

Farm Management Reforms and Impact

The ICAR Institutes throughout the country have large pool of land resources, which are managed by spending extravagant operational expenditure. There has been a mismatch between the expenditure incurred and revenue generated in the research farms, as the expenditure exceeds the revenue generation. This has resulted in poor performance of agricultural research farms. In this direction, a necessary action was initiated at the council level to demonstrate the possibility of increasing returns from the research farms. Accordingly, ICAR-CTRI has made a conscious effort by introducing set of farm management interventions during 2015-16 in its own research farms with the average annual area of 101 hectares located at different regions.

Farm Management Interventions

The interventions namely rational use of need-based inputs, streamlining of outsourced activities, focus on productivity enhancement, timely execution of farm operations, avoiding post-harvest losses and smart marketing of farm produce. The main objective was to bridge the gap between the expenditure incurred in management and the net income accrued from the farms. The impact has been assessed four years before (2011-12 to 2014-15) and four years after (2015-16 to 2018-19) the management interventions and it was revealed that there was an significant increase in average annual net returns and brought a paradigm shift in revival of research farms.

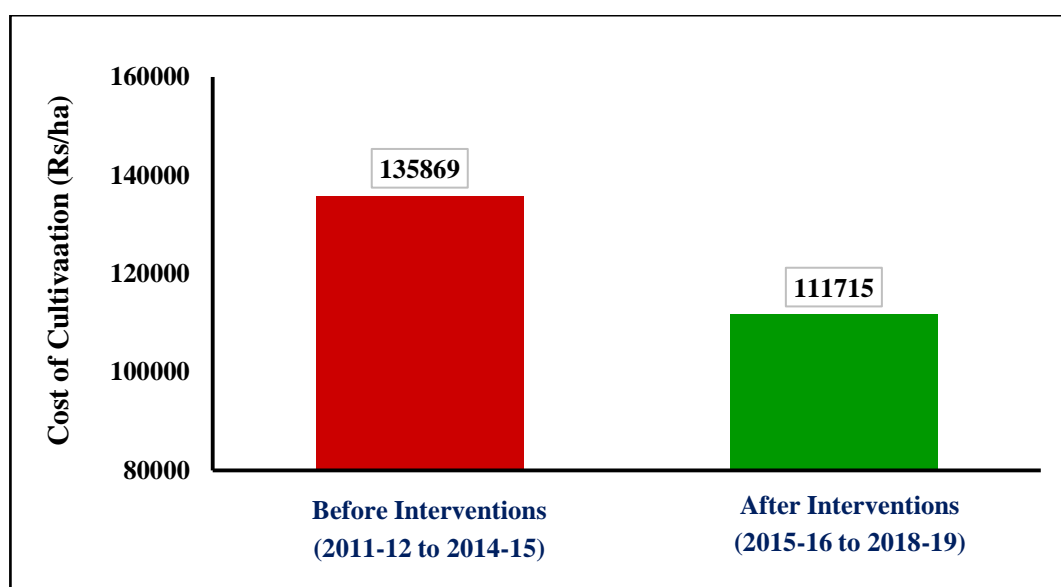


Fig 1: Changes in average cost of cultivation during 4 years period before and after management interventions

- Average annual cost of cultivation has decreased from **Rs 135869/ha** to **Rs111715/ha** in all ICAR-CTRI research farms
- Average cost has decreased by **Rs 24154/ha** (17.78%) during the period after management interventions

