



NAKO
NATURALS

Empower
Farmer
Success



Sustainable Peppermint Report

Cultivation - 2023/24



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Introduction

We started mid 2023 to engage farmers with information events about the sustainable cultivation project and gaining farmers interests.

The nako naturals Sustainability Program was initiated to support and empower peppermint and spearmint farmers in Uttar Pradesh through the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and sustainable farming techniques.

This report provides an overview of the program's achievements, challenges, and future plans, highlighting our commitment to sustainable agriculture and farmer welfare.

Dear partners,

I am pleased to present the report on the nako naturals Sustainability Program for 2024. Our initiative, launched in November 2023, aims to empower peppermint and spearmint farmers in Uttar Pradesh through Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and sustainable methods.

Our program has achieved remarkable results. Despite early rains in late June causing temporary delays and a slight reduction in the expected crop yield, the distillation process, which began in late May and concluded in early July, was managed effectively by our resilient farmers.

Field demonstrations optimized manure use, improved weed management, and conserved water. Soil analysis guided appropriate fertilizer application, reducing input costs. Preventive plant protection measures minimized pesticide use, fostering a healthier environment.

Herbage growth increased by an average of 22%, with some farms achieving up to 72%. Mint oil yield rose by 12-15% compared to the previous year. Optimized fertilizer use saved costs and corrected potassium deficiencies, enhancing plant growth. The shift to light, need-based irrigation saved an average of 28,600 liters per hectare, demonstrating our commitment to water conservation.

Our interventions, such as VAM trials, improved soil phosphorus availability, boosting herbage and oil yield. We also distributed food-grade quality containers to farmers. The benefits of our program are clear: higher crop yields, increased oil production, and lower input costs, all while promoting environmental sustainability through reduced pesticide and water usage.

Looking ahead to 2025, we plan to address social factors such as working conditions and wages, collaborate with technical teams to improve distillation efficiency, expand soil analysis and GAP to more farmers, and promote early planting and distillation for better yields.

In conclusion, the nako naturals Sustainability Program has empowered farmers with sustainable practices, resulting in significant yield improvements and cost savings. We remain committed to evolving our program, focusing on social factors and technical enhancements for even better outcomes in the upcoming seasons.

Haris Naina **Managing Director - nako naturals Pvt. Ltd.**



Highlights



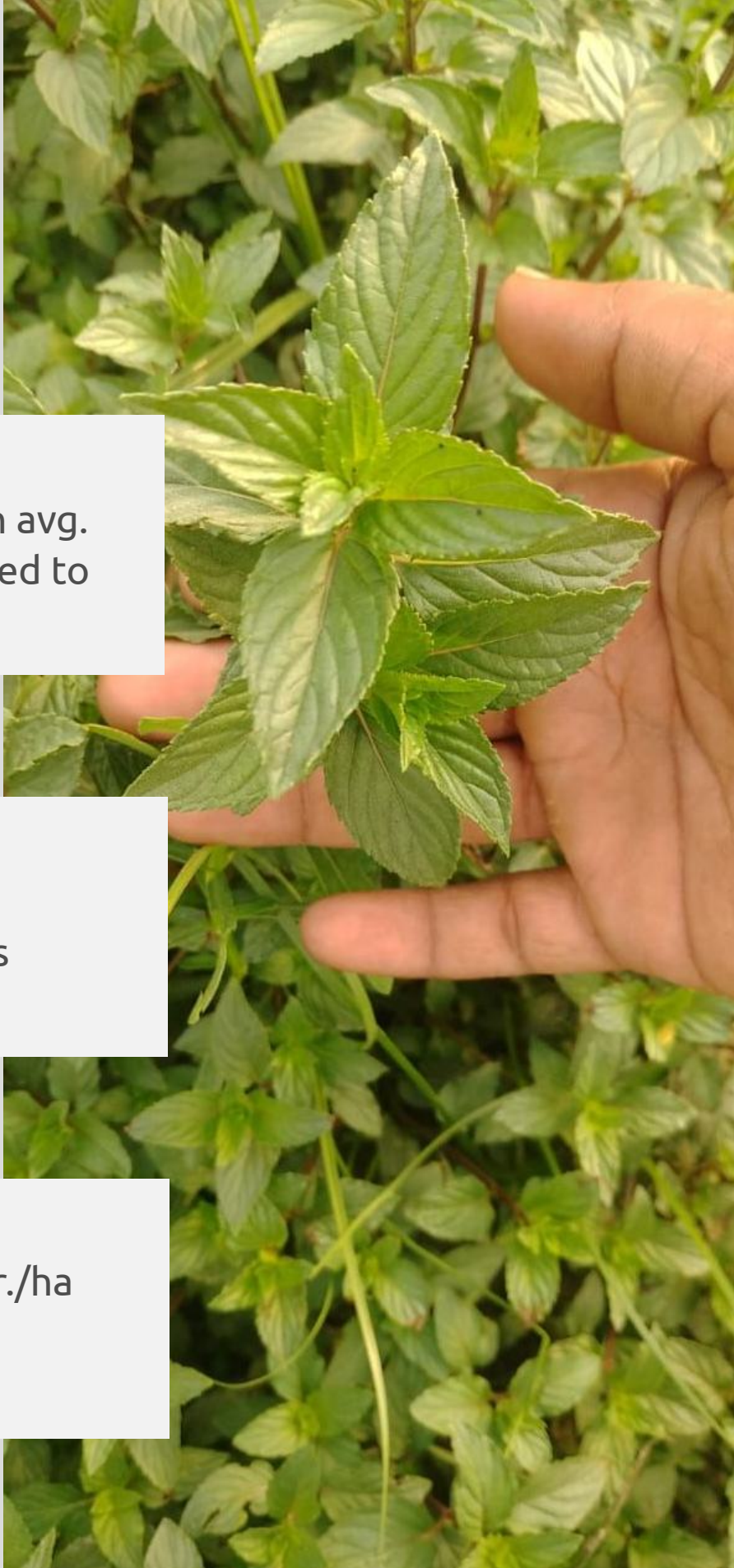
Yield increase in avg.
12-15% compared to
last year



