

Efficient management of Paddy straw through baler: A success Story

Name farmer : Ravipal Singh
Father's name : S. Mehar Singh
Village : Veerewala Kalan
Qualification : 12th Standard (Art stream)
Land holding : 10 acres
Crops sown : Paddy, Basmati and Wheat



Sh. Ravipal Singh is cultivating paddy, basmati and wheat. He is in the business of growing the traditional crops with traditional methods ie by transplanting method in paddy and basmati and by burning the paddy starw for wheat cultivation. He was not happy with burning of paddy straw, due to environmental pollution. He once came to village Pindi Blochan, adopted by KVK, Faridkot under NICRA Project during, last week of September 2013. He enquires about ways of paddy straw management, through which he can earn money and simultaneously manage paddy straw with the KVK Scientist. He was made aware about the various ways through which he can manage paddy straw in the field itself. He was told in detail about the straw management system in combine, straw bailer, direct wheat sowing through happy seeder, compost making and incorporation of paddy straw, etc. He liked the idea of straw bailing. He was also guided if he want to see the practical working of the machine, he can visit Jalalabad area where these machines are in operation. He visited Jalalabad during mid October 2013 after finishing his harvesting of paddy. He got highly inspired after seeing the working and discussed about the various operational requirements, merits and demerits of the machine. Afterward he made his mind that he will go for straw baling. During November, 2013 he again contacted KVK, about the requirement for getting subsidy on straw bailer. He was guided that for this machine application are applied during that very month. He applied for the subsidy and did the market survey of the companies that are manufacturing straw bailer. After survey, he opted to purchase New Holland, Model during March, 2016. He purchase it for RS. 14.00 lakhs and got subsidy of Rs. 5.80 lakhs. During 2014 year he operated his bailer for 45 days covering 24 acres daily. During the course of operation he got minor break downs which were repaired by the company persons on field itself on free hold basis. The net profit he made during 2014 Rs. 4, 12, 200/-. During the year, 2015 he used the machine for the same days but he got additional expenditure of about Rs. 1.0 lakh on the repair of the machine and he earned about 3.00 lakhs. But he was very much satisfied with custom hiring business of starw bailing. Obtaining a good income through straw bailing he purchased another machine of model Shaktiman company. He opted for this machine because spare parts of New Holland were

not locally available and that to are costly in comparison to that of shaktiman. This year ie during 2016 he is operating his both machines and covered about 48 acres daily. He is very much satisfied with straw bailing business and will continue this business till the company agreed to buy the biomass. In his opinion the problem of straw burning would be completely removed from Punjab if more plants that can utilize the biomass are opened in the vicinity of group of 10-15 villages group, as transportation of biomass to far of distance is a very big problem and that also reduces the profit to very large extent. Otherwise it is very good opportunity for rural youth for income generation and simultaneously helps is checking the environmental pollution.



View of paddy field after operation Straw Baler