

MSP Mandal's
Vinayakrao Patil Mahavidyalaya, Vaijapur
National Service Scheme (NSS)
Carrot Grass Eradication Drive (12-13 August 2016)
REPORT


National Service Scheme conducted a two day Carrot Grass Eradication Drive on 12-13 August 2016. Prof. S. A. Doke, NSS Programme Officer, gave some general information about the carrot grass. He said that carrot grass is known in different parts of India by different names. It is commonly called as congress grass. He shared some interesting facts about the grass. He said that it not an indigenous species of weed. It arrived in India along with the wheat imported from America under PL-480 in 1950s. Today we see that the weed has become a major menace to the farming community in our country. It is a toxic plant that reduces the crop yield and is also harmful to human and animal physiology.

Prof. Dokhe further revealed that the grass has its presence in areas along the railway lines, road sides and other fallow lands. However, it is a matter of concern that it has started to grow in agricultural areas too. Over the last three decades it has affected the crop yield and has had several mutations. The seeds are light and the plants dry after the monsoon is over. However, the seeds are dispersed through wind rapidly again in the next monsoon we see its growth. Prof. Dokhe shared the precautions to be taken while uprooting the grass. He first demonstrated the method of uprooting the plant. He said that August is the right time to eradicate it because there are no seeds formed on the grass and this method works wonder. Accordingly the students were divided in to four groups and eradicated the carrot grass in areas surrounding the IT building, Hostel, Science labs etc. The students observed all care and precaution while doing the work. He asked them to wash hands properly. He said that as the weed was removed in August itself, the students have contributed to the environment in a big way.



Students eradicating carrot grass


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