



BIO-DYNAMIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA (BDAI)

Societies Registration: S. No 559/1999-2000 (Bangalore)

Invitation

Farmers in India are increasingly opting for organic farming as a viable alternative to chemical agriculture. In this context, biodynamic (BD) agriculture will strengthen the organic farming movement and be of immense help to organic farmers.

The next five day BD training course is being held at ICHOR FOUNDATION, Pethuparai, Perumalmalai near Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu, from **September 24th to 28th 2016**. A number of experienced BD practitioners trained by Peter Procter will conduct the course. The course has a good balance of theory and practical sessions.

Background — What is BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURE?

Biodynamic farming is based on Dr. Rudolf Steiner's Agriculture Course held in 1924 in Germany. It is one of the oldest forms of organic farming in a modern sense, but is much more than organic farming. In BD agriculture, the farm is treated as a 'living whole' where all farm activities are interrelated and influence each other. Careful observation and prudent farm management along with the use of the BD preparations can improve soil fertility and enhance the health of plants. The use of lunar and planetary rhythms for deciding farm activities is also helpful. The theory and practical sessions during the course include the following:

A. BD Course (5 days) from September 24th to 28th 2016

- The crisis in modern agriculture and principles of organic / sustainable farming.
- Biodynamic preparations BD500 and BD501 – theory and practice.
- Practical demo: 1.) Horn Manure (BD500) – Demo making, retrieval, stirring and application.
2.) Horn Silica (BD501) – making, stirring and application.
- Biodynamic compost preparations (BD502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507) – theory.
- Practical demos: 1) BD compost, 2) cow pat pit (CPP), & 3) liquid manures
- The significance of moon rhythms and planetary and stellar constellations, and the use of a planting calendar in agriculture.
- Increasing soil fertility, control measures of plant pests & diseases, and weed control.
- Animal husbandry in BD farming.
- Converting a farm to organic and BD agriculture.
- Demeter standards and certification procedures.





Biodynamic Agriculture Training Course

September 24th to 28th 2016 (5 days)

Course fees (inclusive of simple boarding and lodging for one person)

Type	BD Course (5 days)	Members Discount
Corporate	Rs. 15,000	10%
Individual / NGOs	Rs. 12,000	10%
Overseas participants	USD300	–

Note: If from a society or NGO, please attach a letter with the letterhead of the institution.

- Members of the BDAI (with corporate or society membership) can avail the discount for only one participant.
- Individual members of the BDAI can avail the discount only after completion of one year of membership.
- Only a limited number of seats are available and preference will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Please send the filled-in form (as given below) for registration and the course fee by demand draft in favour of **Biodynamic Association of India (BDAI)** payable at **Bangalore**, or by direct transfer.
- **For transferring the course fee**, send it to Vijaya Bank, branch: Indiranagar, Bangalore, A/c No. 130101010011429, IFSC: VIJB0001301. **Please inform the Secretary / BDAI**, about the transfer of the money or about couriering the DD.
- For cancellations, 75% of the fees paid can be refunded, if the BDAI secretariat receives information at least 10 days before the course starts. After that no refund will be given.
- Participants are advised to come to the course venue, ICHOR, Perumalmalai near Kodaikanal, on Friday, September 23rd 2016.
- Only applications accompanied with the bank **Demand Draft** or NEFT payment details will be accepted.
- Non-participating spouse or husband and children and pets cannot be accommodated.
- Course fees include basic accommodation and boarding in and around ICHOR.

Please send all postal correspondence related to the course to:

Sundeep Kamath

BDAI Secretariat,

#20, 16th 'C' Main, 2nd 'A' Cross, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034, India

Email – secretary@biodynamics.in

bdaind@gmail.com

Mobile: +91 9448067088





Additional information for course participants:

Please note that accomodation is simple and frugal. As the training venue is on a hilly terrain, there will be some walking up & down the hill, participants having any lower limb (hip, knee or ankle) problems may find it difficult. The weather at Kodaikanal (at 2,000 m above sea level) is cool. Please equip yourselves and dress accordingly. Bring along clothes and shoes that permit hands-on compost making and related gardening activities. In September it is likely to rain so bring umbrella or rain coats.

For participants travelling to the venue:

- The next airport to Perumalmai / Kodaikanal is at Madurai (120 km).
- Nearest railway stations are at Madurai, Dindigul (80 km) and Kodaikanal Road (60 km).
- Regular long-distance buses are available from Chennai and from Bangalore. The last part of your journey (up the hill to Perumalmai) will have to be by road (from the plains in Dindigul District about 2 hours by bus or car). Taxi pick-up can be organized.
- Help with logistics can be organized if requests come in well in advance.

The course will end on Wednesday, **September 28th 2016**, evening at about 5 pm. Please book your return journeys accordingly.

