

Report on Khet Bachao Abhiyan Programme Conducted at Hulikunte Village and Doddarayappanahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District on 23 June 2026

Under the ongoing Khet Bachao Abhiyan, a farmer awareness programme on Balanced Fertilizer Use and Sustainable Agricultural Practices was conducted on 23 June 2026 at Hulikunte Village and Doddarayappanahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District by ICAR–National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR–NBAIR), Bengaluru. The programme aimed to sensitize farmers on the importance of efficient nutrient management and the adoption of sustainable farming approaches for improving soil productivity and ensuring long-term agricultural sustainability.

A total of 41 farmers, including 32 male and 9 female farmers, participated in the programme. The event provided a platform for discussing the challenges associated with declining soil fertility, increasing fertilizer costs, and the need for resource-efficient agricultural practices.

Dr. Manjunatha, C., Senior Scientist, ICAR–NBAIR, Bengaluru, interacted with the farmers on scientific fertilizer management and its role in enhancing crop productivity. He explained that fertilizers should be applied in the right quantity, at the right time, and in the appropriate manner to maximize nutrient uptake by crops and minimize wastage. He highlighted the importance of soil-test-based fertilizer recommendations and discussed how balanced application of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and micronutrients can improve crop performance while maintaining soil health. He also stressed the value of crop diversification and inclusion of pulse crops in farming systems to improve nutrient cycling and reduce external fertilizer requirements.

Dr. Ramya, R.S., Senior Scientist, ICAR–NBAIR, Bengaluru, spoke on sustainable agricultural practices that support healthy soils and environmental conservation. She encouraged farmers to utilize locally available organic resources such as compost, farmyard manure, crop residues, green manure crops, and biofertilizers as supplementary nutrient sources. She explained that continuous dependence on chemical fertilizers alone may adversely affect soil quality over time, whereas integrated use of organic and inorganic inputs can improve soil organic carbon, promote beneficial soil microorganisms, and enhance nutrient availability.

The programme concluded with an interactive session where farmers shared their field experiences and sought guidance on improving fertilizer efficiency and soil health management. The scientists addressed their queries and provided practical recommendations suitable for local cropping systems.

Overall, the programme strengthened farmers' understanding of balanced fertilizer use, efficient nutrient management, and environmentally sustainable farming practices, thereby supporting the objectives of the Khet Bachao Abhiyan and promoting resilient agricultural production systems.



