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Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

Session 1.1



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Need and types of Safe farming practices

- Understand the detrimental effects of unsafe farming practices on health and environment.
- Get acquainted with different kinds of safe farming practices that exist and their characteristics.
- Understand core principles of organic farming:

The principles of Organic Agriculture serve to inspire the Organic Agriculture is based on:



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1.The principle of Health:

- Organic Agriculture should sustain and enhance the health of soil, plant, animal, human and
- Planet as one and indivisible.

2.The principle of Ecology:

- Organic Agriculture should be based on living ecological systems and cycles, work with them,
- Emulate them and help sustain them.



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3. The principle of Fairness:

- Organic Agriculture should build on relationships that ensure fairness with regards to the
- Common environment and life opportunities.

4. The principle of Care:

- Organic Agriculture should be managed in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect
- the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.



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Transition to organic farming

- Understand the effects of organic farming on costs and revenue
- Understand the time and effort commitments required for transition to organic farming.

Conversion Requirements

i. The establishment of an organic management system and building of soil fertility requires an interim period, known as the conversion period. While the conversion period may not always be of sufficient duration to improve soil fertility and for reestablishing the balance of the ecosystem, it is the period in which all the actions required to reach these goals are started.



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- ii. A farm may be converted through a clear plan of how to proceed with the conversion. This plan shall be updated by the producer, if necessary and shall cover all requirements to be met under these standards.
- iii. The requirements prescribed under these standards shall be met during the conversion period. All these requirements shall be applicable from the commencement of the conversion period till its conclusion.
- iv. The start of the conversion period may be calculated from the date first inspection of the operator by the Certification Body.



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v. A full conversion period shall not be required where de facto requirements prescribed under these standards have been met for several years and where the same can be verified on the basis of available documentation. In such cases inspection shall be carried out in reasonable time intervals, before the first harvest



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3. Understand the phased approach to be taken to transition to organic farming
 - Duration of conversion period
 - i. In case of annual and biennial crops, plant products produced can be certified organic when the requirements prescribed under these Standards have been met during the conversion period of at least two (2) years (organic Management) before sowing (the start of the production cycle).



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ii. In case of perennial plants other than grassland (excluding pastures and meadows), the first harvest may be certified as organic after at least thirty six (36) months of organic management according to the requirements prescribed under these Standards.



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iii. The accredited Certification Bodies shall decide in certain cases, for extension or reduction of conversion period depending on the past status/use of the land and environmental condition.

iv. Organic products in conversion shall be sold as "produce of organic agriculture in conversion" or of a similar description, when the requirements prescribed under these Standards have been met for at least twelve months