and UV light to control airborne contamination.
5. **Disinfectants:** Use formaldehyde and alcohol for cleaning.

### **Sanitization Practices:**

- Maintain cleanliness and proper sanitation.
- Ensure hand hygiene and use personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Sterilize all equipment and maintain air filtration with HEPA filters.
- Isolate contaminated materials and sanitize footwear.
- Implement regular monitoring and staff training.

### **Substrate Selection and Preparation:**

1. **Substrate Selection:** Use cellulosic farm waste like wheat straw, paddy straw, and sugarcane leaves. Ensure the substrate is dry, healthy, and undecomposed.
2. **Preparation:** Chop straw into 2-3 inch pieces and soak in water overnight.
3. **Sterilization:** Methods include hot water treatment, moist heat, or chemical sterilization with formaldehyde or fungicides. Maintain 65-70% moisture in the substrate.
4. **Bagging and Spawning:** Use polypropylene bags, add 2-3% spawn, and arrange in layers. Place bags in a spawn running room at 20-25°C and 80-90% humidity. Move to the crop room at 18-23°C and 85-90% moisture, with frequent water spraying if needed.

## STERILIZATION TECHNIQUE



Fig. Autoclave

### **Surface Sterilization:**

- Uses mercuric chloride (0.1%) or sodium hypochlorite (2%) applied to materials.





Fig. Laminar Air Flow

### DISINFECTANTS AND CLEANING:



Fig. Potassium Permanganate



Fig. Sterilization of lab

## **Module-6**

### **Spawning, Spawn running, Cultivation technology of oyster, milky and paddy straw mushroom and harvesting.**

#### **Cultivation of Oyster Mushroom**

##### **Materials Required:**

- 200-litre drum
- Water
- Formaldehyde (125 ml)
- Carbendazim (10g)
- Straw (10 kg)
- Mat
- Polyethylene bags
- Spawn
- Rubber bands

##### **Procedure:**

1. Fill the drum with water and mix in formaldehyde and carbendazim.
2. Soak 10 kg of straw in this solution for 16 hours, then strain and spread the straw on a sterilized mat to dry to 70% moisture.
3. Bagging: Fill polyethylene bags with 3 inches of straw, sprinkle with spawn, add another 5 inches of straw and spawn, repeating to create five layers. Press down, tie with rubber bands, and make ventilation holes.
4. Place bags in a dark room on racks, maintaining 22-25°C and 85-90% humidity.
5. Check daily for contamination or pests; remove contaminated bags and treat with pesticide if needed.
6. After 30-35 days, observe for pin head formation and transfer fully colonized bags to the cropping room

#### **Cultivation of Button Mushrooms**

##### **Materials Required:**

- Wheat or paddy straw (10 kg)
- Water
- Formaldehyde (125 ml)
- Carbendazim (10g)
- Certified button mushroom spawn (*Agaricus bisporus*)
- Perforated polyethylene bags
- Spray bottle
- Drum
- Rubber bands

##### **Steps:**

1. **Substrate Preparation:**
  - Soak straw in water for 1-2 days.
  - Mix with manure and add formaldehyde and carbendazim.
  - Compost at 55-60°C for 1-2 days, turning regularly.
  - Heat composted material to 60-63°C for 6-8 hours.
2. **Spawning:**
  - Dry straw to 60% moisture and cool compost to 22-25°C.
  - Mix with spawn (0.5% by weight) and fill sterilized bags.
3. **Spawn Run:**
  - Maintain 22-25°C and 80-85% humidity; minimal ventilation.
  - Mycelium should colonize in 12-15 days.

4. **Casing:**
  - Apply a 2-3 cm layer of moist casing material.
5. **Fruiting:**
  - Lower temperature to 15-18°C, maintain 85-90% humidity, and mist 2-3 times daily.
  - Pinheads appear in 7-10 days.
6. **Harvesting:**
  - Twist mushrooms at the base when caps are firm.
7. **Flushing:**
  - Maintain conditions for additional mushroom flushes.

#### **Cultivation of Milky Mushroom**

Milky mushrooms (*Calocybe indica*), known for their excellent shelf-life and attractive appearance, thrive on various agricultural wastes and are well-suited for people with hyperacidity and constipation. They offer moderate protein content and essential minerals.

To cultivate milky mushrooms, prepare the substrate as discussed for oyster mushrooms. Use transparent polythene covers (60 x 30 cm, 80 gauge) for bed preparation. After the substrate has fully colonized, cut the bed horizontally into two halves and compact it. Apply a 1 cm layer of casing soil, press it gently, and moisten it with water. Place the beds in a blue tent, maintaining a temperature of 30-35°C and 80-85% humidity.

Daily observation is crucial for spraying water and checking for contamination or pests. Harvest when pinheads develop into mature mushrooms, typically 10 days after casing. For subsequent harvests, stir and re-water the beds, allowing for a maximum of three harvests, with yields of 350-400 g from 250 g of dry straw. Maintain proper conditions to ensure optimal growth and production.



Fig. Button Mushroom



Fig. Milky Mushroom



# FLOW CHART OF CULTIVATION OF MUSHROOMS



Wheat Straw 10kg



Weighing Carbendazim



Filling drum with straw and water



Mixing Carbendazim, Formalin and wheat straw in water



Bagging



Spawn



Drying straw upto 70% moisture



Extracting straw from Drum



Bagging Done



Bag store in sterile room and holes are made in bags



Watering



Packaging



Harvesting



Mushroom Grown



## Module-7

### Problems in mushroom cultivation- disease, pests and nematodes, moulds and their management strategies.

Mushrooms can be affected by various problems, including diseases, pests, and nematodes. Understanding these issues and implementing appropriate management strategies is crucial for successful cultivation.

**Diseases of Mushrooms** include fungal, bacterial, and viral infections. Fungal diseases such as Dry Bubble Disease, caused by *Verticillium fungicola*, manifest as muddy brown spots, grayish-white mold, and stunted growth. It spreads through airborne spores and contaminated materials, thriving in high humidity and poor ventilation. Management involves maintaining sanitation, proper ventilation, and using pasteurized casing material. Wet Bubble Disease, caused by *Mycogone pernicioso*, results in wet rot and malformed mushrooms, thriving in high humidity and injury-prone conditions. Control measures include sanitation and ventilation. Cobweb Disease, caused by *Cladobotryum dendroides*, is characterized by white, cobweb-like growth on mushrooms and casing material. Managing this disease requires sanitation, ventilation, and biological control agents.

