CULTIVATION METHODS AND REMEDIES RELATED TO CHILI CULTIVATION

L D Tenisha Muthunayake

Mr. N. Sunil kumara

*Faculty of Agricultural Sciences*

*SABARAGAMUWA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA*

tenishamuthunayake@gmail.com

Chili is one of the most important cash crops grown in Sri Lanka. It has become an essential ingredient in Sri Lankan meals. Chili cultivation is very popular among all kind of farmers. Chili can be grown in mainly dry zone and intermediate zones. This cultivation not require higher number of inputs but well management is required.

 High input costs, the inability to control and prevent diseases, and the inability to make a profit from chili cultivation are the main obstacles faced by many farmers. There is a concept that crops in solanaceous family should not grow in same field in two consecutive years because it will reduce the harvest of the second growing period. But We found a farmer who successfully grows chilies in successive seasons by managing the available resources. Considerable amount of Profit has been earned by him by this cultivation method. the main measures adopted by him are, a). Before planting the seedlings of the second season, he has removed only the soil where the roots of the old plants have grown. b) mulching and drip irrigation system has been used by him which reduced his labor cost requirements. c) use indigenous methods such as liquid fertilizers produced using fruit pericarps, onion wastes, etc.) use indigenous methods to control insect damage. e). Cultivate crops according to the path of the Moon and "Nakath". By practicing those methods integrated with other professional guidelines he has achieved a profitable income.

Key words : Chili, Mulching, Drip irrigation, Indigenous Methods