THE SUSTAINABLE CASTOR INITIATIVE

PRAGATI
Update April 2019
Of the world’s supply of castor seed produced annually in India representing approximately 1.2 million tons.
INTRODUCTION
The Pragati Initiative

WHAT?
Enabling Sustainable castor crop production by:

- Using good agricultural practices to increase yield and farmer income
- Efficiently using water resources and Maintaining soil fertility
- Driving adoption of good waste management practices
- Enabling better health and safety practices, and respecting human rights

WHO?

4 Members of the Pragati Initiative

- Arkema, a global leader in specialty chemicals and advanced materials
- BASF, the world’s leading chemical company
- Jayant Agro-Organics Ltd., a pioneer in castor oil based chemicals in India
- Solidaridad, an international civil society organization

WHERE?

India

The Pragati initiative is focused in Gujarat, where most of the castor crop is grown.

WHEN?
The Pragati Initiative was launched in 2016
Farmers typically harvest castor pods at least 5 times per year 120 to 210 days after planting.

The number of hectares of land dedicated to castor farming in India is 800,000.

Of the weight of castor bean is captured as castor oil. The remainder is generally repurposed as a fertilizer.

Naturally drought resistant
Does not compete with food chain for humans or animals

Products derived from castor oil are often celebrated for their bio-based origin and their low carbon footprint.

TOP 4
Uses for Castor oil
POLYMERS
LUBRICANTS
COATINGS
PHARMACEUTICALS

TOP 2
Perceived sustainability advantages of castor beans
CASTOR OIL & DERIVATIVES END-USE MARKETS

COSMETICS & PERSONAL CARE

- Perfume
- Lipstick
- Shampoos
- Emulsifiers
- Deodorants

PHARMACEUTICALS

- Antifungals
- Bactericides
- Emollients
- Emulsifiers
- Encapsulants
- Laxatives

BIO-POLYMERS

- Polyamide 11
- Polyamide 610, 1010, 1012
- Polyols for urethanes
- Automotive ; Electronics Apparel markets

TEXTILE & PAPER

- Textile finishing materials
- Dyeing aids
- Synthetic fibers
- Synthetic detergents
- Flypapers
- Defoamer

PLASTICS & RUBBER

- Plastic films
- Adhesives
- Plasticizers
- Surfactants
- Coupling agents

INKS, PAINTS & ADHESIVES

- Inks
- Plasticizers for coatings
- Varnishes
- Adhesive removers
- Lacquers
- Solvents

GREASES & LUBRICANTS

- High performance lubricants (aircraft & racing cars lubricants)
- Hydraulic fluids
- Fuel additives
- Corrosion inhibitors

OTHER

- Food packaging
- Flavorings
- Surfactants (food)
- Organic fertilizers
- Bio-fuels

MOST CASTOR OIL IS EXPORTED
THE MARKET IS TRULY GLOBAL
A CODE WITH 76 AUDITABLE CRITERIA BASED UPON 11 PRINCIPLES

1. Governance & Management System
2. Seed & Planting Materials
3. Soil & Water Management
4. Nutrition Management
5. Ecological Balance & Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
6. Safe Use of Crop Protection Products
7. Workers Welfare & Safety
8. Waste & Pollution Management
10. Energy Management
11. Post Harvest Management Practices

TO DRIVE & ENABLE

- Improved Living Standards
- Increased Farmer Income
- No Child Labor or Forced Labor
- Respect for the Environment and Natural Resources
- Gender Equality
- Improved Safety
Agricultural experts have facilitated sampling for soil conservation in more than 5 villages.

50 Soil and water quality testing has been performed in more than 50 villages.

5 Demonstration plots set up in the program to showcase the benefits of implementing good agricultural practices.

More than 3,000 Safety kits & Over 3,000
Pesticide storage boxes have been distributed to help farmers with improved waste management.

H₂O Water consumption has been lowered by approximately 25% in the demo plots where water utilization is monitored.

Yield has increased more than 50% by the farmers certified in the first two years compared to the 2016 baseline study.

Certification bodies have been empanelled as external certification agencies.

Over 2,700 Farmers Certified by the program so far

- More than 4,000 hectares of castor farming are now in accordance with the project framework
- More than 5,000 hours of classroom training
- All certified farmers have adopted improved farm waste management practices

5,000 tons of certified castor beans have now been successfully cultivated

* Statistics as of April 2019
PRAGATI

For more information on the sustainable castor initiative please contact info@castorsuccess.org

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