



Jeevamrit: Preparation and Application Techniques



Jeevamrit is a traditional fermented liquid organic concoction commonly used as soil microbial enhancer in Zero-budget natural farming (now Subhash Palekar Natural Farming). It is a rich source of Bacteria, fungi, actinomycetes and also contains other beneficial microorganisms. It is claimed that the application of jeevamrit stimulates crop growth and repels some of the insect-pests. It is prepared by using simple on-farm inputs like cow dung, urine, pulse flour, jaggery, water and microbial rich healthy soil. The sugars present in Jaggery acts as ready source of energy for growing microbes, while pulse flour (*besan*) acts as a nitrogen source in the formulation. Cow dung and urine provide nitrogen and other essential nutrients for growing microorganisms. Soil, Cow urine and dung provide the culture of beneficial microbes in the jeevamrit. During last few years, there has been an increasing interest on jeevamrit and other liquid organic formulations for use in organic and natural farming. The scientific characterization and validation of jeevamrit is under progress.



Benefits of Jeevamrit Application

Jeevamrit is rich source of beneficial microbes. Its application in the soil helps in solubilizing/mineralizing the nutrients present in the soil/organic manures and thus, soil is able to provide the nutrients as per the needs of our crop. In organic farming, application of organic manures in the soil must be supplemented with some microbial consortia or nutrient solubilizes/mineralizers which converts unavailable/fixed nutrients into available form and thus, increases the nutrient supplying capacity of soil. The unfavorable odour of jeevamrit acts as repellent to some of the insect-pests of crops. Hence, Jeevamrit is the main concoctions in Zero-budget natural farming (now Subhash Palekar Natural Farming); applied to enrich soil microbes with objectives of nutrient management. It is also claimed that, on-farm preparation of this organic formulation with cheaper ingredients helps to reduce the cost of cultivation and thus, decreases the market dependency of farmers.

Preparation of Jeevamrit

Jeevamrit is prepared by using simple on-farm inputs like cow dung, cow urine, pulse flour, jaggery, healthy soil and water. The water, cow urine and dung should be fresh and pulse flour and jaggery may be of low quality and cheaper to reduce the cost of production. The soil should be either virgin or forest soil or from own organic farm where crop/vegetation health is best. The preparation protocol of Jeevamrit is given with the flow diagram as below:



Ingredients of
Jeevamrit



Mixing of ingredients
in drum



Stirring of content with wooden stick

Fresh water (to make the final volume 200 lit) + fresh cow dung (10 kg) + fresh cow urine (10 lit) + jaggery (2 kg)+ pulse flour (2 kg) + healthy/virgin soil (100-150g)



Add all the material in a plastic drum (200 lit. capacity) and mix thoroughly with the help of a wooden stick



Keep the drum in shade and cover its mouth with gunny bag/cotton cloth



Stir the mixture for 5-10 minutes twice a day (morning and evening) with wooden stick



Jeevamrit become ready for application at 5th day and it can be applied up to 7th day when there is maximum microbial count range in the formulation

Application of Jeevamrit

- 1. With irrigation water:** Apply jeevamrit @500 lit /ha with irrigation water once or twice in a month as per the availability and needs. One can install jeevamrit drum/tanks with proper dropping and flow regulation arrangements over the irrigation channel near the tube well/source of water for automation of its application.
- 2. As foliar spray:** Spray jeevamrit @5% during initial stage of crops (up to 25 days after sowing). Thereafter, 10% foliar application is suggested at every 20-25 days interval. Depending upon the duration of crops, three to six applications may be required. Foliar application of jeevamrit can be done with other liquid organic inputs/ nutrient sources.
- 3. As basal application in fruit crops:** In adult fruit trees, application of 2-5 lit. of Jeevamrit is suggested in the basin around tree trunk once in a month.

Disclaimer: Jeevamrit is a traditional concoction for use in natural and organic farming. Editors are not responsible for non-performance of any of the claimed benefits of the product and any hazards arising due to use of this product.

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