Bacterial Blotch, caused by *Pseudomonas tolaasii*, leads to pale yellow or brown spots on mushrooms, potentially rotting them. It spreads through water splash and contaminated tools. Effective management includes maintaining hygiene, controlling moisture, and using copper-based bactericides. Viral diseases like La France Disease, caused by the Mushroom Bacilliform Virus, lead to deformed mushrooms and necrosis. It spreads via fungus gnats. Management includes controlling gnats with insecticides, maintaining sanitation, and removing infected mushrooms.

**Common Mushroom Pests** include fungus gnats and phorid flies. Fungus gnats, with larvae that feed on mycelium and young mushrooms, can cause brown, leathery rot and transmit diseases. Management involves reducing moisture, using sticky traps, and applying insecticides. Phorid flies target decaying matter, with larvae forming tunnels in mushrooms, causing them to turn brown and rot. Management includes maintaining cleanliness, reducing decaying matter, and using insecticides.

To prevent and manage these issues effectively, early detection and proper identification are essential. Preventive measures, maintaining optimal growing conditions, and using sanitation and appropriate control methods are critical for minimizing the impact of diseases and pests on mushroom cultivation.



Fig. Dry Bubble Disease



Fig. wet bubble disease

## Module-8

### Post-harvest technology: Preservation of mushrooms- freezing, dry freezing, drying, canning, quality assurance and entrepreneurship.

In the growing Indian mushroom industry, several preservation methods are utilized, each with distinct benefits. Freezing involves blanching mushrooms and packing them into containers for up to a year, though it may affect texture. Dry freezing, using temperatures below  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ , preserves texture and flavor but requires specialized equipment. Drying mushrooms by slicing and dehydrating them intensifies their flavor and extends shelf life to a year. Dried mushrooms are lightweight and rehydrated easily. Canning preserves mushrooms for up to 5 years but requires careful adherence to procedures to avoid botulism, making it less suitable for beginners. Quality assurance involves using fresh mushrooms, thorough cleaning, and proper storage. Entrepreneurship opportunities include developing improved preservation methods, creating value-added products like mushroom powders or jerky, and partnering with local growers for a sustainable supply chain.



Fig. Mushroom Pickle



Fig. Mushroom Soup



Fig. Mushroom Coffee



Fig. Som-Mor Masala



Fig. Freezing

## PROJECT COST - ANALYSIS FOR MUSHROOM CULTIVATION

### Cost Analysis for Mushroom Cultivation

Mushroom growing is a highly profitable activity and can be taken up on a smaller or larger scale depending upon the capacity of an individual or organization. The spawn production, compost preparation and mushroom cropping are the components of mushroom farming which yield significant profit. The economics of commonly cultivated mushrooms is given as under :

#### A. Spawn Production Project

##### Economic of spawn production (100 spawn bags per day)

| S.No      | Item   | Quantity | Rate(Rs.) | Total(Rs.) |
|-----------|--|----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Capital Investment</b>                        |          |           |            |
| 1.        | Autoclave  | 2        | 20,000    | 40,000     |
| 2.        | Boiler ( GI drum 100 lit. Capacity )             | 2        | 2,000     | 4,000      |
| 3.        | Culture room with work table                     | 1        | 10,000    | 10,000     |
| 4.        | UV lamp with fittings                            | 1        | 1500      | 1500       |
| 5.        | Tube light fittings                              | 1        | 200       | 200        |
| 6.        | Advance for LPG gas                              | 2        | 2,000     | 4,000      |
| 7.        | Spawn storage room                               | 1        | 20,000    | 20,000     |
| 8.        | Bunsen burner                                    | 1        | 150       | 150        |
| 9         | Heat efficient chulah                            | 1        | 600       | 600        |
|           | Total  |          |           | 80,450     |
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Fixed Cost</b>                                |          |           |            |
| 1.        | Interest on capital investment @ 12%             |          |           | 9,654      |
| 2.        | Depreciation (Item 3 &7 @ 5%)                    |          |           | 1,500      |
| 3.        | Depreciation ( Item 1, 2, 4, 5, 8&9 @10% )       |          |           | 4,645      |
|           | Total  |          |           | 15,799     |
| <b>C.</b> | <b>Recurring cost<br/>(100 spawn x 300 days)</b> |          |           |            |
| 1.        | Polypropylene (3%damage)                         | 160 kg   | 80        | 12,800     |
| 2.        | Cholam grain (3%damage)                          | 9,300 kg | 7         | 65,100     |
| 3.        | Calcium carbonate<br>(commercial grade)          | 185 kg   | 17        | 3,145      |
| 4.        | Non- Absorbent Cotton ( 400 g Rolls )            | 775      | 60        | 46,500     |
| 5.        | Fungicides & fumigants                           | -        | -         | 1,000      |
| 6.        | Electricity &fuel                                | -        | -         | 25,000     |

**Cost of production / Year:**

|               |  |          |
|---------------|--|----------|
| 1.            | Working expenditure                      | 1,92,545 |
| 2.            | Interest and depreciation on fixed cost  | 15,799   |
| 3.            | Total Cost                               | 2,08,344 |
| <b>Income</b> |  |          |
| 1.            | By sale of 30,000 spawn @ RS. 120per bag | 3,60,000 |
| 2.            | Total income                             | 2,08,344 |
| 3.            | Net income per year                      | 1,51,656 |

