

Himalayan Permaculture Centre
Report December 2018 - May 2019
Photo Gallery – Humla

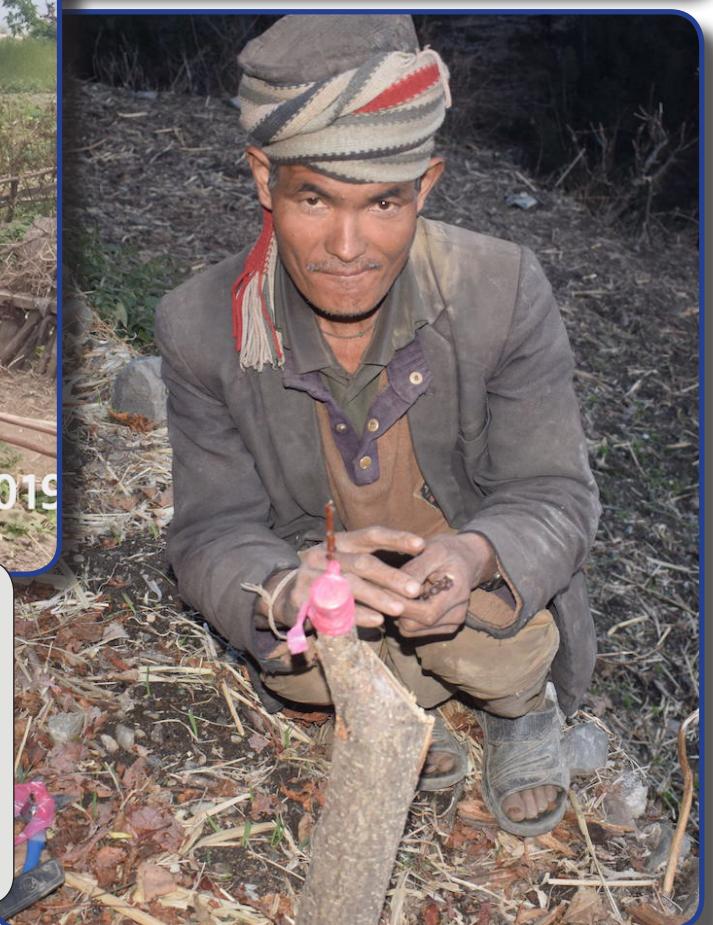


Above - Khadka Aidi of Bhadaura village in his nursery, newly sown with wild apple (*Idimel*) seed for root stock. *Right* - Jaya Bahadur in his nursery, grafting walnut - a very tricky species to graft, but Humla farmers have learned to do it effectively.



02/14/2019

Above - Harke Aidi of Barigaun watering his leaf pot nursery growing seedlings that need pots, but plastic-free. It's raised off the ground to save space and keep it away from chickens! *Right* - Mangal Aidi of Bhadaura with apricot top-worked onto local wild apricot (*Chuli*) growing on the edge of a field terrace





Left - Mrs Dhakauda Dhakal of Gallabada village (Dhakal Samaj Sudhar group) in her kitchen garden with abundant pumpkin.

Below - Ange Aidi of Bhadaura and Bire Buddha of Satti village, both barefoot consultants (BCs), with strawberry and comfrey plants ready to plant out. Ange is at home on leave from working in Dhading district with another Humla BC, teaching local farmers in 2 earthquake-hit villages to plant and manage 2000 apple trees that the community are establishing.



*Above - Raju Damai from Dalitbada with a new variety of late-ripening apple from UK that will extend the fruiting season. Right - Anga Raj from Gallabada with pear top-worked onto a wild pear (*mel*) growing on his land. Farmers like this method for its simplicity and quick fruiting - a nursery isn't needed and because of large established roots, the tree grows and fruits quickly.*



Right - Anga Aidi grafting in his nursery.

The livelihood he started to make from grafting and selling fruit trees was the reason he gave up attempting to migrate overseas for employment, and now he's increased his income being a BC.

Below - Participants on a farmers' training at the Humla Resource Centre (RC) in Dapka village learn how to plant a fruit seedling, with plenty of mulch on top of the soil to keep weeds down and moisture conserved.



Right - Chepi Buddha from Chihi village with pipe and sprinkler distributed to demonstration farmers by HPC, for use in kitchen garden and nursery.



Left - Farmers on a technical training learn by doing - here it is how to plant out SRI rice in a paddy. SRI is slowly catching on as more and more farmers become familiar with the radical method, using less seed and water while raising production



Left - on a livestock health training, participants learn how to make a feed trough from local resources. This is useful to keep fodder clean away from bedding that usually is mixed with dung. It also prevents waste of the fodder when trampled and spoiled. Traditionally, fodder is fed on the ground making livestock more susceptible to passing on worms and other diseases. *Below* - livestock technician Sagun Bohora treats Leuti B.K.'s buffalo in Satti village. HPC trains in basic diagnosis and treatment but focusses on preventative care, through diet, hygiene and stall management.



Left - Participants of a mobile livestock health training in Lotpata village, provided by BCs Ange Aidi and Bire Buddha (left & centre, holding books).



Right - Jaya Bahadur experiments making biofertilizer at home in Dapka village after attending the biofertilizer training held in Surkhet in March. He was able to bring inoculated compost back with him that he is using to prepare at home.

Right - Farmers making Bokashi, a 10-day fermented and semi-decomposed organic soil amendment. In Surkhet they learned how to prepare a range of amendments including Super Magro (Cow dung fermented liquid fertilisers enriched with bio-available minerals), Apichi (general insect repellent) and Humus hydrolyte (Bio-fertilisers enriched with humic Acids)



Above - members of the Humla Women's Health Network meet to review past activities and plan new ones such as where to provide trainings and health camp. Many villages outside of HPC's area are starting to request involvement so BCs need to go and survey them.

Right - women play a game during training (like Chinese whispers!)



Left - members of the Practical Literacy Class (PLC) in Maspur gather for their first class. It will last for up to 9 months, during which they will learn to read and write from the Farmers' Handbook.



Left - Rage B.K., one of HPCs Humla technicians, sets down the model solar drier after transporting it from Surkhet (18 hour bus + 10 hour jeep + 10 hour walk) to Madana. While he was in Surkhet he was trained in how to make the drier, and then purchased materials and tools from Surkhet.



Right - work quickly started on replicating the replica and most have carpenters' skills - here they are well on the way to reproducing the solar driers. They have enough materials to make up to 10 driers for now.



Left - Lanka Buddha from Satti village tries out a new juicing machine acquired in Surkhet. By July the plums will be ripening and there will be plenty of resources to try! In the past these fallen fruit have gone to waste but now can be processed, to save for when there is no fruit available.



Above - participants prepare to begin a 5-day village design course held in Dapka where they will learn about goal setting and assessing resources and constraints.

Right - farmers from Humla visit Surkhet and here the home of HPC

CEO Bhuwan Khadka on his farm and 10-year old agro-forestry.



Left - village municipality staff meeting with HPC representatives in Madana. The local authorities are very positive about co-operating with HPC to roll-out development work. Here they discuss how that might look and what steps are needed to make it happen.