

**Himalayan Permaculture Centre  
Report  
Photo Gallery – Surkhet**



*Left* - New land acquired by HPC for its new demonstration and training centre in Chingar municipality. The site is about 0.3Ha (0.75 acres)

*Right* - Volunteers from HPC groups clearing the new land of Ban-mara ("forest-killer") a.k.a. *Ageratina adenophora*, commonly known as Crofton weed. Groups have provided 65 person-days of contribution so far to clearing the land, and another 52 days to carrying timber to construct the training centre.



*Left* - A closer view of the new land after clearing. The location is central amongst 8 of HPCs working villages in the Charkule river valley, and the furthest HPC village is about 3 hours' walk away.

*Right* - BC and Women's Health specialist Hommaya Gurung and HPC vice-chairperson Manmaya Gurung start planting and sowing seed at the new site. 22 seedlings including *Melia*, lemon grass, comfrey, cardamom and cinnamon have so far been established.



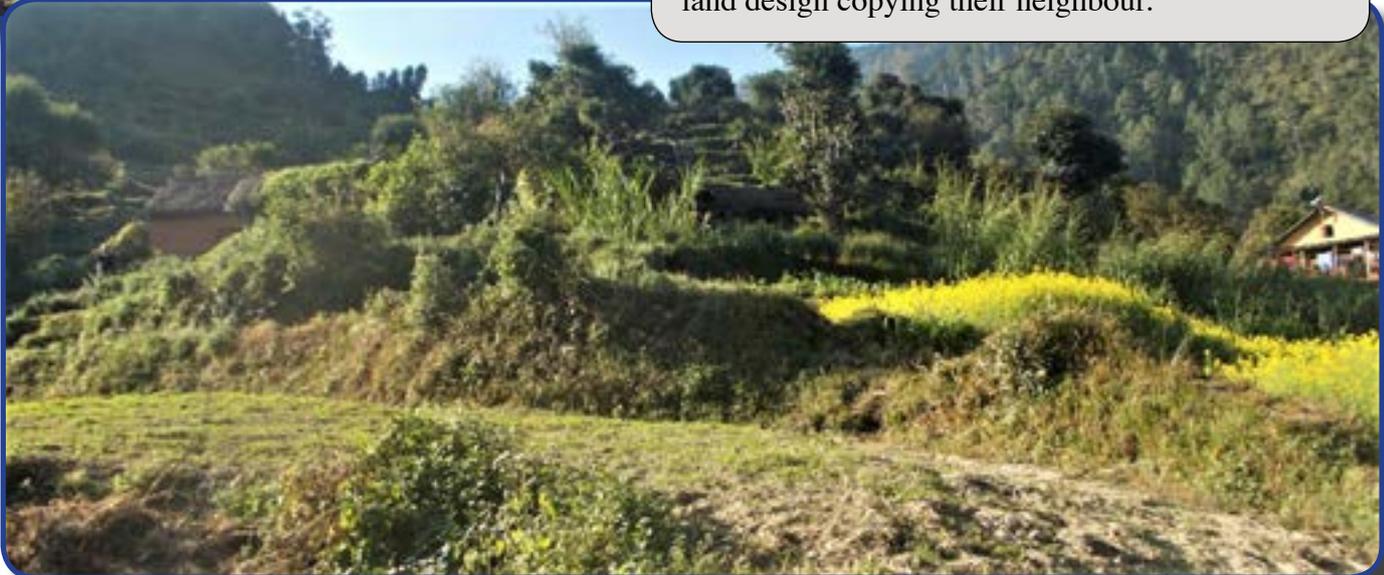


*Left* - Land of demonstration farmer Dal B. Khatri in Mavidanda (Janachetana group) with kitchen garden and a terrace of Lemon grass and Napier between that and the cornfield above.

*Right* - Further down in the fields, Dal B. and his family are growing vegetables along with the arable crops. Again, newly established Napier grass is on the terrace edges, giving a local and plentiful supply of fodder.



*Left* - Dal B. on his no-till AF land where a diverse mix of species are established including cardamom, banana, walnut, Asian pepper (Timur) and sugar cane amongst support crops of napier grass, lemon grass, *Melia* and *Lucaena*.  
*Below* - To the left of centre, a homestead of Mavidanda village where the family left to migrate to an area in the Tarai. To the right, the homestead of Dal B., with rich agro-forestry Napier and lemon grass as well as fruit trees and vegetables. The family on the left has since returned saying that they prefer life in the hills to the Tarai, and will start land design copying their neighbour.