**Mushroom Production Project****A. Mushroom Production Project****Economics of Oyster mushroom production ( 5 kg/day / 300 days )**

| S.No      | Item                                  | Quantity | Rate (Rs.) | Total (Rs.) |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Capital Investment</b>             |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Mushroom growing room (attached)      | 1        | 7,500      | 7,500       |
| 2.        | Chaff cutter (leaver type)            | 1        | 1,200      | 1,200       |
| 3.        | Boiler                                | 1        | 2,000      | 2,000       |
| 4.        | Cement tub                            | 1        | 1,000      | 1,000       |
| 5.        | Sprayer                               | 1        | 500        | 500         |
| 6.        | Biomass stove                         | 1        | 300        | 300         |
|           | <b>Total</b>                          |          |            | 12,500      |
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Fixed Cost</b>                     |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Interest on A @ 12%                   |          |            | 1,500       |
| 2.        | Depreciation ( Item 1 @ 30% )         |          |            | 2,250       |
| 3.        | Depreciation (Item 2,3,4,5 &6 @ 10% ) |          |            | 500         |
|           | <b>Total</b>                          |          |            | 4,250       |
| <b>C.</b> | <b>Recurring Cost</b>                 |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Paddy straw                           | 3t       | 1,500/t    | 4,500       |
| 2.        | Spawn bags                            | 1,500    | 12         | 18,000      |



|    |                                   |       |           |               |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| 3. | Polythene bags for bed & packing  | 60 kg | 80        | 3,600         |
| 4. | Fungicides, fumigants & chemicals | -     | -         | 1,000         |
| 5. | Labour @ 1 per day                | 300   | 50 / head | 15,000        |
| 6. | Others                            | -     | -         | 5,000         |
|    | <b>Total</b>                      |       |           | <b>47,100</b> |

### Cost of production / Year:

|    |  |                 |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 1. | Working expenditure                              | 47,100          |
| 2. | Interest and depreciation on fixedcost           | 4,250           |
| 3. | <b>Total Cost</b>                                | <b>51,350</b>   |
|    | <b>Income</b>                                    |                 |
| 1. | By sale of 5 kg of mushroomdaily @ Rs. 60 per kg | 90,000          |
| 2. | Cost of spent mushroom compost                   | 10,000          |
| 3. | <b>Total income</b>                              | <b>1,00,000</b> |
| 4. | <b>Net income per year</b>                       | <b>48,650</b>   |

### Economics of Milky mushroom production ( 5 kg /day /300 days )

| S.No      | Item  | Quantity | Rate (Rs.) | Total (Rs.)   |
|-----------|---|----------|------------|---------------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Capital Investment</b>   |          |            |               |
| 1.        | Mushroom growing room ( poly houses )                             | 1        | 12,000     | 12,000        |
| 2.        | Chaff cutter (leaver type)  | 1        | 400        | 400           |
| 3.        | Boiler ( one for paddy straw& one for casing soil sterilization ) | 1        | 2,000      | 2,000         |
| 4.        | Cement tub  | 1        | 1,000      | 1,000         |
| 5.        | Sprayer   | 1        | 500        | 500           |
| 6.        | Biomass stove   | 1        | 300        | 300           |
|           | <b>Total</b>  |          |            | <b>19,800</b> |
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Fixed Cost</b>   |          |            |               |
| 1.        | Interest on A @ 12%   |          |            | 2,376         |
| 2.        | Depreciation ( Item 1 @ 10% )                                     |          |            | 1,200         |
| 3.        | Depreciation ( Item 2,3,4,5 & 6 @ 10 % )                          |          |            | 780           |

|    |                                   |       |         |        |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
|    | <b>Total</b>                      |       |         | 4,356  |
| C. | Recurring Cost                    |       |         |        |
| 1. | Paddy straw                       | 1.5t  | 1,500/t | 2,250  |
| 2. | Spawn bags                        | 1,200 | 12      | 14,400 |
| 3. | Polythene bags for bed & packing  | 35kg  | 80      | 2,800  |
| 4. | Fungicides, fumigants & chemicals | -     | -       | 1,000  |
| 5. | Labour @ 1 per day                | 300   | 50/head | 15,000 |
| 6. | Others                            | -     | -       | 5,000  |
|    | <b>Total</b>                      |       |         | 40,450 |

### Cost of production / year

1. Working expenditure: 40,450
2. Interest and depreciation on fixed cost: 4,356
3. Total cost: 44,806

### Income

1. By sale of 5 kg of mushrooms daily @ Rs. 65 per kg: 97,500
2. Cost of spent mushroom compost: 10,000
3. Total income: 1,07,500
4. Net income per year: 62,694

### Economics of production of button mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*)

Production of button mushroom on a small scale is not economical. However, if good compost is readily available or by creating facilities for LMC, button mushroom production can be taken up, especially at high elevation where suitable climatic condition normally exist.

Approximate cost estimated is given below (650 bags / crop having 10 kg of compost in each bag x 4 crops/ year

| S.No      | Item                                     | Quantity | Rate (Rs.) | Total (Rs.) |
|-----------|--|----------|------------|-------------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Capital Investment</b>                |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Composting yard with cutting and soaking | -        | -          | 2,00,000    |
| 2.        | Spawn running & cropping rooms           | 6        | 25,000     | 1,50,000    |
| 3.        | Casing soil preparation unit             | 1        | 20,000     | 20,000      |
| 4.        | Steam generator, boiler & fittings       | -        | 1,20,000   | 1,20,000    |
| 5.        | Air cooler and humidifiers               | 6        | 25,000     | 1,50,000    |
| 6.        | Water tank                               | -        | -          | 50,000      |
|           | <b>Total</b>                             |          |            | 6,90,900    |
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Fixed Cost</b>                        |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Interest on @ 12%                        |          |            | 82,800      |
| 2.        | Depreciation @ 10%                       |          |            | 69,000      |
|           | <b>Total</b>                             |          |            | 1,51,800    |
| <b>C.</b> | <b>Recurring Cost</b>                    |          |            |             |
| 1.        | Compost preparation by LMC               | 30t      | -          | 90,000      |
| 2.        | Fungicides, fumigants & chemicals        | 1,200    | -          | 10,000      |
| 3.        | Spawn bags                               | 40       | 15         | 18,000      |
| 4.        | Polythene bags                           | 1,095    | 80         | 3,200       |
| 5.        | Labour @ 3 per day                       | -        | 50         | 54,750      |
| 6.        | Electricity, fuel etc.,                  | -        | -          | 50,000      |
| 7.        | Miscellaneous cost                       | -        | -          | 10,000      |
|           | <b>Total</b>                             |          |            | 2,35,950    |

