



Success story:

*Ma, one of villages where effective micro-organism product was applied to decompose rice straw.*

*Ms Lam Thi Minh' feedback: My paddy field is 1.500 m<sup>2</sup> and we plant two rice seasons per year. In the past, we faced a problem on treating rice straw in the field after harvesting spring season. Normally, we plough rice straw into the soil and rice straw requires long time to decompose or burn them. By doing this, rice in summer season was negatively affected because toxic was generated through*

*decomposing of rice straw. And from 2016, NOMAFSI introduced EM product to treat rice straw in the field and in the heap, we did not have to face with the above problem because around 10 days after spraying EM product and ploughing the soil, rice straw was almost decomposed and land is available for next crop.*



Ma Village of Vinh Kien Commune, Yen Binh District, Yen Bai Province) has been selected as a site for CSV development in the Northern Mountainous Region of Vietnam. This village has diverse natural resources and diverse agricultural production activities, such as: crop production, animal husbandry, aquaculture and forestry. Ma village produce rice in a total land area of about 16 ha. Rice production nowadays faces increasing problems of pests, lack of suitable varieties, reduced water source and limited knowledge of farmers in plant management to cope with increasing problems brought about by unpredictable climatic conditions. Besides, farmers also have problem on treating rice straw. Burning or spraying herbicide (paraquat) are the simple ways that was selected by farmers to clean their fields from rice straw. But, by doing this, it was not only waste nutrient, also polluted air, water and soil environment.

In 2016, with help from project “Support to sustainable intensification for rice in Ma CSV” and 2017, from project “Workshop for sharing experience on recycling of rice plant residues for enriching lands with organic matters and in-time cultivation of next crop”, farmers in Ma village start to apply effective micro-organism product to decompose rice straw in the field. The farmers indicate that land is available for next crop only 10-14 days after spraying EM product and input cost for EM product is cheap (equal using herbicide).

Moreover, EM product was used to decompose rice straw in the heap. By doing this, farmers did not burning or through away rice straw in the road any more. Rice straw compost was use to apply other crops or raising maize seedling.

