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# Impact of Neem Coated Urea over Normal Urea in Madhya Pradesh

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The government has decided that 100% urea both imported and produced in the country will have to be neem coated. Neem coated urea is unfit for industrial use while this is good for the soil, crop and beneficial to farmers and also works as a bio-pesticide.

Looking to this fact this study has been conducted in Madhya Pradesh to analyse input usage, cost incurred and returns and to identify comparative benefits of NCU over NU. The primary data were collected from 200 paddy growers across districts of the state. The data were collected for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 and have been considered as before year and after year respectively for the study. The study reveals that after usage of NCU the total cost incurred in chemical fertilizer was found to be decreased 12 to 11 per cent. The quantity applied of NU was found to be decreased from 41kg/acre to 19 kg per acre in cultivation of paddy, while the quantity of NCU was found to be increased from 0 to 28kg per acre. The yield of paddy was found to be increased by 4.76 per cent after usage of NCU and an average paddy grower was found to be received more net return and more return over the investment in cultivation of paddy. Thus it is a good initiative by the Govt. of India and made it more popularized, more and more field demonstration are required to be conducted regarding uses of NCU in cultivation of crop other than crop production purpose i.e. silage making, mixed with weedicide and fisheries feed preparation. Creation of awareness is also required amongst farmers regarding integrated nutrients management with NCU.



## Impact of NHM (National Horticulture Mission) Scheme in Bihar

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Horticultural development had not been a priority in India until recent years. Till 1980, the main focus of the country was on cereals' production. During 1980-92, there was consolidation of institutional support and planned process for the development of horticulture sector. In post-1993 focused attention was given to horticulture development by increasing plan allocations. Subsequently, with a view to promote holistic growth of horticulture sector, the DAC, MoA, GoI has launched a centrally sponsored scheme of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in 2005-06, aimed to promote area based regionally differentiated cluster approach for development of horticultural crops having comparative advantages as end-to-end approach. After completing four years of its implementation an impact study of the scheme in Bihar was undertaken by the Agro-Economic Research Centre, T M Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur with a sample of 100 farm households on two selected crops viz., Mango and Litchi across two districts, i.e., Muzaffarpur and Vaishali.

The analysis of primary and secondary data on expansion of area and production was found impressive in post-NHM period for both the crops, but CAGR of production for 2011-12 to 2015-16 was negative in case of litchi crop. The findings on production structure and