### Cost of production/year

1. Working expenditure : 2,35,950
2. Total fixed cost : 1,51,800 Total cost : 3,87,750

### Income

1. By sale of 9,000kg mushrooms @ Rs.70 /kg: 6,30,000
2. Cost of spent mushroom compost: 20,000
3. Total income: 6,50,000
4. Net income per year: 2,62,250

**PROJECT REPORT**  
**ON**  
**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAMME**  
**(ELP)**

**ELP-Production Technology of Bio-agents and Biofertilizers**  
**ELP-ENT-402**

**Bachelor of Science Honors (Agriculture)**

**Submitted by:**  
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**BAGN1AG20019**

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**2024**



India's agricultural education system is evolving to align with the country's thrust on initiatives like Make-in-India, Digital India, and Skill India. Emphasizing Big Data, the integration of modern information systems is crucial for enhancing accessibility and market efficiency. The ICAR's initiatives, such as READY and ASPIRE, aim to attract and nurture young talent, fostering entrepreneurship and innovation in agriculture. The establishment of incubation centers and the inclusion of business management in curricula are proposed to encourage agricultural graduates to become entrepreneurs. Partnerships with private companies and innovative projects like those from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are highlighted as key to linking agriculture with technology and industry. These efforts are designed to make agriculture an intellectually stimulating and economically rewarding profession, ensuring that Indian agriculture education meets the demands of modern markets and contributes to the nation's development and global competitiveness.

#### OBJECTIVES:

1. Introduction, history, Importance and scope of biofertilizers and bio-agents.
2. Isolation and identification of fungal biocontrol agents i.e., *Trichoderma* spp. And *Beauveria bassiana* from rhizosphere.
3. Isolation and identification of bacterial biocontrol agents i.e., *Pseudomonas fluoresces* and *Bacillus subtilis* from soil, *Azospirillum* from plant roots.
4. Isolation and identification of bio- fertilizer i.e., *Rhizobium* from root nodules and *Azotobacter* from soil.
5. Mass production and formulation technology of bio-agent *Trichoderma viride* and *Pseudomonas fluoresces*
6. Mass production and formulation technology of bio-fertilizers *Rhizobium* and *Azotobacter* spp.
7. Methods of application technology of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers *in vitro* and field conditions.
8. Methods of increasing Storage, shelf- life, quality control and marketing of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers

## **MODULE-01**

### **AIM: Introduction, history, Importance and scope of biofertilizers and bio-agents.**

Biofertilizers are natural, eco-friendly fertilizers containing microbial inoculants such as bacteria, algae, and fungi that enhance soil fertility by fixing nitrogen, solubilizing phosphorus, and promoting plant growth. They are crucial for sustainable agriculture, increasing crop yields by 20-30% and improving soil health without harming the environment. Key types include bacterial, fungal, algal, and actinomycetes biofertilizers. The commercial use of biofertilizers began in 1895, and they continue to play a vital role in modern agriculture.

Bio-agents, or biological control agents, are organisms used to manage pests through predation, parasitism, and other natural mechanisms. They are cost-effective, environmentally safe, and promote plant health by controlling pests like insects and nematodes. The history of bio-agents dates back to 900 A.D. in China, and their use has expanded globally. Both biofertilizers and bio-agents are essential for sustainable agriculture, reducing the reliance on chemical inputs and minimizing environmental impact.

## **MODULE-02**

### **AIM: Isolation and identification of *Trichoderma spp.* from rhizosphere.**

*Trichoderma spp.* are beneficial soil fungi that enhance plant health by improving nutrient uptake and immunity. The process of isolating *Trichoderma* from rhizospheric soil involves serial dilution, where soil samples are mixed with distilled water and diluted across multiple test tubes. Diluted samples are then plated on PDA (Potato Dextrose Agar) media and incubated to promote the growth of *Trichoderma* colonies, recognizable by their greenish appearance. For purification, a greenish colony is transferred to fresh PDA media with added antibiotics to inhibit unwanted microorganisms. The plates are incubated to obtain a pure culture. The PDA media, essential for fungal growth, is prepared by boiling potatoes, adding dextrose and agar, and sterilizing the mixture. The entire process is conducted under sterile conditions using tools like a laminar airflow, autoclave, and BOD incubator, ensuring the successful isolation and purification of *Trichoderma spp.*

## **MODULE-03**

### **AIM: Isolation and identification of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* from soil.**

*Pseudomonas fluorescens* is a beneficial Gram-negative bacterium known for its role in agriculture and bioremediation. It is commonly found in soil and plant rhizospheres, where it promotes plant growth and serves as a biocontrol agent. To isolate and identify *P. fluorescens*, soil samples are collected, and serial dilutions are prepared. These dilutions are spread onto King's B media, which supports bacterial growth. The plates are incubated at 30°C, allowing the bacteria to form colonies. *P. fluorescens* can be identified by its characteristic yellowish-green colonies with light green pigmentation, often confirmed through molecular techniques like 16S rRNA analysis or PCR methods. The identification process is critical for its application in biofertilizers and biocontrol, contributing to sustainable agricultural practices by enhancing crop productivity and reducing the reliance on chemical inputs.

## MODULE-04

### **Isolation and identification of Rhizobium from root nodules and Azotobacter from soil.**

Rhizobium, a soil bacterium, forms a symbiotic relationship with leguminous plants, aiding in nitrogen fixation and enhancing soil fertility. To isolate and identify Rhizobium from root nodules, healthy pink nodules are collected, washed, and sterilized using 0.1% mercuric chloride and 70% ethanol. The nodules are then crushed, and the suspension is plated on Yeast Extract Mannitol (YEM) agar, a medium specifically designed to support Rhizobium growth. The plates are incubated at 28°C for 2-3 days, allowing the development of characteristic Rhizobium colonies, which appear white with a central red dot. The isolated colonies are then transferred to fresh YEM plates for purification, ensuring the maintenance of a pure culture for further use. Rhizobium-based inoculants, derived from such cultures, are valuable biofertilizers that promote plant growth and reduce dependency on synthetic fertilizers, contributing to sustainable agriculture.

