

APART: RICE WEEKLY **(8th-13th February, 2021)**

Wet-DSR demonstration by APART KVK, Nalbari at Bonpura Village

A demo of Wet-DSR under APART, KVK, Nalbari was conducted at village Bonpura on 10th of February, 2021 in the presence of IRRI Specialists Mr. Vipin Kumar, Mr. Sunil Kumar and Mr. Amlandeep Saikia with the rice variety BINADhan11. The APART, KVK, Nalbari team was also present during the demonstration. Mr. Vipin Kumar, specialist from IRRI spoke about positive aspects and the method of sowing Wet-DSR demonstration using drum seeder. Mr. Sunil Kumar gave a small demonstration on seed treatment with Trichoderma, insect trapping with Pheromone trap and Trichocards. The Wet-DSR at the farmers' field was demonstrated by Mr. Rupam Deka, Research Technician, APART, KVK, Nalbari. It was interesting to note that number of female farmers was more than male farmers during the practical demonstration at the field.



Two-day training under IRRI Supported activities by APART KVK, Nalbari

The two-day training programme under IRRI Supported activities of APART was successfully completed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari. The training programme was held from February 9, 2021 to February 10, 2021. The first day of training programme, i.e. 9th February, was held at the training hall of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Nalbari. On the first day of the training programme, Mr. Homeswar Kalita, Ex-DAO, Nalbari district was present as the Chief Guest along with Dr. Suryakant Khandai and Mr. Amlandeep Saikia from International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The training programme was conducted with 30 number of participant farmers. Mr. Dipankar Kalita, Project Associate, APART, KVK, Nalbari briefed about the objective of the training. Dr. Manashi Chakravarty, i/c Head, KVK, Nalbari gave the welcome address and discussed the topics to be covered during the training programme and also briefed the objectives of APART. Mr. H. Kalita, Chief Guest described about the different kinds of insect-pests and diseases of rice crop and their various preventive measures for both *Sali* and *Boro* season rice cropping season.



Dr. S. Khandai, IRRI, Associate Scientist, post-harvest, also briefed about the various machineries related to rice

crop. He also shared the merits of using mechanical methods over traditional way of rice cultivation for higher yield and economic benefits. After that a short group discussion among the farmers' and scientists was organised, where farmers shared their own farming experiences with the scientists. The second day programme was held at farmers field at village Bonpura of Borkhetree block, where a practical session was held. A demonstration of mat-type nursery preparation was given by the APART, KVK, Nalbari team and IRRI experts. From IRRI, Mr. Vipin Kumar, Mr. Sunil Kumar & Mr. Amlandeep Saikia were present there. After the practical class short interviews of local farmers, participants in the training, members of SeSTA and APART experts were taken by the IRRI Specialists regarding mat type nursery preparation and mechanical process of rice crop production.

Preparation of MAT-type nursery at 1 No. Joysagar village with women farmers for MTPR demo in Boro season, 2020-21

A MAT-type nursery was well prepared at 1 no. Joysagar village under Borkhetri block of Nalbari district on February 4, 2021 under APART KVK, Nalbari for the Boro Season, 2020-21 for the MTPR demonstration. The programme was successfully completed in the presence of Mr. Pranjit Bharali (Assistant Project Scientist, APART, KVK, Nalbari) with two Research Technicians (RTs) of APART, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari. The programme was organized with 30 number of women farmer participants of the local area.

The interest of women farmers of Nalbari district proves that, now a days farmers are really interested in the adoption of modern and mechanical methods of agriculture.



Contributors



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Two-day training on Resource-efficient crop establishment with Best Management Practices in rice organized by RARS, Gossaingaon

A two-day training on resource-efficient crop establishment with best management practices in rice was organized at Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Gossaingaon on 8th and 9th of February, 2021 under IRRI supported Objective-II activities of Boro season. IRRI Specialist, Mr. Vipin Kumar, addressed the programme on both the days along with Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj (Junior Researcher, IRRI), Mr. Madhujya Bikash Borah (PA, APART) and Mr. Monjit Das (RT, APART). Dr. Sunil Kumar Paul, Chief Scientist of RARS, Gossaingaon, initiated the programme with a welcome speech. A total number of 25 farmers were present as participants on both the days. On day one, Dr. Hemen Chandra Bhattacharya (Dean, Daffodil College of Horticulture) was present as a resource person, who spoke on scientific cultivation practices of Boro paddy. Mr. Vipin Kumar followed it up with a detailed lecture on Boro paddy cultivation laying emphasis on seed germination, mat type nursery bed preparation, mechanical transplanting of rice, Wet-and Dry-DSR practices and other best management practices. He laid special focus on use of machineries in paddy cultivation in order to reduce the cost of cultivation by use of less human labour and also to increase efficiency and accuracy in cultivation practices. On day two, Dr. Partha

Sarathi Patra (Assistant Professor, UBKV) was present as a resource person who briefly enlightened the participants on modern rice cultivation along with use of various machineries. It was followed by a lecture of Mr. Vipin Kumar who focused on identification of different types of weeds along with their management practices. Farmers were given hands on training in collection and identification of different types of weeds.



A pre-and post-evaluation test was also conducted before the start and at the end of the training programme respectively, in which the participants shared better results in the post-evaluation test. An interactive session was held between the farmers, IRRI and APART KVK experts about various agricultural aspects. In another session CIP scientist Dr. Brijesh Kumar interacted with the farmers regarding potato cultivation and its management practices. The training programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Madhujya Borah.

