

Paddy Machinery transplanting

Farmers experience anguish and agony in paddy transplanting by manual means as they have to face severe labour shortage problem; further they had to incur additional expenditure on labour during peak season for transplanting. Now time has come to switch over to use a machinery for transplanting as amply demonstrated by Mr.S.Subramanian s/o Shunmugiah thevar of Panpoli village in Tenkasi Block. He says, "several type of machineries have been used for paddy transplanting so far, but no transplanter does the perfect job as much as Japanese model now increasingly being used in Tenkasi block of Tiruneveli district".



He used the Japanese model of transplanter for paddy transplanting, that has the capacity to carry 12 trays of mat nursery along with it. This transplanter plants six rows of seedlings at the spacing of 30 c.m and 21 c.m and covers about one acre area in one hour. He further adds, "Conventional method of transplanting requires Rs. 3700 for seeds, nursery maintenance and labour charges whereas the machinery transplanting needs only Rs. 2100, thus it saves to the tune of Rs. 1600. This machinery transplanting needs 60 trays of mat nursery to transplant one acre and it costs an average of about Rs. 35 per tray including seed cost".

He hopes he would get substantial increased yield as this machinery transplanting uses only 14 old seedlings that inherently possess quick establishment and high tillering capacity.

Mr.S.Subramanian, District joint Director of Agriculture who visited the site during machinery transplanting advised the farmer to go in for cono weeder or power weeder for weeding at 10, 20, 30 and 40 days after transplanting as the spacing adopted by this machinery transplanting of 30 c.m to 21 c.m is wide enough to use these weeders. D.Devasahayam, Deputy Director of Agriculture told the farmers who had gathered to see this transplanter that machine planting is useful to all farmers including small and marginal farmers.





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