Azotobacter is a free-living soil bacterium known for its ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen and enhance plant growth, making it vital for sustainable agriculture. To isolate and identify Azotobacter from soil, Jensen's nitrogen-free medium is used. Soil samples are collected, diluted, and plated on the prepared medium. The process involves mixing 1 gram of soil with sterile water, creating serial dilutions, and spreading 0.1 mL of the diluted sample onto agar plates containing Jensen's medium. These plates are then incubated at 28-30°C in a BOD incubator. After incubation, colonies of Azotobacter, identified by their light brown to black pigmentation on the medium, are observed. Azotobacter-based biofertilizers provide a natural solution to enhance soil fertility, reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers, and promote sustainable agricultural practices, showcasing the potential of beneficial soil microorganisms in supporting global food security and environmental sustainability.

## MODULE-05

### **AIM: Mass production and formulation technology of *Trichoderma viride*.**

The mass production and formulation technology of **Trichoderma viride** and **Pseudomonas fluorescens** involves cultivating these beneficial microorganisms on specific media and formulating them into user-friendly products for agricultural use. *Trichoderma viride* is mass-multiplied using wheat grain or liquid Potato Dextrose (PD) broth. The process includes autoclaving the media, inoculating with pure *Trichoderma* culture, and incubating for optimal growth. Formulations include talc-based and vermicompost, where the fungal culture is mixed with either talcum powder or vermicompost, then packaged for application.

Similarly, **Pseudomonas fluorescens** is cultured in King's B media. The procedure involves cutting pure bacterial cultures, inoculating them into the media, and incubating at a controlled temperature. Talc-based and vermicompost formulations are prepared by mixing the bacterial culture with either talcum powder or vermicompost. These formulations enhance plant growth and provide disease control, supporting sustainable agriculture practices.

## MODULE – 06

### **AIM: Mass production and formulation technology of bio-fertilizer *Rhizobium*.**

The mass production and formulation technology of biofertilizers like **Rhizobium** and **Azotobacter** involves cultivating these beneficial bacteria in specific media and creating user-friendly formulations. For **Rhizobium**, the bacteria are grown in YEM (Yeast Extract Mannitol) broth. The culture is incubated for 5-7 days at 28°C, after which the bacteria are used to create talc-based and vermicompost formulations. The talc-based formulation requires 100 ml of **Rhizobium** culture mixed with 2 kg of talcum powder, while the vermicompost formulation uses 100 ml of culture mixed with 2 kg of finely broken vermicompost.

Similarly, **Azotobacter** is mass-produced in Jensen’s nitrogen-free medium. After incubation at 25-26°C for 8-10 days, **Azotobacter** cultures are formulated into talc-based and vermicompost products using the same procedure as **Rhizobium**. These biofertilizers promote plant growth, enhance soil fertility, and support sustainable agriculture by reducing reliance on chemical fertilizers.

## MODULE-07

### **AIM: Methods of application technology of bio agents and bio-fertilizer in vitro and field conditions.**

The application of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers is crucial for sustainable agriculture, enhancing soil health, nutrient availability, and plant growth while reducing environmental impact. In vitro methods include **seed treatment**, where seeds are coated with beneficial microorganisms, and **root dip**, where roots are immersed in bio-agent suspensions before transplantation. **Liquid culture application** involves spraying or drenching plants with a high concentration of microorganisms, while **soil incorporation** mixes bio-fertilizers into the soil for even distribution.

In field conditions, methods include **foliar spray**, applying bio-agents directly to leaves; **seed coating**, which protects seeds and promotes root zone colonization; and **soil drenching**, where solutions are applied around plant bases. Incorporating bio-agents into **irrigation systems** ensures uniform distribution, while **intercropping and companion planting** enhance soil health by encouraging beneficial microorganism colonization across multiple crops. These techniques foster sustainable farming, improving crop productivity and soil fertility.

## MODULE-08

### **AIM: Method of increasing storage, shelf-life, quality control and marketing of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers.**

Ensuring the effective storage, extended shelf-life, quality control, and strategic marketing of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers is crucial for their success in sustainable agriculture. **Storage and shelf-life** are optimized by maintaining cool, dry conditions, using protective packaging, and incorporating inert carriers or microencapsulation techniques to enhance stability. **Quality control** involves implementing rigorous protocols, developing standardized formulations, and ensuring batch traceability, all while adhering to certifications and regulatory standards to guarantee product efficacy and safety. **Marketing strategies** focus on educating stakeholders about the benefits of bio-agents, employing targeted campaigns tailored to specific agricultural needs, and forming distribution partnerships to broaden market reach. Distinctive branding and packaging further enhance product visibility and



consumer trust. By addressing these key areas, producers can safeguard the viability of bio-agents and bio-fertilizers, promote widespread adoption, and advance sustainable agricultural practices on a global scale.

## ISOLATION, PURECULTURE & MASS MULTIPLICATION OF *Trichoderma*



**Fig.1-Gram plant soil sample**



**Fig.2-Serial dilution**



**Fig.3-Preparing PDA**



**Fig.4- Pouring into the media**



**Fig.5-Packed the Petri-dish**



**Fig.6-Pure culture**



**Fig.7-Mass multiplication**



**Fig.8-Mass multiplication**



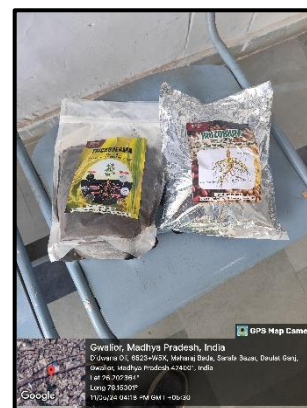
**Fig.9-Talc base formulation**



**Fig.10-Weighing the product**



**Fig.11-Packaging**



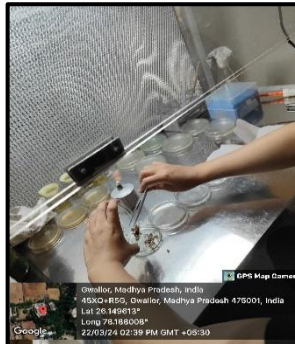
**Fig.12-Final product**



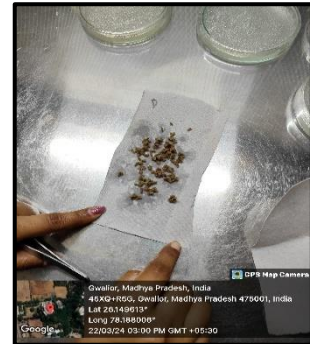
## ISOLATION, PURE CULTURE & MASS MULTIPLICATION OF *Rhizobium*