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Mr. Madhujya Bikash Bora, PA, APART, Gossaigaon



Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bhardwaj, JR, IRRI

Inauguration of Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) under APART at Benegena Ati, Nagaon

Inauguration of Custom Hiring Centre with Sankar Azan Agro Producer Company Ltd. was done on February 13, 2021 at village Bengena Ati, Nagaon. The inaugural ceremony was attended by 50 number of participants from the village and nearby areas. The ceremony was graced by Dr. P. C Sarma, Chief Scientist, RARS-Shillongani, Dr. Kanwar Singh, Resident Coordinator, IRRI, Mr. Baljeet Singh, Market Analyst cum Operations Specialist, ARIAS Society, Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta, Project Coordinator, OPIU-APART, AAU, Mr. Probin Bharali, Cluster Development Specialist, ARIAS Society, Mr. Probin Baruah, SDAO Nagaon, Mr. Suryakant Khandai, Associate Scientist, Post-harvest Management, IRRI, Mr. Jyoti Bikash Nath, RKB Specialist, IRRI, Mr. Dibyarishi Bhattacharjya, Junior Specialist, IRRI, President of Bengena Ati, Gram Panchayat. The inaugural ceremony was started by lighting a lamp and followed by a felicitation of guest. Dr. N Deka, Head, KVK, Nagaon welcomed the dignitaries and farmers friends and other participants. He highlighted the basic objectives of the programme. Dr. P.C. Sharma started the programme with welcoming the participants and highlighted the role of APART in improving the productivity and profitability of the farmers. Dr. Kanwar Singh highlighted the role of CHCs in reducing cost of cultivation by adopting mechanization in paddy from seed sowing to harvesting followed by threshing to milling and value addition. Mr. Probin Bharali highlighted the importance of FPCs, their registration process, setting up and running the Common Service Centre (CSCs) and CHCs. All the dignitaries congratulated the organizers for a well structured program. Towards the end, Dr. N Deka, Head, KVK, Nagaon thanked all the dignitaries and participants for their presence.



Inaugration of thirteenth Custom Hiring Centre at Nagaon

**Contributor: Bidisha Borah, Assistant Project Scientist,
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Training on quality seed production under APART, KVK, Dhubri

A training on Quality Seed Production (QSP) of *Boro* paddy was conducted on February 10, 2021 at Lakhiganj, Dhubri. Total 30 participants attended the QSP training. Dr. Amarjit Saikia, Project Associate, APART, KVK Dhubri addressed the farmers and Mr. Bikash Jyoti Gharfoliya, SMS, Meteorology, KVK Dhubri briefly informed the farmers about the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhubri and the ongoing activities under APART with the technical guidance of IRRI.



Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI addressed the programme as an expert from IRRI. Mr. Bharadwaj described in detail about various aspects of quality seed production along with the importance of seed cleaning and seed treatment. He also explained the role of seed certification agency in production of quality seeds. Hands on training about seed cleaning and seed treatment was also shown to the participants, where the participants have actively participated with a lot of interest.

Contributors:



Dr. Amarjit Saikia, PA, APART, KVK Dhubri



Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bhardwaj, JR, IRRI

Three-days training on post-harvest machinery under APART, HRS Kahikuchi

The three-days training on “Post-Harvest Machineries” under IRRI Supported, Objective-III for *Boro* season, 2020-21 was successfully conducted at Horticultural Research Station, Kahikuchi, from 11th to 13th February 2021. Dr. Suryakanta Khandai (Associate Scientist, IRRI), Dr. Ayub Ali Ahmed (Retd. Principal Scientist, HRS, Kahikuchi), Dr. Jyoti Prasad Barua (Retd. Principal Scientist, HRS, Kahikuchi), Mr. Sauraj Jyoti Baishya (Post-harvest Specialist, IRRI) and Mr. Mridupaban Mudoj (Junior Researcher, IRRI) witnessed the three days training as resource persons. A total of 29 participants including BTM, ATM, Progressive Farmers, FPO/FPC members covering different blocks of Goalpara district attended the training.



The program began with the welcome speech delivered by Ms. Priyanka Das (PA, APART). Further, Mrs. Ranjita Bezbaruah (Junior Scientist and In-charge Rice Activity, APART, HRS, Kahikuchi) made the opening remarks by delivering the inaugural speech and briefed the objectives of the program to the participants. The program then continued with the pre-evaluation test conducted amongst the participants. Dr. Suryakanta Khandai spoke at length on post-harvest activities in rice, where he covered different management practices to be adopted during harvesting and post harvesting in rice.

Next, Dr. Ayub Ali Ahmed interacted with the participants and discussed on post-harvest management in rice. The topics, namely different drying methods, storage methods, different parts of Solar Bubble Dryer (SBD) and their maintenance, benefits of using SBD over traditional drying methods, uses and benefits of storing rice grains in IRRI Super bags etc., were thoroughly explained by Mr. Sauraj Jyoti Baishya (Post Harvest Specialist, IRRI). Moreover, he also discussed different parts of post-harvest machineries like Axial Flow Thresher, Portable Rice Mill and their maintenance to the participants. Interestingly, the three days program also consisted of hands-on-training on SBD and estimating the grain quality using Grain Quality Kit under the guidance of Mr. Mridupaban Mudoj and Mr. Sauraj Jyoti Baishya. In addition, post-evaluation test was performed among participants and they were also advised to fill up the feedback form on the last day of the training. All the participants seemed to be greatly motivated by the training imparted by the resource persons. Lastly, the three days training program concluded with vote of thanks from Mr. Dibakar Mohodi (APS, APART).

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