*Right-* The land of demonstration farmer Narendra Gurung of Subbatol village, Jana Sahayogi group, showing his extensive agro-forestry design of napier grass and lemon grass on the terrace edges with Melia trees for timber and grain crops/vegetables on the terraces.



*Left* - Man B. Pulami of Pragitshil Krishak group in Salghadi village in his plot of off-season onions, which will be ready when normal supply is low, and the price higher.

*Right* - Man B. with a newly planted citrus seedling and low-cost bottle/drip irrigation. The bottle, with pin-holes in the base, is buried so water leaks out directly in the root zone. The cap can then be tightened to control the rate of leakage.



*Left* - Cardamon under young alder on Bhakta B. Khatri's land in Pakhapani.



*Left* - View over the agroforestry system at BC and Women's Health specialist Hommaya Gurung's home in Gumi village, with lines of fodder, fuel and biomass-producing trees and shrubs around fields for growing grain and pulses such as rice, millet, chick peas and lentils.

*Right* - Another area at Hommaya's is a multi-storey diversity of fruit and fodder trees and shrubs. All the trees and shrubs in the picture were planted over the past 10 years,



*Left* - Snake gourd and cucumber saved for seed by Jakendra Khatri in Ma-vidanda village (Janachetana group). Jakendra (left) is also a new HPC technician.

*Right* - BC Hommaya Gurung helps Dal B. Khatri sort carrot seed. Farmers have saved a healthy 1000kg for the year. The main harvest is still going on, with 300kg recorded so far this season.





*Above* - An SRI field trip visits rice fields of BC Thaman Giri, who recently went to Ilam for a follow-up biofertilizer refresher training with Almost Heaven Farms. He will now start training farmers in Surkhet. *Left* - clumps of SRI rice starting to flower. The whole clump is from just 1 seed/seedling, planted at a young age (ideally within 2 weeks from sprouting) and relatively wide spacing which, combined with less flooding of the paddy, contributes to a significant crop yield increase of both quantity and quality.



*Above* - Santa B. Budha of Janajoti group in Pakhapani in his nursery of lemon seedlings. Farmers have established over 530 lemon seedlings this season and over 600 in the past year.



*Left* - Barefoot consultant (BC) Man B. Budha of Ujwal group, Khaltakura, teaching compost making out of biomass weeded from terrace edges to members of Pragitshil Krishak in nearby Salghari village



*Left* - Members of Shanti group of Salkharka-Bhalim learn how to make a fruit nursery, sowing root stock seed that will be grafted in the next year or 2.

*Below* - Members of Pragitshil Krishak group in Salghadi village learn about double digging a small bed in the kitchen garden, and with mulching on top.



*Above* - Barefoot vet Tek B. Pun with a Billy goat provided to Shanti Group of Salkharka-Bhalim. Breed improvement is one of the 3 areas of livestock development in HPC's strategy; health and stall management being the others.

*Right* - Dal B. has also improved his livestock stall using cement so that manure and urine can be collected easily and often, keeping the stall clean, and by providing a manger to keep fodder off the floor.





*Left* - BC and Women's Health specialist Hommaya Gurung has developed a way of using natural earth-based paints that is resilient and chemical-free – here mixing the basic ingredients of flour and clay on a training.



*Right* - The paint is applied inside of the school office of the Gokarna secondary school in Pakhapani.



*Left* - Inside the finished building. Conventional cement-built structures are usually painted with commercial paints that are expensive and often contain toxins in an unregulated market. Now, they have a toxic-free environment, at less cost.



*Right* - The paint can be varied in colour and here has copied the traditional house-painting scheme, hard to tell the house is plastered with cement! A cheaper and organic way of beautifying the house – this is of Padam Pun in Pakhapani, who took the training then painted his own house.



*Left* - Attendees of the WHC at Gokarna secondary school in Pakhapani village go on a poster-tour of women's health education after registering at the camp. In the foreground is a display of local herbs used in health treatment, including *Neem*, *Melia*, *Aloe vera*, *Adhatoda vasica*, Asian pepper (*Xanthoxylum*), turmeric, garlic and *Berberis*.

*Right* - Dentist Mr Dil B. Satya from Nepalganj at work during the Camp. 152 patients were treated over 3 days, including 78 people with extractions, and 56 with fillings.