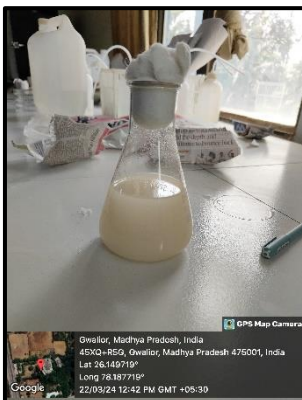
**Fig.1- Collect the root nodule**



**Fig.2-Wash the nodule**



**Fig.3-Drying the nodules**



**Fig.4-YEM media**



**Fig.5-Crushing the nodules**



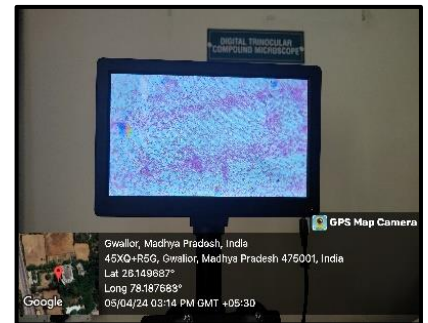
**Fig.6-Pouring crush nodule**



**Fig.7-*Rhizobium* culture**



**Fig.8-Gram staining**



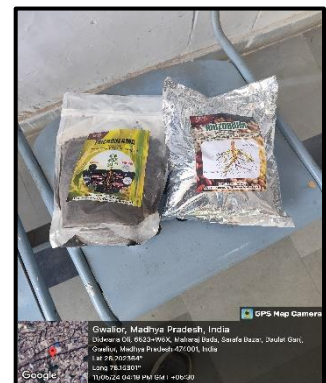
**Fig.9-Gram negative**



**Fig.10-Talc base formulation**

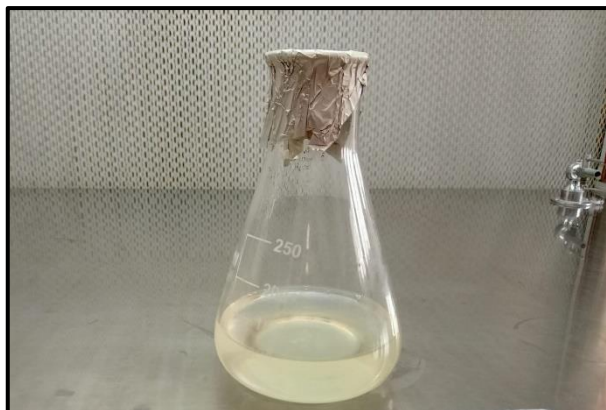


**Fig.11-Packaging**

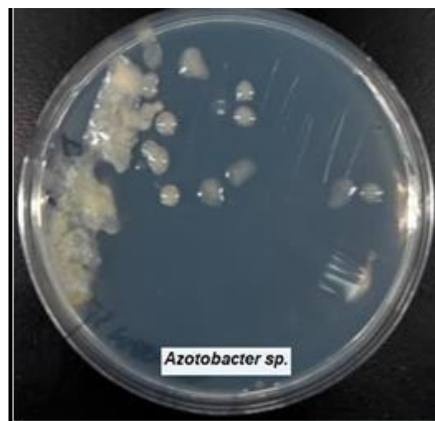


**Fig.12-Final product**

## ISOLATION, MASS MULTIPLICATION & FORMULATION OF *Azotobacter*



**Fig.1- Media**



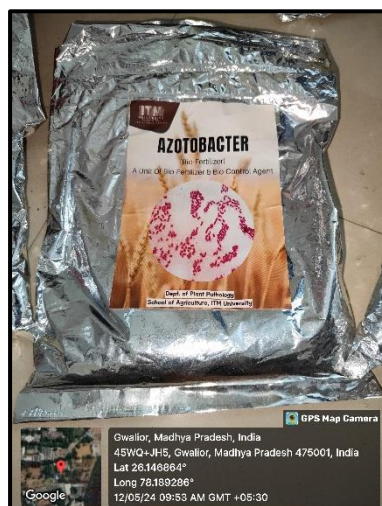
**Fig.2 - *Azotobacter* isolation**



**Fig.3 - Talc base formulation**



**Fig.4 - Weighing the product**



**Fig.5 - Final product**



## ISOLATION, MASS MULTIPLICATION & FORMULATION OF *Pseudomonas*



**Fig.1- Media**



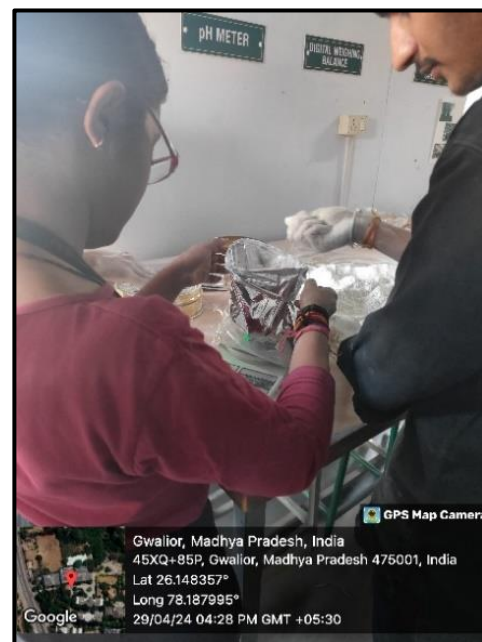
**Fig.2- Culture**



**Fig.5- Final product**



**Fig.3- Inoculation**



**Fig.4- Packaging**

**Economic opportunities in broiler farming: A case study of Bhadauria  
Poultry Farm, Industrial Area, Gwalior.**

**Project based Learning (PBL)**

**Under the course**

**AHS-ELP - 401**

## **Bachelor of Science (Agriculture)**

**Submitted by:**

Kishan padhi

BAGN1AG20110

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**2024**

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the present project entitled “*Economic opportunities in broiler farming: A case study of Fogi Poultry Farm, Industrial Area, Gwalior*” were hereunder:

1. To study the nature of the broiler farm
  2. To identify the parameters to compute cost of production per chicken
  3. To find out the fixed capital investment pattern at the broiler farm
  4. To record the variable cost pattern at the broiler farm
  5. To calculate cost per broiler chicken at the broiler farm
  6. To work out returns on broiler farming for the farmer
  7. To compute the pay - back period of broiler farming
  8. To evaluate the net present value of broiler farm
- To estimate the internal rate of return of broiler farm

## **Methodology**

The present project entitled “Economic opportunities in broiler farming: A case study of Fogi Poultry Farm, Industrial Area, Gwalior” employed panel data. Data in 2002 were collected using survey. Data were collected from the *Amir Ali Khan (Fogi farm) from Sikander kampoo bara bigha, Gwalior* using a standardized questionnaire enclosed herewith. The farm is situated at (Complete address) run by the commercial broiler farmer Mr. –Amir Ali Khan----.

