



An Enterprise of

TULJA FARMER PRODUCER COMPANY

Why Biochar:

In recent times, farmers have reduced use of organic fertilizers and increased use of chemical fertilizers resulting in the reduction of soil carbon content, low water holding capacity and many other soil health problems. Biochar which is a rich source of carbon increases the carbon content in the soil and increases its water and nutrient holding capacity. Biochar application also increases the disease and drought resistance of the crop.

Circular Economy of Cotton:

To address the issue of cotton residue burning in open field in the Yavatmal district, the FPO TULJA Farmer Producer Company promoted by BAIF Development Research Foundation and GIZ has set up a biochar making unit. The FPO purchases the crop residue after the harvest of cotton from farmers in the area. Otherwise, the farmers burn this residue adding to the air pollution, reduced soil organic carbon and loss of beneficial microbial diversity in the soil. As FPO buys this residue, it enables farmers to earn extra income. The land cleaning cost incurred by the farmers is reduced considerably. The FPO processes the residue and converts it in to fine biochar particles to reuse cotton crop residue to increase soil productivity. This also generates an employment opportunity to local skilled and unskilled labour.

TULJA Farmer Producer Company:

Business Overview

Location:	At-Athmurdi, Post-Wadhona bazar, Tahsil-Ralegaon, Dist-Yavatmal
Total shareholders:	200
Flow of activities at FPO:	Biochar Unit, Agri Input Center (Krishi Sewa Kendra), Custom Hiring Center, Dal Mil
Record maintain:	Agri Input register, Asset register, Voucher file, Inward-Outward register, Bill book, Delivery Challan, Share receipt book, Proceeding book, Stock book
Plan for next season:	TULJA FPO have plan to purchase 125 tons of cotton crop residue for production 25 tons of Biochar.

In Yavatmal district, farmers prefer a cash crop like cotton. However, inadequate services related to the agriculture input, value addition to their produce and opportunity to increase their income are major areas where work was needed. Hence, the FPO TULJA Farmer Producer Company was established in 2019. The FPO decided to start biochar unit to address the issues like cotton residue recycling and prevention of any further soil degradation. In the last season, cotton residue of 27.5 tonnes was collected and converted into 7.2 tonnes of biochar. This year, the target is set to 100 tonnes of cotton residue collection. Since, this FPO has started its operations, it's working to create awareness amongst the farmers about the use of Biochar, bio-pesticides, bio-fertilizers and processing of agriculture produce. With the increasing awareness, the demand for biochar is also increasing. This year, FPO has decided to sell all the produced biochar to the farmers. As a result, farmers in the area are adapting integrated farming system.



" we want to expand our operations forward and backward to provide all possible services to the farmers. We've received overwhelming response from them. We hope to expand and reach out to the farmers in the entire region. "

Mr. Mohan Ghode
Chairman,
Tulja Farmer Producer Company

" Earlier, I used to burn the cotton crop residue after the harvest season. Now, we sell this crop residue to the Tulja FPC at the rate of Rs. 2.50 per kg. I have earned Rs. 10,000/- from the residue. "

Mr. Dilip Dambhare
Farmer



" As farmers are earning from cotton crop residue, this extra income is contributing to cover their land cleaning costs. They are very happy with the Tulja Company. "

Mr. Satish Patil
Director,
Tulja Farmer Producer Company