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What is ZBNF? What are its advantages & shortcomings (250 words)

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ZBNF: Zero budget natural farming

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• ZBNF aims at promoting chemical free farming, & reducing the dependence on

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high cost inputs

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• Promoted by agriculturist: Subash Palekar as an alternative to 'green Revolution'

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encouraging zero investment & return to farming methods of free green

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revolution etc.

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• Reduced dependency on inputs like irrigation, fertilizers and pesticides associated with chemicals.

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4 Major pillars of ZBNF

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→ Bijunithaka

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→ Jiwanta

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→ Mulching

□ □

→ Naphasa



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• Bijamrita : Treatment of seeds, through
Natural ingredients like Neem leaves

which reduces requirement of pesticides

• Jivamrita : Soil treatment through
fresh cow dung & other naturally
derived products

• Mulching : Protection of soil during tilling.

• Whafasa : Balance between air & moisture

Major Benefits of ZBNF :

• Reduced Cost of production - due to
reduction in investment

• Environmental Benefits : A chemical free
production improves the quality of soil
over a period of time.

• ZBNF promotes optimum water usage,
crop rotation & discouraging intensive

 

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agriculture methods further decreasing the dependence on inputs

- Reducing the financial debt of farmers & more savings due to zero investment

Shortcomings of ZBNF

- Decrease in yield of soil (Sikkim)
- Reduction in the production, resulting in serious threats like lower profits & food shortages upon large scale reduction
- Dependence on animals (cows) for providing natural inputs

Conclusion

Though, ZBNF has improved soil quality but the results of production are not very promising, thus gradually the production can be shifted to ZBNF over a period of time.

Excluded!

