

APART: RICE WEEKLY **(15-20 February, 2021)**

Demo on rice value chain under APART at KVK Kamrup

A demonstration on rice value chain was conducted on February 17, 2021 at village Jamtulla of Rangia block for improving farm income and to promote entrepreneurship. Total 31 participants from nearby villages attended the programme. The programme was successfully completed in the presence of Dr. Kasturi Goswami (Junior Researcher, IRRI), Dr. Munmi Bora (Project Associate, APART, KVK Kamrup), Ms. Komediti Chamua (Assistant Project Scientist, APART, KVK Kamrup). The programme began with an address to the farmers and sharing the objectives of the program and the various activities of KVK, Kamrup with respect to APART, particularly in collaboration with IRRI.



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Dr. Kasturi Goswami, as an expert from IRRI elaborated the various machineries and their utilization to the farmers. She explained the positive aspects of using farm machineries in agriculture and briefly illustrated how the machineries can help to ease out the work and saves labour cost. She also focused on the ways to increase farm income of the farmers. Mr. Amal Bharali (i/c CEO, Uttaran Krishi Producer Co. Ltd.) explained about maintenance and usage of machineries and highlighted the importance of using modern technologies. The value addition of different agricultural commodities was also explained in the programme. The farmers raised different queries and possible solutions were suggested by the experts in the programme. At the end of the programme the multipurpose mechanical reaper was demonstrated under the guidance of Mr. Ananta Gogoi (RT, APART KVK Kamrup). The attendee farmers were very pleased and provided positive feedback.

Training on Quality Seed Production (QSP) at KVK Kokrajhar

A training on quality seed production for the *Boro* season was conducted by KVK, Kokrajhar under APART Project on February 15, 2021. Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Kokrajhar, and Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI, Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, APS, and Mr. Gopal Chandra Roy, Research Technician along with 25 number of women farmers were present in the training programme. The programme started with a round of introductions facilitated by Mr. Hemanta Borkakati. He briefed about the ongoing activities under APART. Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj explained the farmers about various aspects of quality seed production along with the importance of seed cleaning and seed treatment. Hands on training on seed cleaning and seed treatment was performed with the farmers, where the farmers had completed the activities by themselves during the training



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One-day training on resource efficient rice establishment methods conducted by KVK Kokrajhar

One-day training on resource efficient rice establishment method was successfully completed by KVK, Kokrajhar under APART on February 18, 2021. Shri Goutom Bhagawati, SMS (Plant Protection), Dr. Bhupen Kr. Baishya, SMS (Soil Science), Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI, Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, APS, Mr. Himangshu Deka, APS (CIP) and Mr. Gopal Chandra Roy, Research Technician along with 30 number of farmers including women participants were present in the training programme. The programme was initiated by Shri Goutom Bhagawati with farmers' interaction and briefed about the ongoing APART activities.





Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj explained the different cultivation practices in paddy through mechanical means viz., are mechanical transplanter, seed-cum-fertilizer drill, drum seeder and also advised the farmers to adopt the best agronomic practices during the entire cropping system. He also shared the benefits of using mechanical methods over the traditional way of cultivation. Mr. Bhagawati described about the major insects- pest and diseases of rice crop prevailing in Kokrajhar district by making a power point presentation and shared their various preventive measures to be taken during the cropping season. After that a short group discussion between the farmers and scientists was organized where the farmers shared their own farming experiences. Lastly, the day long programme was concluded with the vote of thanks from Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, APS, KVK, Kokrajhar.

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Inauguration of Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) by KVK Kokrajhar

Inauguration of Custom Hiring Centre with “Milon Self Help Group” was done on February 20, 2021 at No.1 Hatigarh, Gurufela, Kokrajhar. The inaugural ceremony was graced by the presence of Mr. B. M. Buzarbaruah, Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA), Kokrajhar, Mr. Binode Basumatary, ADA, Kokrajhar, Mrs. Chaitali Rani Dutta, Circle Officer, Bhawraguri, Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK-Kokrajhar, Sri Manindra Narayan Das, Sr. ADO, Gossaigaon, Mr. Vipin Kumar, Agriculture Extension Specialist, IRRI, Mr. Baljeet Singh, Market Analyst-cum-Operations Specialist, ARIAS Society, Mr. Probin Kr Bharali, Cluster Development Specialist, ARIAS Society, Shri Akhoy Jyoti Bhardwaj, Junior researcher, IRRI and Shri Brindabon Ray, Gaon Burha along with all the KVK staffs. Mr. Baljeet Singh started the inaugural ceremony by lighting a lamp. The felicitation of guests was done by the KVK team. Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan welcomed the dignitaries, other officials and the participant farmers &

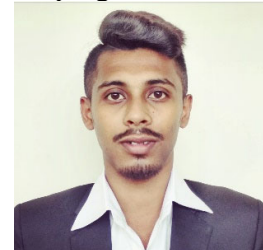


highlighted the objectives of the programme.



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Mr. B. M Buzarbaruah and M. Binode Basumatary addressed the participants and highlighted the role of APART in increasing the productivity and profitability of the small and marginal farmers. Mr. Probin Bharali welcomed the participants and highlighted the role of CHCs and the facilities provided to FPCs through APART for promoting the advanced mechanization. Mr Baljeet Singh shared his thoughts regarding training on different machineries and their repair and maintenance.

During the inauguration, Mr. Vipin Kumar described the functions and uses of various machines available at CHC and explained the reduction in cost of cultivation by adopting mechanization in paddy, from sowing of seeds to milling and value addition. A total of 114 participants including CHC members had participated in the inaugural programme. At the end, Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Kokrajhar thanked all the dignitaries and participants for their gracious presence in the programme.

Did you know?

The Great Wall of China is held together with sticky rice. While the Great Wall was being built during the Ming dynasty in the 15th and 16th centuries, workers used a porridge made with rice along with calcium carbonate as a mortar to hold the wall's stones together.



The training on quality seed production of Paddy under IRRI Supported activities, objective-I, of APART was successfully completed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari on February 15, 2021 at Loharkatha village with 25 number of participant farmers' from the village and nearby areas. The training programme was led by Mr. Dipankar Kalita, Project Associate and Mr. Rupam Deka, Research Technician of APART, KVK, Nalbari



Initially, Project Associate, APART, KVK, Nalbari, Mr. Dipankar Kalita interacted with the farmers and shared the difference between seed and grain. He also explained the farmers about different techniques of quality seed production, methods of testing seed viability, seed treatment procedures, different techniques of seed and grain storage etc. After the formal training, a live hands on training-cum-demonstration for selecting the viable good quality seed and its treatment was given by Mr. RupamDeka.

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