

Hydroponics Technology introduction for Fodder Development in Tamil Nadu

Introduction:

Hydroponic technology for development of fodder for livestock has been adopted in Tamil Nadu under National Agriculture Development Programme after conducting an intervention in a model unit in 2014-15. Hydroponic fodder production requires less water, less land, has very short growth period and results in highly nutritious feed for animals. It can be done across the year and is extremely effective in augmenting livestock productivity.

Impact:

The intervention concluded with recommendations of using hydroponic maize fodder replacing conventional green fodder for cattle without affecting its milk yield and using hydroponic horse gram and sun hemp fodder for calves. Through the use of this technology, the challenge of fodder scarcity in the country can be better addressed. The low cost hydroponic machine produces hydroponic green forage which ensures the nutrient requirement of livestock.

Source: State of Indian Agriculture, 2017