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Bhuwan Purohit: Pioneering Progressive Farming and Inspiring Sustainable Farming Practices in Almora District's Hilly Terrain Vipan Mandwal, Associate Climate Resilient Practices, UGVS-REAP (IFAD)

#### Introduction:

In the picturesque village of Todhara, nestled in the hilly terrain of Almora District, Uttarakhand, a progressive farmer named Bhuwan Purohit has emerged as a beacon of inspiration for sustainable farming. Through the UGVS-ILSP project, Purohit has revolutionized his agricultural practices by implementing innovative techniques, including the strategic placement of a LDP water tank in the lower part of his field. By utilizing a 1 HP electric water pump and employing a modern sprinkle irrigation system, Purohit successfully cultivates a diverse range of crops, such as potatoes, pulses, peaches, plums, apples, ginger, garlic, and other seasonal vegetables. His unwavering dedication and remarkable achievements are inspiring other farmers in the hilly regions to embrace sustainable farming practices.

#### Photographs of Bhuwan Purohit: Progressive Farmer:



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#### Harnessing Water Resources for Optimal Utilization:

One of the key aspects of Purohit's farming methodology is his efficient water management system. With the support of the UGVS-ILSP project, he strategically places a LDP water tank in the lower part of his field, taking advantage of the natural slope of the hilly terrain. This enables him to effectively collect and store gadhera water and rainwater. By utilizing a 1 HP electric water pump, Purohit lifts the water from the tank and distributes it throughout his field, ensuring optimal utilization and minimizing water wastage.

#### Sprinkle Irrigation: Maximizing Crop Yield and Conservation:

Purohit's adoption of a modern sprinkle irrigation system has been instrumental in maximizing crop yields and conserving water resources. This innovative approach allows for the even distribution of water across the field, ensuring that crops receive the required moisture without excess runoff. The implementation of sprinkle irrigation not only enhances crop productivity but also contributes to water conservation, an essential aspect in the hilly regions where water scarcity can pose challenges to agriculture.

#### Photographs of Sprinkle Irrigation Techniques:



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#### **Crop Diversification for Resilient Farming:**

Recognizing the importance of crop diversification, Purohit has embraced the cultivation of a wide variety of crops. By growing potatoes, pulses, peaches, plums, apples, ginger, garlic, and other seasonal vegetables, he mitigates the risks associated with crop failure and improves the overall resilience of his farm. This diversification strategy not only provides him with a stable source of income but also contributes to the local food supply, ensuring a more sustainable and self-reliant agricultural system in the hilly regions.

## **Inspiring the Farming Community:**

Bhuwan Purohit's story and hard work have become a source of inspiration for other farmers in the hilly regions. His success in implementing sustainable farming practices, optimizing water usage, and achieving remarkable crop yields has caught the attention of his fellow farmers. Purohit actively shares his knowledge and experiences, acting as a mentor and guiding other farmers towards adopting similar sustainable approaches. His dedication to sustainable farming has sparked a positive change and a renewed enthusiasm for environmentally friendly practices in the farming community.

## **Conclusion:**

Bhuwan Purohit's journey as a progressive farmer in Almora District's hilly terrain showcases the transformative impact of sustainable farming practices. Through his commitment to efficient water management, implementation of sprinkle irrigation, and emphasis on crop diversification, Purohit has not only achieved remarkable success in his own farming endeavors but also inspired and empowered other farmers in the region. His story serves as a reminder of the power of innovation and the potential for sustainable agriculture to thrive, even in challenging hilly terrains. Bhuwan Purohit is paving the way towards a more resilient and sustainable future for farmers in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand.