

Tribal Farmer's Venture As A Fishery Entrepreneur



Shri Madhukar Tanaji Madavi
Kamancheru, Tal. Aheri,
Dist. Gadchiroli

“Fish production was good earlier, so was my income, however, I have been experiencing loss of productivity since last few years, STRC's technical support will surely help me get back to glory...” says, Shri Madhukar Tanaji Madavi, a resident farmer of Kamancheru village in Aheri Tehsil (Gadchiroli District).

On board with us since 2017-18 under the STRC Aquaculture project being implemented by MAFSU, Nagpur, Madhukar is a wonderful story of self-driven effort in scientific fishery. Benefitted under the *Magel Tyala Shet-tale* scheme of the Agriculture Department back in 2016, Madhukar got assistance to excavate a 900 sq. meter farm pond which he replicated with another pond of the same size next year. Using low-cost modern aquaculture practices such as; composite fish culture, polyculture and mix-seed stock with supplementary feeding, he used to have optimum productivity. Madhukar with technical guidance from STRC in 2018 to avoid high mortality, moved away from Catla, Rohu and Mrigal and started cultivating Common Carp, Grass Carp, Pangasius and Roopchand. Despite intermittent flooding, contamination of water body due to various factors he has managed to earn an additional income in excess of 30,000/- per year, which he says has gone down in the last few years due to the factors stated.

Madhukar, now, a member of STRC Fish-Farmers' Interest Group (FIG) and is trained in Seed Production and Hatchery Management. He has expressed interest in establishing a Portable Carp Hatchery with support from STRC and see a lot of scope in scientific fishery in the region and is willing to help in bringing more and more enterprising fish farmers on board.

