

A Success Story: Shalimar Rice -4, A Way Forward for Farmers Doubling Income

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Introduction

Rice is the main source of basic food in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, especially among Kashmiris. The valley accounts for around two-thirds of the state's entire cropland (J&K). In the Kashmir valley, almost 75% of the state's rice is produced. But the farmers particularly farmers of District Budgam mostly grows the traditional varieties like China-1039, that is low yielding variety and gives less returns to the farmers. The farmer namely Ab. Rahman Bhat, used to get the net returns of Rs. 57150 from the local variety of paddy (China-1039). But under FLD Programme the KVK Budgam provided the HYV (SR-4) of paddy to the farmers of Budgam District.

KVK Intervention:

After the trainings, demonstrations and awareness regarding HYVs of Paddy (SR-3 and SR-4) provided by Budgam, the farmer cultivates the Shalimar Rice-4 on an area of about 0.5 ha and get higher net returns of Rs. 91200 ha⁻¹. This variety was released in 2017. It is high yielding, early maturing, cold tolerant variety, resistant to blast, erect plant type, easy threshability and recommended for cultivation in plains of the valley (upto 1700 m amsl). It matures in 135- 140 days and has a yield Potential of 8.5 – 9.0t/ha.

✚ **Output:** The farmers of District Budgam often complained about the low yield of paddy. The farmer Ab. Rahman Bhat has shown path to others to emulate and get benefitted. Now farmers too are interested to adopt the HYV of Paddy. The farmer got the maximum yield of 80 q/ha, gross returns of Rs 1,31,950 ha⁻¹ with B:C ratio of 2.24 in demonstrated field as compared to 1.38 In local check.

✚ **Outcome:** The HYV of paddy (SR-4) can be horizontally exploited in almost every village of district where rice being the main crop. Because of the higher yield and yield

attributes of the HYV of paddy (SR-4) released by SKUAST-K, the farmers will be impressed with the variety and will adopt the same variety by replacing their old traditional checks. Moreover, farmers from the adjacent areas of KVK will also cultivate the same variety over a large-scale area. As seeing is believing, the adjacent concerned farmers are showing interest in the replaced HYV and thus horizontal expansion of the new variety is under taken in District Budgam.

✚ **Impact:** The HYV of paddy (SR-4) increased the crop yield and farmers' income. Almost all the farmers who get benefitted under different OFT/FLD programs from the KVK Budgam cultivates the SR-4 variety after the harvest of rabi crop and got economically benefited as under.

Gross Cost, Gross Return, Net Return and B: C Ratio of Paddy Variety SR-4

Check Plots				Demonstration Plots			
Gross cost (Rs/ha)	Gross Return (Rs/ha)	Net Return (Rs/ha)	B:C ratio	Gross cost (Rs/ha)	Gross Return (Rs/ha)	Net Return (Rs/ha)	B:C ratio
41,550	98,700	57,150	1.38	40750	131950	91200	2.24



SR-4 at harvesting stage