Consolation Award
Community Knowledge: Traditional practice followed in valikandapuram for paddy seed treatment

Traditional practice followed in valikandapuram for paddy seed treatment

Paddy seeds (30 kg) are soaked in water in a vessel or drum for 18 hours, and then transferred into a gunny bag, that has been bottom layered with one kg each of ‘vadhanarayana’ (*Delonix elata*) and ‘kuppaimeni’ (*Acalypha indica*). Above this layer cow dung cakes are to be placed and then filled with paddy seeds (soaked already in water). This has to be filled to three-fourth of the sack four and cow dung cakes are placed over the seeds. Finally once again leaves of ‘vadhanarayana’ and ‘kuppaimeni’ are to be placed over the cow dung cake. Then the sack has to be tied with rope and stones are placed above the gunny bag to keep it processed, for 24 hours. Then the sprouted seeds are taken out and sown for raising in paddy nursery. In this method the seedlings grow very fast and became resistant to disease like ‘sengarai’ (red spot disease). The seedlings after planting will also have more number of grains. Up to 300 seeds have been recorded per plant compared to 145 seeds in untreated white ponni variety.