

**Vitthal Narayan Patil: India**

Major Crops: Cotton, bananas  
 Farm Size: 200 acres  
 Years Farming: 20+ years  
 First Planted Biotech Crops: 2002  
 Favorite Benefits: Higher yields.  
 Better income. Money for education.  
 Family: Married, two children

“Biotechnology has brought us success.”

**Video Transcript:**

... In our joint family, we have in all 200 acres of land. This year I have used 117 acres of land for Bollgard Bt cotton, and rest of the land is being cultivated with bananas. Before Bollgard, in the traditional seeds of cotton, our expenses were high and our yield was low. But with the introduction of Bollgard, we are saved from the havoc of the bollworms, which would affect 30 percent of the yield. ...

A farmer would always want more yield. We hope for success. Whatever we do, we do it with an expectation of success. And this biotechnology has brought that success. There's no doubt about that. ...



... They should encourage such technology. The crop that gives us more yield due to biotechnology should be encouraged. Today's times are very competitive. If we are getting more yield at low cost, then the farmers can survive in this competitive market. ...

... The information of new technology should be available to the small farmers also. They should benefit from that. The standard of living should go up. The ordinary farmers' standard of living is not good over here. And if such technology comes ... then there will be improvement and this would be good situation. ...

Here there is a farmer I've known for the last 15 years ... who was struggling with his financial situation. I bought the Bollgard seeds for him, helped him to grow, and now there is a tremendous change in his financial situation. He has bought a tractor and his condition has improved. And he was a defaulter with the bank for 15 years. He has now managed to repay the loan. ...



... Only education takes a person to the height of success. Without education, human beings would be just like animals. Therefore, educating every child is the duty of the parents. ...

Nowadays education is very expensive. If a child is to go to a good school, where he can get good education, there he'll need more money. A farmer cannot afford so much expense. Only if he gets good yield, gets good money, is when he can afford good education. ...