The primary data was collected using questionnaire and interview of the farmer and the employees whereas the secondary data was recorded after consulting the records.

**Table 1. Personal information**

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Q1-01 Name of the Broiler farm                           | Fogi poultry farm          |
| Q1-02 Address of the broiler farm                        | Sikander kampoo bara bigha |
| Q1-03 Name of the owner                                  | Amir Ali khan              |
| Q1-04 Mobile number                                      | 9826258325                 |
| Q1-05 Gender (male/female)                               | Male                       |
| Q1-06 Age (years)  | 57                         |
| Q1-07 Cadre (urban/rural)                                | Rural                      |
| Q1-08 Farm type (government/semi-government/private)     | Private                    |
| Q1-09 Marital status (married/unmarried/others)          | Married                    |
| Q1-10 Education(illiterate/school/college/university)    | School                     |
| Q1-11 Health status (good/average/poor)                  | Good                       |
| Q1-12 Occupation (full-time/part-time)                   | Full-time                  |
| Q1-13 Work experience (years)                            | 22                         |
| Q1-14 Training course (yes/no)                           | Yes                        |
| Q1-15 Annual family income other than poultry farm (Rs.) | 300000                     |

**Summary:** Fogi Poultry Farm, located at Sikander Kampoo, is owned by Amir Ali Khan, a 45-year-old male (assuming 22 years of work experience starting from age 23). He is a rural resident, married, and has a school education. He is in good health and works full-time on the farm, which is a private enterprise. He has attended training courses and has 22 years of experience in the field. His annual family income is supplemented by other sources

**Table 2. Parameters to Compute Cost of Production Per Chicken**

| S. No. | Particulars                            | Size of the Broiler Farm |  |  |              |
|--------|--|--------------------------|--|--|--------------|
|        |  |                          |  |  | Overall      |
| 1      | Number of Birds reared per batch       |                          |  |  | <b>4000</b>  |
| 2      | Number of Batches reared per annum     |                          |  |  | <b>28000</b> |
| 3      | Total number of birds reared per annum |                          |  |  | <b>27500</b> |
| 4      | Total number of mortalities per annum  |                          |  |  | <b>700</b>   |
| 5      | Total number of birds alive per annum  |                          |  |  | <b>27300</b> |
| 6      | Mortality Rate                         |                          |  |  | <b>2%</b>    |
| 7.     | Average Weight                         |                          |  |  | <b>2.5kg</b> |

**Summary:** Parameters to Compute Cost of production: Number of Birds reared per 4000, Number of Batches reared per 6, Total number of birds reared 27500 Total number of



mortalities per 700 Total number of birds alive per 27300 Mortality Rate 2% Average Weight 2.5 kg

**Table 3. Fixed Capital Investment Pattern on Different Broiler Farm**

| S. No. | Particulars                  | Size of the Broiler Farm |  |  |             |
|--------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|-------------|
|        |                              |                          |  |  | Overall     |
| 1      | Rental Value of land         |                          |  |  | 0           |
| 2      | Depreciation on Fixed Assets |                          |  |  | 0           |
| 3      | Repairs and Maintenance      |                          |  |  | 2000        |
| 4      | Interest on Fixed Capital    |                          |  |  | 0           |
| 5      | <b>Total Fixed Cost</b>      |                          |  |  | <b>2000</b> |

Source: Primary data

**Summary:** This indicates that the only fixed cost is Repairs and Maintenance, which is ₹2,000. The other components of fixed capital investment are zero, likely due to the assumptions mentioned above

**Table 4. Variable Cost Pattern at the Broiler Farm**

| S.No. | Particulars                 | Size of the Broiler Farm |  |  |                |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|----------------|
|       |                             |                          |  |  | Overall        |
| 1     | Chick Cost                  |                          |  |  | 30rs           |
| 2     | Feed Cost                   |                          |  |  | 110rs          |
| 3     | Medicine Cost               |                          |  |  | 5rs            |
| 4     | Shed Cleaning Cost          |                          |  |  | 2500rs         |
| 5     | Litter Cost                 |                          |  |  | 4000rs         |
| 6     | Labour Cost                 |                          |  |  | 10000rs        |
| 37.   | Brooding & Heating          |                          |  |  | 5000rs         |
| 8.    | Electricity Charges         |                          |  |  | 4000rs         |
| 9.    | Miscellaneous Expenses      |                          |  |  | 2000rs         |
| 10.   | Interest on Working Capital |                          |  |  | 0              |
|       | <b>Total Variable Cost</b>  |                          |  |  | <b>27645rs</b> |

**Summary:** The variable costs for broiler farming are broken down into several components. The cost of chicks is ₹30, while the feed costs ₹110. Medicine costs 5, so we assume zero. Shed cleaning costs ₹2,500, litter costs ₹4,000, and labour costs ₹10,000. Brooding and heating expenses are ₹5,000, electricity charges are ₹4,000, and miscellaneous expenses are ₹2,000. The total variable cost comes out to be ₹27,645

