Fodder Development in Private Land of Village Panchayat Banoli

Since 2008, Himmotthan Society, Dehradun has been advocating and making efforts for Fodder Development work under Integrated Fodder Development and Livelihood Project (IFLDP) in the mountain villages. Village Panchayat Banoli, a part of Nyaya Panchayat Lolti was included in the project in the year 2008. Since then, Sankalp Samiti, a partner organization of Himmotthan Society is continuously providing technical support and guidance to the villagers. During the efforts made by the both organizations, villagers were asked to develop fodder project in their village under MNREGA Scheme. Under IFLDP, villagers are encouraged to use community and forest panchayat land for plantation of different fodder grass varieties (Napier, Auns, Dolni, Brome etc.) and fodder leaf plants. At the same time, villagers are also advised to use their private land (barren, field boundaries, back of the house etc.) for fodder development. Village Banoli has set an example in this field.

IFLDP was implemented in village Banoli in 2008 and since then, villagers have used hundreds of quintals of grass for fodder and sale of grassroots stock is also increasing year by year. In 2012, village can be called as a Fodder Bank Villge. During 2012, 25 to 30 families have sold 85 quintals of Napeir grassroots at the rate of Rupees 300 per quintal which amounts to Rupees 25,500/- It means that on an average, each family has earned Rupees 1,000/-. In the year 2013, 40 to 45 families have earned Rupees 40,500/- by selling of 135 quintals of Napier grassroots. At present, approx 60% of the households have planted and/or are planting fodder grass and plants in their private lands. Growth in the earning of the villagers can be clearly seen and it continues to grow at a reasonable rate.