

Harvest Fresh Farms

Replicates organic living



Kurian Jose



India is a country, perhaps one of the very few countries, where the belief of rich heritage and healthy tradition still live on in the hearts of the people. That is why when one thinks of India, the first image that comes to mind is that of beautiful green farms, endowed with the richness of nature and the purity of earth. So one wants to walk in such farms endlessly or sit under a tree looking at the vast blue sky refreshing oneself for hours. If you have been looking for such a place in India the whole life, I am pleased to tell you that your search is over as and when you enter the verdant and salubrious Harvest Fresh Farms", says Kurian Jose, its CEO.

Harvest Fresh Farms nestles in the tranquil lap of Cumbum Valley at the Lower Camp, nearly 12 km from Thekkady in Tamil Nadu. The certified organic farm seems like a little piece of paradise or was sent by the Almighty himself. With the cloud clad mountains of the Cumbum Valley looking down at it, hues of fruits like pomegranites, papaya, grapes and mango and around 150 blooming herbs ooze life to the gardens. The farms have kept alive the ages-old aesthetic Indian belief of a simple and organic living. A stroll or stay in the farms will leave your mind, body and soul rejuvenated like never before.

The intense urbanization has culled the very existence of our

villages everywhere in the country . This has ended up in the destruction of farming sector, which was the nomenclature of our villages once. Dearth of agricultural land forced the farmers to indulge in exploiting available land by adopting mechanized farming methods by using fertilizers and manures, pesticides and preservatives abundantly to get maximum yield and shelf-life. This has turned a social calamity as supplying and distributing the adulterated food and medicines causing fatal diseases in the consumers . Now the available data show that among every 10 people in India at least one person is a carrier of cancer virus.

In such a world obsessed with technology and fast buck, Harvest Fresh Farms is a resort that imparts health for both the visitors and the environment, by brilliantly combining the ethics of science and tradition. The farm has very precisely achieved the status of a certified organic farm and it constantly works to live up to the accomplishment. Everything about the farm is purely organic. The farm grows the produce that it uses in its kitchens , and the remnants from the kitchens go into making biogas to meet the energy needs of the farm. The manure used in the farm is produced from cow dung and urine, and the farm produces traditional manures like jeevamritham and panchagavya. The compost yards of the farm produces compost from garden waste, coir pith, and other organic wastes.

This level of responsibility and the efforts applied to maintain the organic standard of the farm has won it recognition and certification from INDOCERT, an internationally recognized certification body. The farm has also been accredited by National Accreditation Body of the Government of India. Harvest is indeed the purest farm you can find among organic farms in India. The farm plays a significant role



in the promotion of agri-tourism. By providing farm stays it makes people realize the importance of organic farming and living, but also give them a memorable holiday in the midst of the mesmerizing Cum-bum Valley. Harvest Fresh Farms is so pure and wholesome. Climb up the watch tower for the most incredible view of the valley and then have a meal of the local cuisine prepared from the freshly picked supplies of the farm. Have a nutritious and nourishing meal prepared just for you and either indulge in a nap or immerse in the words of a book from the library in the privacy of the mountains swept by the cool of the streams.

Suites in the farm are simple but comfortable, lightly but beautifully furnished to maintain the organic aura of the farm. They offer facilities like air condition, 24 hours hot water supply, power back up, TV, housekeeping, living room, kitchenette, dining room, fridge, board games and library. Your stay is sure to be a memorable one with the number of fun filled activities organized just for you by the authorities of the farm. Walk around the farm or ride in a bullock cart with an English speaking guide to help you know about the plants growing in the farm and the methods used to grow them. Roam around the fruit orchards, ride on a bicycle

in and around the farm or learn about the art of making honey, the apiary. Learn about the powers and wonders of herbal plants in the herbal garden of the farm. If you are an animal lover you will be rejoiced like never before, for the farm is home to beautiful cattle, rare species of poultry birds and lovable rabbits. Visit the animals in their mangers and feed them to make some furry friends.

The hospitality takes care of everything in the farm and you will be welcomed with a freshly squeezed juice of a fruit produced in the farm. You will cherish every moment you spend in the farm with your family, amidst the calm and peace of the valley. After you have gathered innumerable precious memory from your visit, a vehicle will drop you back to the Lower Camp.

The nearest airports are Madurai (140km) and Cochin (190 km), railway station Kottayam (114 km). Thekkady is well connected to the major cities of Tamil Nadu like Kochi, Madurai, Kottayam, Munnar and Thiruvananthapuram via state and national highways. ●