*Above* - BC and women's health expert Hommaya Gurung provides training in adolescent health for 22 students of Gokarna secondary school in Pakhapani village

*Right* - Members of the Womens' Health Network in Surkhet after their quarterly review and planning workshop in Gurung Gaun.

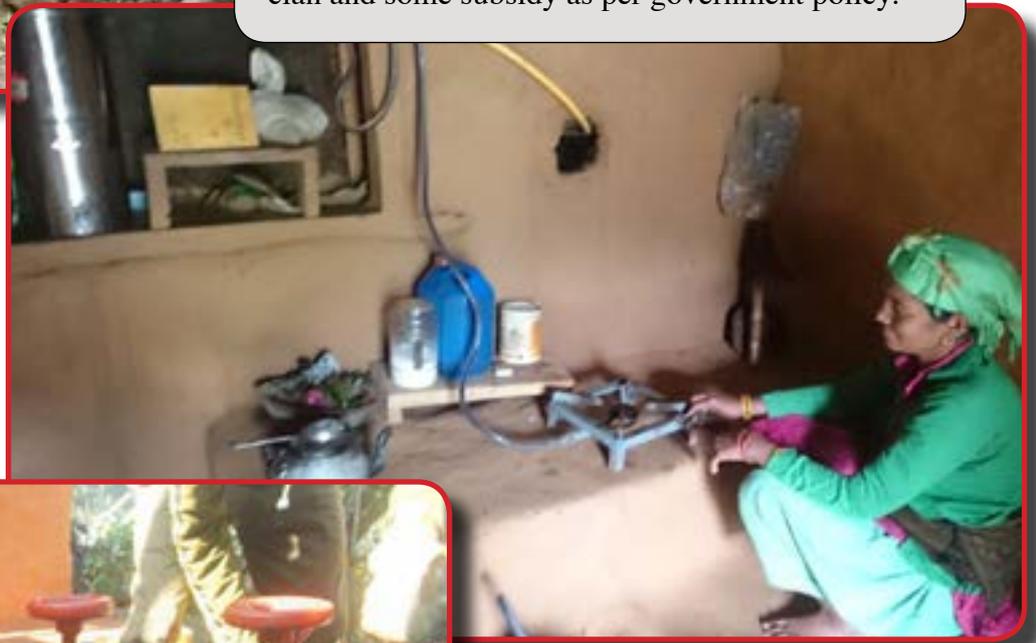


*Right* - Members of Jana Jyoti group of Pakhapani train in nursery establishment.



*Left* - The feed trough for the biogas unit installed by Bhakta B. Khatri, Janajoti group member of Pakhapani village.

*Below* - Biogas feeds the flame in the kitchen of Mrs Dhansari Khatri from the unit built by her family with the help of HPC and Manikej Energy, the supplier from Surkhet that provided the technician and some subsidy as per government policy.



*Left* - Members of Janachetana group inaugurate their Sugar cane processing machine in Mavidanda village. For now they are savouring the taste and energy of the juice for themselves, but there is potential to create livelihoods out of juice production especially as sugar cane is increasingly grown as part of integrated agro-forestry plots. This machine can also be driven by a hydro-mill which increases output of juice.



*Left* - Cotton growing at the home of BC Hommaya Gurung in Gumi village. There are 8 farmers starting to grow cotton in Gumi where the climate is warmer than higher in the hills where HPC has been trialling cotton since 2016.

*Right* - Solar panels and lighting systems being delivered to the road head where they are carried home by villagers of Salgadhi and Khaltakura, benefitting 33 households (242 people) with lighting.



*Left* - members of the SRI network visit other members' fields on a farmer-to-farmer exchange field trip. There are 27 farmers in Surkhet growing rice SRI-style.  
*Below* - participants on the field trip counting the stalks on the clumps of rice, all from 1 seed. Over 100 stalks have been recorded



*Right* - The designing for HPC's new Resource Centre land has been used to hone the skills of permaculture design course (PDC) graduates during follow-up workshops. They have been tasked with coming up with design options. Here they are working in groups going through the design process.



*Left* - Film interview for NTV by Yam B. Rana of Pragatshil Group of Gurung Gaun on the benefits of permaculture to rural farmers that want to go organic.

*Right* - HPC group members gather at the annual AGM, held in Gurung Gaun in July



*Left* - Members of 8 groups in Surkhet meet with staff in Gurung Gaun for the annual review and evaluation in November.