Mahatma Gandhi, the "Father of the Nation" in India once wrote about farmers; “An illiterate farmer can represent the difficulties of the agricultural classes much better than an Indian learned but without experience in that particular field”. When it comes about writing of an agricultural article most of us follow copy and paste technique because we lack in experience. The “Popular Kheti” was started with aim of sharing popular techniques of farming from experienced people of the field. But very few are articles which fulfill the aim. On the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, and the birth anniversary of the second Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who gave the popular slogan “Jai Jawan Jai Kisan” (hail the soldier and hail the farmer), the third issue of first volume of “Popular Kheti” is being released today on 2nd October, 2013.

The current issue brings about some popular agricultural techniques like diseases management, resources conservation techniques, erosion control and plantation of teak and large cardamom for the economic benefits. We are very much thankful to all authors who valuably contributed to this issue to share the agricultural knowledge through this platform.

Today, on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, we urge the people to imbibe Gandhian ideals, thoughts and values who loved farmers and worried their problems. He wrote about farmers; “Of course the farmer is the father of the world. But it is his greatness that he is not aware of the fact. Those who devote themselves to good works of any worth are not aware of their own goodness. Just as we breathe every moment but are not aware of the fact, so are good people by their very nature impelled to give expression to their goodness. They are not conscious that they deserve any credit. They do not care to be honoured.” He again wrote “I for one am a farmer and I wish you all to become farmers, or to continue as such if you have already become farmers”... “I prefer this work and consider this alone to be my duty.”

Let us think about our duty to become a true agricultural scientist, true agricultural teacher, true agricultural student, true agricultural thinker and a true agriculturist to solve the problems of farmers by becoming one with farmers.

Editors