

SUCCESS STORY

Centre for Bio-resources

Institute of Natural Resources

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KONG TRINTIMAI'S STORY

Kong Trintimai Lyngkhoi resides in Mawphanlur village and relies entirely on agriculture for a living. She has a strong passion for cultivating medicinal plants, but due to a lack of resources and knowledge, she faced challenges in starting her venture.

The Megh Aroma Mission stepped in to help Kong Trintimai Lyngkhoi achieve her goal. This organization is dedicated to encouraging the growth of medicinal and aromatic plants in Meghalaya. In 2019, Kong Trintimai attended an informative session organized by the Megh Aroma Mission, which focused on the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs). During this event, Kong Trintimai expressed her desire to cultivate these plants. Recognizing her potential, the team provided her with training and assistance to help her get started.

The cultivation of geraniums is widely regarded as a difficult task due to their susceptibility to pests and diseases, as well as their environmental requirements, which include well-draining soil, regular watering, and ample sunlight. Growing geraniums necessitates a significant investment of time and effort. Regular pruning, deadheading, and fertilization are critical for their proper growth, which can be labor-intensive, particularly on a large scale.



Kong Trimtimai Lyngkhoi's persistence and eagerness to learn during her training allowed her to overcome the challenges associated with growing geraniums. With the Megh Aroma team's guidance, she gained knowledge on caring for the plants, using organic fertilizers and pesticides, and harvesting them correctly. Initially, she received only 300 geranium saplings from the Mission, but her hard work and dedication paid off as she successfully cultivated over 5000 geranium saplings with excellence. Additionally, she expanded her pursuits by cultivating lavender, another profitable crop. In addition to growing medicinal and aromatic plants, she generates extra income by keeping bees and selling their honey.

Thanks to her success, Kong Trimtimai Lyngkhoi can now offer geranium saplings to other villagers and Self Help Groups who are interested in cultivating them. The Megh Aroma Mission has also taken steps to promote geranium cultivation in the region by providing training on its cultivation and facilitating the transfer of 2000 geranium saplings from Kong Trimtimai to two Self Help Groups in Mawthapdah village, South West Khasi Hills district.

To encourage entrepreneurship and maximize the potential of medicinal and aromatic plants, the Megh Aroma Mission provided Kong Trimtimai with 50 litres of Field Distillation Units. These units can extract essential oils, which can be utilized for marketing purposes. Geranium oil is mainly used in perfumery and cosmetic industries. It is also used as agrochemicals against insect pests, antimicrobial and antistress oil.

Kong Trimtimai Lyngkhoi's accomplishments in agriculture have made her a role model for other aspiring farmers in her community. Her success story serves as a testament to the transformative impact of hard work, dedication, and support.