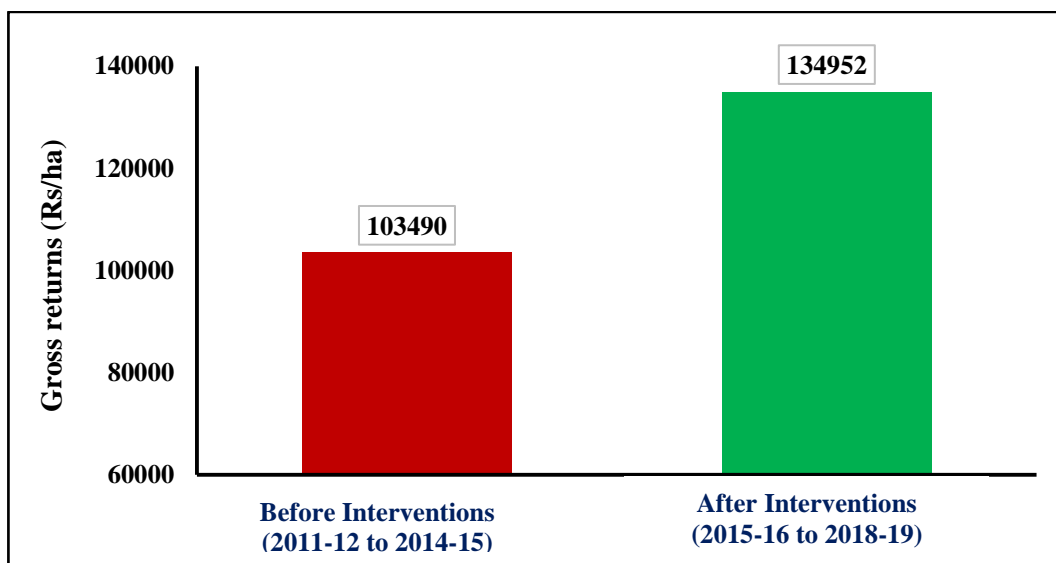


Fig 2: Changes in average gross returns during 4 years period before and after management interventions

- Average annual returns has increased from **Rs 103490/ha** to **Rs134952/ha** in all ICAR-CTRI research farms
- Average annual returns has increased **Rs 31462/ha** (30.40%) during the period after management interventions

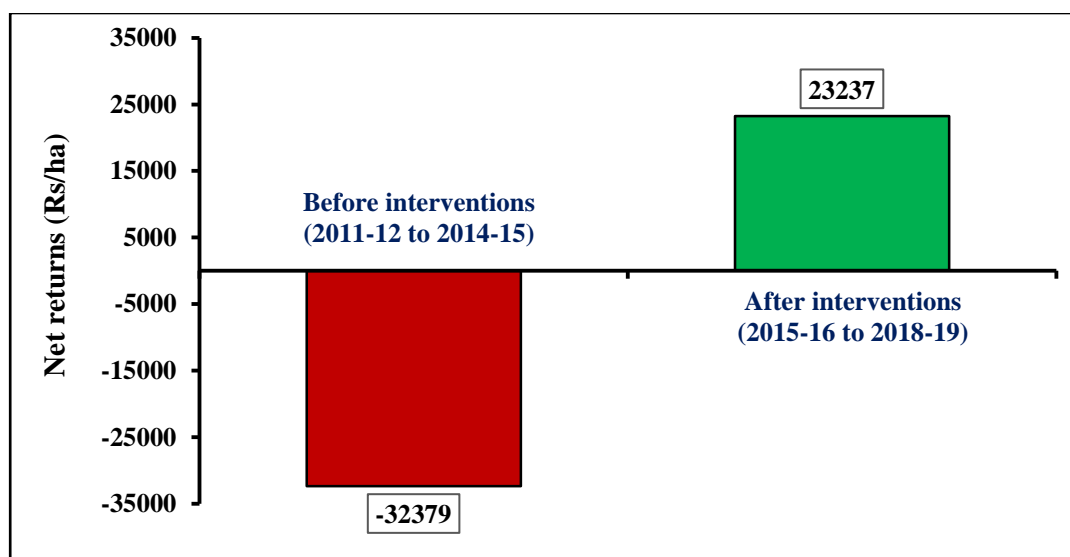


Fig 3: Changes in average net returns during 4 years period before and after management interventions

- The annual net returns per hectare exhibited remarkable growth and shifted from negative (**-Rs 32,379/ha**) to positive (**Rs 23,237/ha**) in all ICAR-CTRI research farms
- The net change in the annual net returns was worked out to be **Rs 55616/ha** during the period after management interventions