



APART RICE WEEKLY

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APART: RICE WEEKLY **(August 8-12, 2022)**

Rice Value Chain Demonstration Programme under IRRI Supported Activities at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari

On August 9, 2022 a demonstration on rice value chain under APART was successfully conducted at Bornibari village of Nalbari district by KVK, Nalbari with active collaboration of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The programme was conducted in presence of 40 number of women farmers from the locality. The officials who remained present in the program included Mr. Amlandeep Saikia, Junior Researcher, IRRI, APART, Mr. Dipankar Kalita, Project Associate, Mr. Rupam Deka, Research Technician, APART, KVK, Nalbari, representative from Grant Throntron (GT) and the Secretary & President of the Barnibari Gaon Panchayat. The demonstration was lead by IRRI expert Mr Amlandeep Saikia with contributions from GT. The programme was held at the auditorium hall of Barnibari Gaon Panchayat, where Mr. Amlandeep shared the rice value chain activities organized with the technical support of IRRI. The representative of GT welcomed all the participant farmers as well as the dignitaries present on the occasion of RVC demonstration programme. There after Mr. Dipankar Kalita elaborated on the APART as well as the objective of the demonstration programme. After that he briefly discussed about the Market linkage of the agricultural produce, Doubling Farmer's Income and about the various agricultural schemes of Govt. of India. In the mean time he also told the farmers to keep regular contact with the KVK Scientists for further knowledge related to any crop production related aspects. Thereafter Mr. Saikia presented a brief account of scientific paddy cultivation and the seed production technology. He also described about the various machines related to rice crop and rice value addition. He summarized about the various types of seeds, seed production technology, Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), Assam Seeds Corporation Ltd. and its role, Assam Seed and Organic Certification Agency and their roles. During his presentation he also gave a small demonstration on IRRI-Super bag and it suses. He also told about the Dry Grinding Machine, Solar Bubble Dryer and requested the participants to make Self Help Groups to take direct benefits from the Deptt. of Agriculture, Govt. of Assam and Govt. of India via concerned district offices.

Towards the end of the program the secretary of the Bornibari GP had thanked the KVK, Nalbari, IRRI and the GT for giving the opportunity to conduct this type of training or demonstration programme. She also told that this types of trainings will surely encourage the rural women towards a better future and make them self-sufficient. The demonstration programme successfully concluded with Vote of Thanks by President, Bornibari Gaon Panchayat.



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RARS, North Lakhimpur Organized Usability of User Friendly Diagnostic Tool “Rice Doctor”

A training program on usability of “Rice Doctor” App was organized by RARS, North Lakhimpur and Assam Agricultural University on August 09, 2022 at Training Hall, RARS, NL under APART. A total of 31 participants from different stakeholder groups including farmers, extension functionaries and students attended the training programme. The programme aimed with the intension of making awareness on usability of Rice Doctor mobile application by farmers and extension functionaries. The Rice Doctor App is a mobile based application developed by Assam Agricultural University with the technical support from International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) under Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART). By using the app both in English and Assamese version, farmers can accurately and timely diagnose problems of pests, diseases and abiotic stress in rice crop. In the inaugural session, Dr. Prabal Saikia, Chief Scientist, RARS, North Lakhimpur encouraged participants to learn on practical utility and applicability of the ‘Rice Doctor’ app. The technical part was handled by Dr. Gayatri Goswami, Dr. Abhilisha Mudoj, Project Scientist from APART, AAU, Jorhat and Ms Ankita Sahu from IRRI. The steps involved in identifying the diseases and pests along with their management were thoroughly discussed. The programme was attended by Dr. Yater Das and Mrs. Bithika Phukon, Junior Scientist, RARS, Dr. Pinky Pathok, Project Associate, APART and Mr. Champak Saikia, Research Technician, APART. The students, farmers and extension functionaries expressed satisfaction in learning about new app and provided positive feedback on improving the applicability of the App at field level in the future.

Monitoring of Demonstration Wise Paddy Fields of Beneficiary Farmers under APART, KVK, Bongaigaon

Field visits were carried out by Research Technicians, Mr. Bhaskar Baruah and Mr. Asraful Ahmed under supervision of Prasanta Kumar Das (APS) and Miss. Krishna Bharadwaj (SMS, Agronomy). They swa through the paddy crop status of beneficiary farmers (demonstration wise) and also suggested to the beneficiaries regarding various agricultural operations which they should carry out in their crop field in timely manner. Also they were involved on field training-cum-demonstration activity of mechanical transplanting of rice in different demonstration programmes. Research technicians had given various suggestions to the beneficiary farmers regarding paddy field activities. They also advised the farmers on a very important plant protection measure i.e., paddy seedling root dip treatment to minimize the root infection of paddy seedlings by using chemicals (Under Integrated Crop Management Demonstration).



Mechanical Transplanting



Transplanting of seedlings from MAT Nursery



Paddy Seedling Root Dip Treatment



Field visit and monitoring



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Usability Testing of Rice Doctor Mobile Application by KVK, Sonitpur

A usability testing of Rice Doctor Mobile Application was held under APART at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur. The training was attended by nearly 50 students of Solmora High School and Panchmile Girls' High School along with few progressive farmers of Sonitpur district. The programme started with an inaugural speech by Mrs. Angana sarma, I/c Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur. During her speech, she talked about climate-resilient technologies and adoption of some stress-tolerant rice varieties for better production. Dr. Roji Chutia, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy) gave a brief description of the Rice Doctor mobile application and its benefits to the farming community. She further stated that Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur will provide technical guidance and help the farmers in learning new technologies of improved rice cultivation. Dr. Gayatree Goswami, Dr. Abhilisa Mudoi, Project Scientists under APART and Ms. Ankita Sahu, Junior Researcher of International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) were the resource persons for the programme. The participants were made aware of different pests and diseases of rice and their management practices. During the programme they were trained on the usage of the Rice Doctor application. They were also provided specific samples of pest and disease affected rice plants and were made to search about the problems and their remedies in the mobile application itself. The training programme was also assisted by Ms. Rupsikha Goswami, APS (APART), Mr Dibyajyoti Saikia, Mr Rajib Lochan Sahu and Mr Debajit Bhuyan of APART, KVK Sonitpur. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Palash Thengal, Project Associate, APART. The participants expressed their satisfaction over such training programme and provided their valuable feedback at the end of the program.



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