

Top working in wild olive Mohammad Iqbal Awan – the resource person

Rehana Mohammad Khan ¹

Iqbal comes from Trar village in Haripur. He is a small landowner with half an acre of irrigated and two acres of rainfed land. The lands produce very little for subsistence. In the year 2004, he received a training for budding and grafting in olive and other wild plants. This training was organized by Mashal Development Organization, a partner of FFSP in District Haripur, through Tarnab Research Farm, Agriculture Department of NWFP. After being trained he grafted nearly 1400 wild olive trees in two years. He procured bud wood and plastic sheets from Haripur through the partner organization. He has, so far, trained three persons (including his son). He also follows up the status of trees, which he budded in the wild. He proudly announces that one thousand trees are successful despite drought and dust storms and will hopefully bear fruit in 2007. So far he has not charged fees for budding trees – but he has earned a lot of importance at local level and gained self-esteem, which pleases



his heart. In future, he plans to charge a fee for budding trees and saplings on demand. He is also engaged in *Tasbih* making for earning extra income. Further he is receiving training for preparing dried flower arrangements and farm wood utilization for making decoration pieces.



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