

Farmer Participatory Seed Production of Garden pea at Bail-Parao, Nainital, Uttarakhand

The Challenge: To increase quality seed availability of improved garden pea varieties (VL *Sabji Matar* 13 & VL *Sabji Matar* 15) developed by the Institute (ICAR-VPKAS, Almora) in the recommended region and to establish that its seed production can be successfully undertaken in Uttarakhand plains.

The Solution: In order to tackle the mentioned challenges the approach of showcasing the varietal potential through VL *Sabji Matar* 13 and VL *Sabji Matar* 15 demonstration-cum-seed production was deployed to create awareness about these varieties among farmers. Varietal demonstration-cum-seed production was carried out during *Rabi* 2019-20 by the Institute in Narrottampur (Bail-Parao, Nainital, Uttarakhand) on 2.00 acres area (29.308938, 79.201444) of farmer Mr. Rahul Singh who showed his willingness to take up these varieties.

The Application: The quality seed of recently notified (S.O. 692 (E) dated 05.02.2019) garden pea varieties viz., VL *Sabji Matar* 13 (early maturing variety) and VL *Sabji Matar* 15 (medium maturing variety with field resistance to PM) were provided to the farmer. The farmer was assured with buy-back arrangement by the Institute of complete quantity of seed to be produced of these garden pea varieties. The demonstration-cum-seed production plots of VL *Sabji Matar* 13 and VL *Sabji Matar* 15 were frequently monitored by institute scientists for providing timely technical know-how and for ensuring varietal genetic purity. Farmers' from the village used to attend the visit of scientists enthusiastically to know about the recent garden pea varieties and seed production-related technical know-how. A field day was also organized on 24.02.2019 at Narrottampur-village which was attended by around 50 farmers from Bail-Parao.

	
<p>Deliberation by Hon. Director, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora during the Field day</p>	<p>Imparting technical Know-how of varieties</p>
	
<p>Visit to the Seed production field</p>	<p>Rouging in the seed production field</p>

The Impact: After notification, in the very first year of both these varieties, 6.155 q seed was harvested and supplied by the farmer to the Institute. The variety-wise details of seed received are below mentioned,

Seed Received from Mr. Rahul Singh

Garden pea Variety	Seed quantity received in q
VL Sabji Matar 13	4.695
VL Sabji Matar 15	1.460

Mr. Rahul Singh, the farmer who was directly associated with the seed production of both varieties, expressed his satisfaction over the performance of these varieties. The income gained by seed-producing and by direct procurement of seed by the Institute (at Institute approved rate Rs. 120/kg of quality seed) to the farmer is expected to be 0.74 lakhs rupees.

Mr. Rahul Singh, shared his experience about these varieties with fellow farmers. Farmers from his village also appreciated the performance of these varieties and showed their willingness to take-up these varieties for cultivation in coming Rabi season.