# Ragi – Bringing Colors of Happiness to Farmers' Lives

This is the story of Prabhulal Kalia Damor, a resilient small-scale farmer from Chhapariyapada village in Rajasthan's Banswara district, and a dedicated participant in Vaagdhara Tribal Food and Grain Initiatives Producer Ltd, supported by Bhoomi Ka. Through his journey, Prabhulalji demonstrates the transformative impact of sustainable farming practices and the power of climate-resilient crops.

# A Tough Season for Maize: Facing Climate Challenges

Prabhulalji, like many farmers in the semi-arid lands of southern Rajasthan, relied on maize as his staple crop. However, recent years brought unpredictable rainfall patterns that left his maize fields struggling to produce a viable yield. Despite facing crop losses and economic stress, Prabhulalji was determined not to give up.



**Turning to Ragi: A Climate-Resilient Crop** 

With support from Vaagdhara, Prabhulalji decided to try cultivating finger millet, or ragi—a crop known for its drought tolerance and adaptability to challenging climates. Ragi, which grows well even under irregular rainfall, was resilient and provided a significant nutritional boost, rich in protein, fiber, and essential minerals.

# The Power of Organic Practices

Vaagdhara encouraged Prabhulalji to apply organic farming methods, helping him to use natural fertilizers and pest control techniques. With training and resources on organic treatments and sustainable crop management, Prabhulalji was able to cultivate ragi without the high costs associated with chemical inputs. The result was not only healthier produce but also better soil quality, setting the stage for more sustainable farming in the seasons to come.

### A Harvest of Hope and Prosperity

The effort paid off—Prabhulalji saw an impressive yield of ragi. He gained financial stability from the sale of his crop, while the abundant ragi fodder also supported his livestock through the dry season. His successful transition to ragi serves as an example of how diversifying crops and adopting sustainable farming practices can make a real difference in farmers' lives.



## A Model of Adaptation and Inspiration

Prabhulalji's journey is more than a story of one farmer's success—it's a testament to the power of adaptation and innovation in the face of climate change. By choosing ragi and working collaboratively with Vaagdhara, Prabhulalji has become an inspiration for other farmers in the region.

His story encourages others to consider resilient crops and sustainable practices that benefit both their livelihoods and the environment.

# Spreading the Message of Sustainability

Congratulations to Prabhulalji, on his commitment to sustainable agriculture! Stories like these showcase the potential for climate-resilient farming to empower rural communities and create a brighter future for all. Let's spread the word and continue supporting farmers in their journey toward resilience and prosperity!