



A REAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE FARMERS

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INTRODUCTION

Every college student faces an internship in their final year program to understand the practical work of the course that they have done. Just to gain a real experience in their field. Likewise the B.Sc (Hons) Agriculture do an internship called the RAWE program, in which the students need to stay in an allotted village and study the village scenario.

WHAT IS RAWE?

RAWE (Rural Agricultural Work Experience) is a course offered in B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture in the final year. It is a sixty-day program where the students get a taste of the real experience with farmers. Every student must be allotted to an individual village. This provides exposure to the students by staying with village people, doing farm activities, learning their indigenous work on the farm, and also helping the farmers to apply new technologies in agriculture.

WHAT STUDENTS DO?

The curriculum of the RAWE program consists of five parts. Village stay program (FPO) is the first activity they need to do in their village. It is a 45-day program where the student needs to know the village scenario. They study the village pattern and demographic pattern and visit the rural institutions, organizations, and associations. Also, they study the village culture and value system.

Then they need to study the individual household survey with marginal farmers, small farmers, big farmers, and farm women. They conduct group discussions with farm women and youth. Also, they need to document the indigenous technologies practiced by the farmers.

PRA

PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) is a set of methods and techniques used in the field to collect data and information. This is a technique where the student interacts with the village people, understands them, and depicts a diagram with the help of the village people. The PRA tools consist of the social map, resource map, mobility map, transect walk, seasonal calendar, timeline chart, wealth ranking, Venn diagram, income and expenditure matrix, daily activity clock, and problem tree.

ATTACHMENT WITH ADA

Once the student completes their village stay program, they need to meet the ADA (Assistant Director of Agriculture). It's a five-day program. There we met the ADA officer at the particular block. There the student collects the basic details related to agriculture at the block level. Likewise, the student covers the Department of Horticulture. Also, they visit the other Department offices like Animal Husbandry, Environment, and Forests, Health and Family Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Social welfare and nutritious meal

program, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises.

ATTACHMENT WITH NGO

Next, the students must meet the NGO in their allotted village. It is a five-day program. The student needs to collect the basic details and their activities. The students find the impact of NGOs in their block. Then they need to gather their plan and financial activities.

ATTACHMENT WITH AGRO-INDUSTRY

Finally, the student visits their local agro-industry surroundings in their allotted block. This agro-industry is a five-day program. The main objective of this program is to motivate the student to take up agriculture as a business venture. The student must collect the general details and production details of the particular agro-industry. Then they need to gather the marketing details and profit details.

CONCLUSION

This is one of the best courses that is offered in this stream. The students can apply the theoretical knowledge that they studied in the book, can be applied in real fields. They can suggest new technologies to the farmers. Also, the students can gain knowledge from the farmers. This is the real experience the students can learn.