

Q: What is ZBNF? What are its advantages & shortcomings?

ans: Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) - A chemical free agriculture practice focused in doubling the farmers income.

Also,

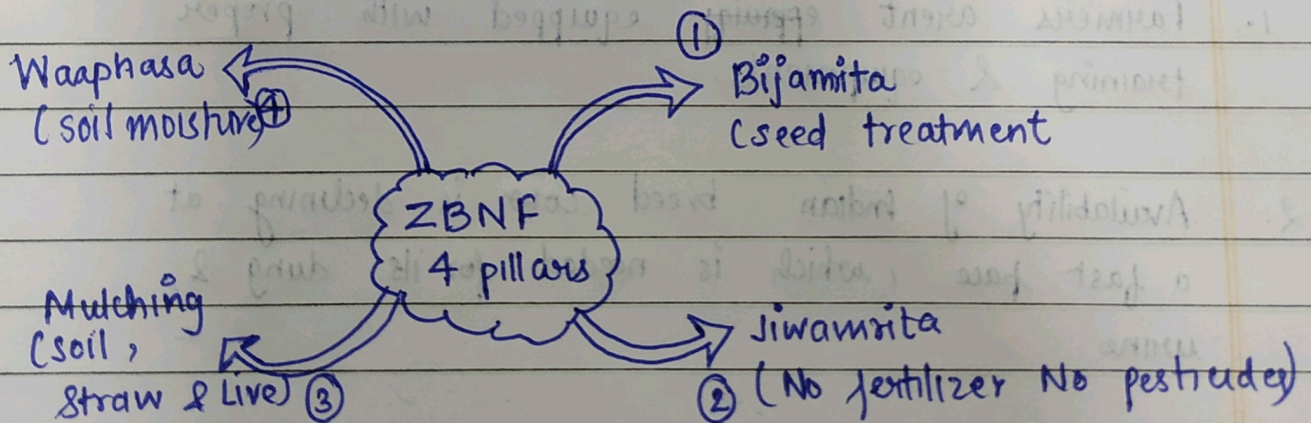
It is a method of farming where the cost of growing and harvesting plants is zero

Farmers need not purchase fertilizers & pesticides

- Farmers use
  - Earthworms
  - Cow dung
  - Urine
  - plant
  - human excreta

ZBNF is an alternative to commercial farming

Popularity gained especially in
 1) Karnataka
 2) Andhra Pradesh.



## Advantages of ZBNF :

1. End reliance on loans and production costs. ultimately ending the cycle of debt on farmers
2. Replaces fertilizers & pesticides → Organic inputs to increase soil fertility.
3. the adoption of mulching has reduced the loss of moisture content from soil, which has lead to increase in
  - a) soil aeration
  - b) soil health
  - c) soil fertility
4. In wake of climate change this method is useful because uses resilient agriculture

## Shortcomings of ZBNF

1. Farmers arent ~~equipt~~ equipped with proper training & equipments.
2. Availability of Indian breed cow is declining at a fast pace, which is needed for its dung & urine
3. Sikkim has seen some decline in production ~~hence~~ while following organic farming

4. While preserving soil quality, ZBNF has very low pace effect in boosting productivity.

Until and unless these shortcomings are not resolved doubling farmer's productivity & income will remain imaginary, despite being environment friendly

Excellent!