

Project - Scaling-up of improved groundnut varieties through established seed systems in various cropping systems of smallholder farmers in Odisha

Component: Stakeholders training and orientation program.

Groundnut is a highly labour intensive crop requiring manpower at all stages of groundnut production. Use of mechanization can reduce labour costs besides improving efficiency of time and resources. To disseminate information on available mechanization options in groundnut, on government subsidies for machine purchase, use of groundnut haulms as fodder, and improved crop production practices in groundnut a one day stakeholder training on “Opportunities for mechanization of groundnut production in Odisha” was organized on 30 January 2018 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha (Picture). About 61 participants including stakeholders from Department of Agriculture-Govt. of Odisha, NGO’s, Engineering Department of – Govt. of Odisha, Fabricators, National Seed Corporation, Odisha State Seed Corporation Limited, Faculty from OUA&T and eight farmers’ group leaders attended the training program. Promoting mechanization in groundnut cultivation is an urgent need in the state as this will greatly benefit the farming community. Under the current scenario all groundnut activities are being carried out manually by the farmers.

Under the said project ‘Dry Plant Threshers’ were introduced in two districts, Ganjam and Bolangir and the results from the farmer’s fields indicate 50% reduction in cost for threshing when dry plant threshers are used as compared to manual threshing. Dry groundnut plants from 2 ha are threshed using the machine in span of 6-7 hours. Small heaps of plants are dried by keeping plants upside-down to ensure easy threshing and this practice also contributes to better quality pods as the pods are away from the soil during drying process. From this successful pilot, it is intended to expand the use of threshers in the 12 major groundnut growing districts (Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Balasore, Kendrapara, Dhenkhanal, Gajapati, Puri, Cuttack, Naupada, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Bolangir) of Odisha state.



Stakeholders training program on mechanization in groundnut on 30 Jan 2018 at Bhubneshwar, Odisha, India