

Khamgaon, a village famous for onions

After villagers were trained by agriculture department, they decided to collectively grow alternate crops on their fields. As a result of this, they are now growing onions, grapes, resins, and bor fruits, and have increased employment in the region and the profits of the farmers...

Khamgaon is a village in Barshi district. The villagers grew both 'Khareep' and 'Rabbi' crops but the produce began to decrease because of a reduction in rain. The farmers tried to change the prevailing pattern of cropping and increase farm produce for the past 10 years. Only after the villagers were then given training by the agriculture department were they successful in changing the cropping patterns. Through this training the farmers learnt that if they alternate the crop of grain in Rabbi with onions in Khareep season the yield would increase together with profits. The villagers collectively decided to grow onions as alternative crops. For the last 10 years onions have been grown and as the crop gets ready in just 3 months it has become a source of good income for the people as Khamgaon is famous for its onions. The Rabbi season yielded Jowar, Wheat and Chana. As the crops alternated with others fertile soil was available, which increased the farm produce. Also because of the bumper crop of onions workers and transporters in the area also got employment.

Grapes and 'Bor' fruit produce

Along with onions the farmers also started growing grapes and bor fruit in their fields. The agriculture department, farmers' club, agriculture library were instrumental in giving all the necessary information to the farmers to do this. Availability of information combined with the hard work of farmers has brought a good yield of grapes, resins and bor fruits in the village.

The cash crops of onion, grapes and bor, grown by farmers after receiving training from SSP have brought a great deal of prosperity to the farmers.