ANUSHA UDAYANGANI

SPICING UP SUCCESS

Anusha Udayangani's story is one of resilience, determination, and success. As a married mother of three, Anusha inherited her father's 3-acre pepper farm in Mawanella in 2012. At first, she sold her produce at wholesale prices in Ampara. However, her life changed when Oxfam visited her village in 2018 for a farmer's program.

Although Anusha was not initially selected to participate in the program, she expressed her interest in attending the training sessions to the chairman. The chairman gave her an application for the next program in 2021, and Anusha attended every training session offered at the Matale Institute. The training sessions offered valuable knowledge on organic fertilizer, trimming branches, and plantation, as well as how to balance work and motherhood.

ANUSHA'S JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

As a result of her hard work and dedication, **Anusha was chosen as the secretary for 65 farmers who were a part of the program.** She supported the society's books, documents, and officials of the institute. The program helped farmers utilize their time effectively, and they received machinery such as lawnmowers. Farmers were also introduced to mass pepper buyers. They were taught about dehydrating pepper, which was more efficient than sun-drying, but diesel-operated dehydrators were expensive to run.

Two farmers from the society arranged wood-fired dehydrators with their own money, which the Department of Export Agriculture provided a 30% grant for. Anusha invested in two dehydrators herself, which she used to dehydrate jackfruit, mango, pepper, and garcinia. She sold these products to the local market for a good price. DevPro also encouraged her to register her business, make a business plan, and obtain the necessary licenses and permits.

> *I take great care to deliver only the best-quality and safe-to-consume products, ensuring complete customer satisfaction.*
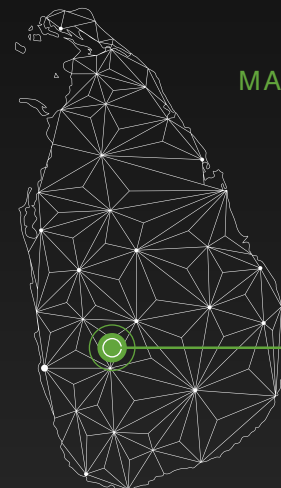>
> *- Anusha Udayangani*

SINCE 2012

03 ACRES OF LAND

65 FARMERS UNDER HER

APPOINTED SECRETARY FOR 65 FARMERS AT TRAINING CONDUCTED BY OXFAM/DEVPRO

MAWANELLA

FAR AND WIDE; FROM BANKS TO HOSPITALS

Anusha's production process used to take several days and multiple trips to the town, but with the machinery provided, it now takes only two days. **Her business has expanded, and she has sent turmeric samples to China and Korea. Anusha plans to switch from plastic to glass packaging and expand her business to the Malaysian market.**

In addition to selling pepper, Anusha also sells Kurakkan, which is in high demand. She packages and labels it with her brand and sells it locally. Her products are also sold at the bank, Kegalle RDHS, Mawanella hospital, and the local council. Anusha plans to distribute her products to supermarkets and has applied for barcodes for her products.

Anusha has now found herself working closely with DevPro, an organization focused on providing continuous support and resources to farmers. Through this opportunity, Anusha is eager to expand her knowledge and skills while also being able to provide assistance to fellow farmers in need.