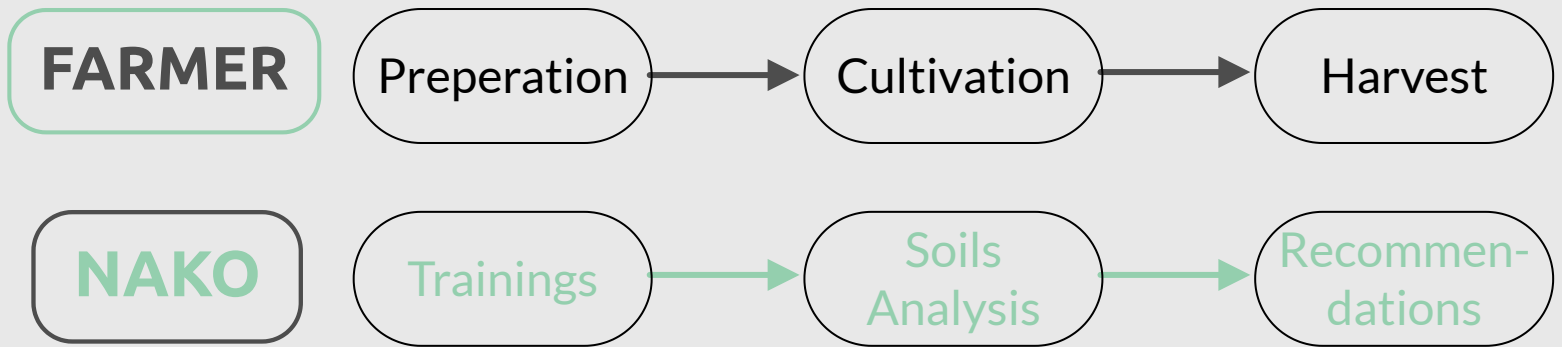
350+ farmers
8 farmer groups



in avg. 28600 ltr./ha
water saved



Sustainable Peppermint Project Map



Knowhow

Experienced agronomist of nako naturals were transferring knowledge and best practices to farmers throughout the project time November-July



Improvements

All farmers were benefitted from the new methods and informations to increase herbage, yield and same time reduce their costs and saved water.



Contamination management

As one of the key elements in a pure and natural essential oil is the avoidance of contamination. Therefore nako naturals sponsored new food grade HDPE containers to all farmers free of charge.

Further farmer benefits



Improved Soil Health

Reduction of pest
infestation

Increase profit margins

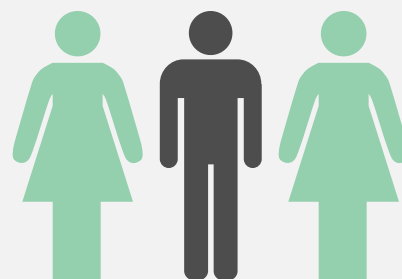


Social Impact of Peppermint farming



f.l.t.r - Anitha (NAKO Agronomist), Tej (Peppermint Farmer), Sönke (NAKO), Vineeth (NAKO Agronomist Trainee)

Peppermint farming significantly impacts local communities, particularly in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh. It generates employment for farmers and laborers, reducing the need for migration to cities. Women are empowered through their involvement in farming activities, gaining financial independence and contributing to household incomes. The increased income from peppermint farming allows families to invest in their children's education, enhancing future prospects. Community development is also fostered as higher incomes lead to better housing, healthcare, and sanitation. Sustainable agricultural practices maintain soil fertility, conserve water, and reduce chemical use, benefiting the environment. These practices also ensure a cleaner, safer ecosystem for the community. Furthermore, peppermint farming helps preserve traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. Collectively, these factors contribute to the upliftment and sustained development of farming communities.



Conclusion

In conclusion, the nako naturals Sustainability Program has demonstrated significant positive impacts on both the agricultural productivity and socio-economic well-being of peppermint and spearmint farmers. By implementing sustainable farming practices, we have achieved remarkable yield improvements, cost savings, and environmental benefits. These successes underscore the potential for sustainable agriculture to drive meaningful change in rural communities.

We invite partners and stakeholders to join us in expanding these sustainable agriculture initiatives. Together, we can further enhance the production of aromatic herbs for essential oil, promoting environmental stewardship and economic growth. By collaborating with nako Group, you can play a vital role in empowering farmers, preserving traditional knowledge, and fostering sustainable development. Let's work together to create a future where sustainable agriculture is the norm, ensuring prosperity and well-being for farming communities worldwide.

Join us in this mission and be a part of the transformative journey towards sustainable agriculture and essential oil production. We are planning to start same for Palmarosa, Davana, Spices and perhaps any other of your interest.



CONTACT US

nako naturals group
sales@nakonaturals.com
www.nakonaturals.com

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