

LAVENDER GARDENS IN TAŞKÖPRÜ

It all started with a visit...

Taşköprü Local Action Group (Kastamonu) launched its lavender farming activity under the theme of "Developing value-added products".

The idea of the project started with a swot analysis during the Taşköprü Local Action Group's visit to the newly established Taşköprü Village-Production Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative in the district. Taşköprü LAG's advice on growing lavender and turning it into value-added products was accepted by women entrepreneurs. Thereupon, LAG directed them to Kastamonu University Tourism Faculty Deputy Dean Dr. Aydoğan AYDOĞDU, who is working on lavender.

PROJECT INFO:

PROJECT PARTNERS:

Taşköprü District Governorate Taşköprü Municipality Kastamonu University-Faculty of Tourism Private Firms

PROJECT SUBJECT:

Lavender growing





The next challenge was to find the land to plant.

The process gained an unexpected speed when Dr. AYDOĞDU promised to be volunteer for women entrepreneurs on this issue and to give 5000 lavender seedlings as gifts.

As a result of the negotiations with the Taşköprü District Governorate for the land to be planted, an 11-decare land was allocated by the District Governorship for the project. After the preparatory work on the land, the seedling planting process started. The life water of the seedlings was given by Taşköprü Municipality.



All stakeholders come together and support.

However, 5000 seedlings were insufficient for the allocated land and planting could only be carried out on an area of 5 decares. This situation opened the doors of a second cooperation. To get the seedlings needed for the remaining land and to study lavender cultivation in situ, Dr. Aydoğan AYDOĞDU and LAG Manager Selçuk OĞUZ made a trip to Isparta and Burdur regions with a transportation vehicle allocated by a local company free of charge. Travel expenses were financed by Aydoğan AYDOĞDU.



During this trip, it was understood that instead of buying seedlings, it would be more advantageous to buy lavender bushes and multiply them by cutting. Lavender bushes were returned to Taşköprü to be multiplied. The problem about where to plant the bushes brought to Taşköprü was solved by allocating the garden of District Governor's public housing to the project.





In this project, Taşköprü Local Action Group did not spend any of the LEADER budget. This project was realized by bringing together only the right actors with the corporate identity and understanding of being LAG. From the creation of the project idea to all stages of implementation, Taşköprü LAG stakeholders assumed the role of mobilizing related partners.





The goal is to turn lavender into valueadded products.

As a result of the project, the first harvest of lavender was made. The products obtained will be used under three headings by the Taşköprü Village-Production Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative. First of all, it is planned to produce and market value-added products such as soap, lavender oil and perfume from lavender. Afterwards, it is aimed to gain economic value by selling the lavender flowers in the form of bouquets after harvest. In the final stage, it is aimed to produce lavender honey by purchasing beehives in lavender fields.

Thus, as a result of the project, in which LAG only takes on the role of the animator of the project and mobilizes the stakeholders, and which is carried out entirely with the in-kind and cash donations of the stakeholders, the idle lands in the region will be transformed into areas where value-added products are grown.