

Promotion of Organic Farming in Rural Developments Projects in India

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***Abstract:** Low production and poverty alleviation are common features of rural farmers in the dry regions of India. Organic matter that enhances soil quality is limited in these regions and projects have been initiated to promote agroforestry among the rural farmers. Thus farmers are encouraged to make compost to sustain productivity. Organic farming is not considered a priority in these regions although chemical inputs are limited. Thus conversion of farms into organic systems is possible to build up soil organic matter and maintain sustainability. A problem encountered in composting is the low microbial populations, which could be overcome by technologies such as that of Effective Microorganisms. The programs carried out by the Foundation and the potential of using EM in enhancing rural farming systems of dryland India are presented.*
