

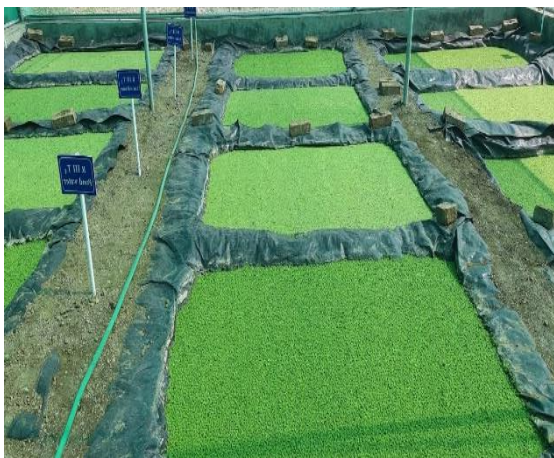
Azolla cultivation and promotion as a supplementary nutritive feed to livestock

Azolla is a fern, it has enormous potential as a livestock feed due to its high content of protein, essential amino acids, vitamins, growth promoter and minerals. It is used as a supplementary nutritive feed to livestock for dairy cattle, sheep and goat, poultry etc. The Azolla can be grown under minimum water and small space with movable plastic bed. This activity is being more accepted by household women, where they are actively involved in management and taking care of livestock. The project was implemented in Sangmner and Akole talukas of Ahmednagar district, covering 100 livestock maintaining families in 14 villages. The cultivation and livestock feeding trials were initiated at Urulikanchan and Wagholi campuses of BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune.

Salient features of the technology:

- The Azolla cultivation trials under different water resources (i.e. Well, River, Borewell, Sewage and House waste water) was initiated at the campus of BAIF.
- Established shade houses for Azolla cultivation and maintaining the mother culture, where the demand from farmers can be met through this unit on regular basis.
- Farmers can use Azolla as supplementary feed to their cattle and poultry to increase their earnings by spending less on commercial nutritional products.

Technology Developed:



Azolla cultivation trial under shadenet at BAIF campus



Azolla as a supplementary feed to cattle

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