**Table 5. Cost per Broiler Chicken at the Broiler Farm**

| S. No. | Particulars                           | Size of the Broiler Farm |  |  | Overall        |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|----------------|
|        |                                       |                          |  |  |                |
| 1      | Chick Cost                            |                          |  |  | <b>30rs</b>    |
| 2      | Feed Cost                             |                          |  |  | <b>110rs</b>   |
| 3      | Medicine Cost                         |                          |  |  | <b>5rs</b>     |
| 4      | Shed Cleaning Cost                    |                          |  |  | <b>2500rs</b>  |
| 5      | Litter Cost                           |                          |  |  | <b>4000rs</b>  |
| 6      | Labour Cost                           |                          |  |  | <b>10000rs</b> |
| 7      | Brooding & Heating                    |                          |  |  | <b>5000rs</b>  |
| 8      | Electricity Charges                   |                          |  |  | <b>4000rs</b>  |
| 9      | Miscellaneous Expenses                |                          |  |  | <b>2000rs</b>  |
| 10     | Interest on working capital           |                          |  |  | <b>0</b>       |
| 11     | <b>Total Variable Cost Fixed Cost</b> |                          |  |  | <b>27645rs</b> |
| 12     | Rental Value of land                  |                          |  |  | <b>0</b>       |
| 13     | Depreciation on fixed assets          |                          |  |  | <b>0</b>       |
| 2.14   | Repairs and Maintenance               |                          |  |  | <b>2000rs</b>  |
| 15     | Interest on fixed capital             |                          |  |  |                |
| 16     | <b>Total Fixed Cost</b>               |                          |  |  | <b>2000rs</b>  |
| 17     | <b>Total Cost before Growing Cost</b> |                          |  |  | <b>2000rs</b>  |
| 18     | Growing Cost per bird                 |                          |  |  | <b>170rs</b>   |
| 19     | <b>Cost of Production per Bird</b>    |                          |  |  | <b>170rs</b>   |
| 20     | Average Weight of Chicken grown       |                          |  |  | <b>2.5kg</b>   |
| 21     | <b>Cost of Production per Kg</b>      |                          |  |  | <b>60rs</b>    |
|        |                                       |                          |  |  |                |

**Summary:** The cost of producing broiler chickens under an integrated farming system is broken down into variable and fixed costs. The variable costs include chick cost (₹30), feed cost (₹110), medicine cost (₹5), and other expenses like shed cleaning, litter, labor, brooding, electricity, and miscellaneous costs, totaling ₹27,645. The fixed costs are minimal, with only ₹2,000 for repairs and maintenance, and no rental value for land, depreciation, or interest on fixed capital. The total cost before growing is ₹20,000, with a growing cost per bird of ₹170, resulting in a cost of production per bird of ₹170 and a cost of production per kg of ₹60, based on an average weight of 2.5 kg per chicken.

**Table 6. Returns on Broiler Farming for the Farmer**

| S.No. | Particulars                     | Size of the Broiler Farm |        |       |                |
|-------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|-------|----------------|
|       |                                 | Small                    | Medium | Large | Overall        |
| 1     | Weight of Chicken grown         |                          |        |       | <b>2.5kg</b>   |
| 2     | Growing Charge per kg           |                          |        |       | <b>60rs</b>    |
| 3     | Total Growing Charge            |                          |        |       | <b>170rs</b>   |
| 4     | Sale of Manure                  |                          |        |       | <b>4000rs</b>  |
| 5     | Sale of Gunny bags              |                          |        |       | <b>1000rs</b>  |
| 6     | <b>Gross Return (3 + 4 + 5)</b> |                          |        |       | <b>4270rs</b>  |
| 7     | Total Cost                      |                          |        |       | <b>4330rs</b>  |
| 8     | <b>Net Return (6 - 7)</b>       |                          |        |       | <b>8600rs</b>  |
| 9     | <b>NPR</b>                      |                          |        |       | <b>75000rs</b> |
| 10    | <b>ROI</b>                      |                          |        |       | <b>70.13</b>   |

Source: Primary data

Figures in parentheses are percentage to the total

**Summary:** Broiler farming generates significant returns for farmers. The weight of chicken grown is 2.5 kg, with a growing charge of ₹60 per kg, totaling ₹170. In addition to the growing charge, farmers earn ₹4,000 from selling manure and ₹100 from selling gunny bags, resulting in a gross return of ₹4,270. With a total cost of ₹4,330, the net return is ₹8,600, yielding a return on investment (ROI) of 70.13% and a net profit ratio (NPR) of ₹75,000.

**Table 7. Pay - back Period of Broiler Farming**

| Sl. No. | Particulars    | Payback Period | Cut off Year  | Remarks |
|---------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| 1.      | Small Farming  |                |               |         |
| 2.      | Medium Farming | <b>8 Year</b>  | <b>2 Year</b> |         |
| 3.      | Large Farming  |                |               |         |

Source: Primary data

**Summary:**

Pay back Period of broiler farming medium Farming 3 years and cut off Period 5 months

**Table 8. Net Present Value of Broiler Farming**

| Sl. No. | Particulars    | Net Present Value (Rupees) | Nature of NPV       | Remarks |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1.      | Small Farming  |                            |                     |         |
| 2.      | Medium Farming | <b>7000000</b>             | <b>Poultry farm</b> |         |
| 3.      | Large Farming  |                            |                     |         |

**Table 9. Internal Rate of Return of Broiler Farming**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Particulars</b> | <b>Internal Rate of Return</b> | <b>Opportunity Cost of Capital</b> | <b>Remarks</b> |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.             | Small Farming      |                                |                                    |                |
| 2.             | Medium Farming     | <b>16%</b>                     | <b>12%</b>                         |                |
| 3.             | Large Farming      |                                |                                    |                |

**Summary :** Internal rate of broiler farming in medium Farming: Internal rate of return 16% and Opportunity Cost of Capital 12%.

### **Conclusion**

The total fixed investments per bird have been found the highest on small farms, followed by medium and large farms. The total variable costs as well as total costs per bird have been found highest on small farms, followed by medium and large farms. The total cost of meat production has been observed highest on small broiler farms, followed medium and large farms. The net returns per bird over the variable costs have been recorded the highest on large farms, followed by medium and small farms. This increasing trend of net income with the farm size could be attributed mainly to the economies of scale on the large farms. The production efficiency of broiler farms has increased with farm-size due to better utilization of inputs. On the basis of net present value, benefit-cost ratio and internal rate of return, investment in broiler farming has been found most profitable on large farms, followed by medium and small farms. The small broiler farms have been observed highly sensitive to increase in costs and decrease in net returns



