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## **Title of the Practice: MUSHROOM CULTIVATION**

### **1. Objectives of the Practice:**

- To provide basic knowledge in cultivation of mushrooms.
- Able to grow mushrooms in a natural way.
- Sustainable use of resources.
- To promote self-employment.
- To provide practical experience on cultivation of mushrooms.

### **2. Learning Outcomes:**

- Understanding the various aspects of cultivation.
- To learn different cropping patterns.
- To understand how to identify and sustainably manage pest and diseases and weed mushrooms.

### **3. The context:**

Mushrooms are the fruiting bodies of macrofungi. They include both edible/medicinal and poisonous species. Mushroom cultivation can be a labour intensive activity. Therefore, it will serve as means of generating employment, particularly for rural women and youths in order to raise their social status.

It will also provide additional work for the farmers during winter months when the farming schedule is light. Mushroom cultivation is a cash crop. The harvested fruiting bodies can be sold in local markets for additional family income or exported for an important source of foreign exchange that will definitely improve the economic standards of the people.

Mushroom farming is both a science and an art. The science is developed through research the art is perfected through curiosity and practical experience. However, mushroom farming is a business which requires precision. Indeed, it is not as simple as what some people often loosely stipulate. It calls for adherence to precise procedures.

### **4. The Practice:**

GDC Tekkali is practicing an innovative program entitled 'Mushroom Cultivation' under the guidance of T.Chandra Sekhar lecturer In chemistry. The students of Degree 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year BHC&CBZ involving in the work in the premises of college.

#### **Materials used**

1. Spawn
2. Paddy straw
3. Casing soil
4. Polythene bags
5. Formaldehyde
6. Water sprayers

#### 1<sup>st</sup> phase of practice

- Spawn source - IIHR Bangalore
- Weight of the span - 3kg
- Cost of the span - 950
- Date of bag filling - 21.12.2022
- Duration of dark period – 20 days
- Date of filling casing soil – 09.01.2023
- Observations – contamination and weeds observed

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of practice

- Spawn source - IIHR Bangalore
- Weight of the span - 2kg
- Cost of the span - 800
- Date of bag filling - 03.05.2023
- Duration of dark period – 30 days
- Date of filling casing soil – 03.06.2023

### **5. Evidence of Success:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> phase –**

- Contaminated due to improper sanitation and unhealthy spawn.
- Black mould developed in entire beds.
- Weeds are attacked due to paddy straw.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> phase –**

- Observed healthy growth of mycelium.
- No contamination is observed till 21.06.2023.

### **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

- Lack of proper tools and implements.
- Sustainability of proper ambience to develop the culture.

## Photo Gallery



**Bag filling**



**Healthy grown mycelium**



**Casing soil filling**

**ventilated phase culture**