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Contributions from: KVKs, RARSs, HRS, District ATMAs, IRRI Assam

<u>APART: RICE WEEKLY</u> (May 9-14, 2022)

Two-Day Training on Repair and Maintenance of Combine harvester organized for KVK, Kokrajhar at KVK, Kamrup

On May 11-12,2022, a two-day training on repair and maintenance of combine harvester was held at KVK, Kamrup. The training was organised by KVK, Kokrajhar under APART in collaboration with IRRI. Total 20 participants, 10 each from Milon Custom Hiring centre (CHC) under KVK, Kokrajhar and Luit CHC under KVK, Dhubri were present in the training programme. The training began with the welcome address by Ms Narzina Parbin, Assistant Project Scientist, KVK, Kokrajhar. Dr. Dhirendra Nath Kalita (Head, KVK, Kamrup), Dr. Promod Kumar Deka (Head-Cum-Princical Scientist, CBBO, AAU, HRS, Kahikuchi), and Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI were present in the training programme. Mr. Rohit Namdeo, Postharvest Specialist, IRRI, began the training programme with a pre-training test to know the basic knowledge level of farmers on combine harvester. After completion of the test, Mr. Rohit Namdeo briefly explained the machine in 4 parts viz., factors considered before operating the machine, cost-benefit of the machine, precautionary measures adopted during operation and maintenance of the machine with photographic and digrametic representation.







On the second day, Mr. Govind Singh (Machinery Specialist, IRRI) took the practical class by explaining each and every part of the combine harvester, and also explained about the repair and maintenance of the machine. Participants were very much interested to learn about the machine. A post-training test was conducted to know how much knowledge the participants gathered after completion of both theory and practical classes. The programme concluded with certificate distribution to the participants who completed the series of trainings, and a vote of thanks was propsoed by Miss Shilpi Devi Borah, PA, APART, KVK, Kokraihar.



Training on Postharvest Machineries – Sali Season (2022-23)

On May 6-7, 2022, a training programme on postharvest machineries was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kokrajhar in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) under Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART). A total of 30 participantswere present in the training programme. The programme started with a welcome address by Miss Shilpi Devi Borah, PA, KVK, Kokrajhar. Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI briefly explained the different processes, technologies and machineries being used for postharvest operations, and also discussed about the advantages and disadvantages of machineries. Ms Shilpi Devi Borah, Project Associate, Ms Narzina Parbin Assistant Project Scientist, and Mr. Gopal Ch. Roy, Research Technician, KVK, Kokrajhar also participated in the programme. The training closed with a vote of thanks by Miss Shilpi Devi Borah, PA, APART.













Shilpi Devi Borah PA, APART, KVK, Kokrajhar



NarzinaParbin APS , APART, KVK, Kokrajhar



Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj Junior Researcher, IRRI

Postharvest Training and Demonstration held at Goalpara under APART

On May 9, 2022, atraining and demonstration on postharvest machinery was conducted at Dabanggiri, Dudhnoi of Goalpara district by APART staff of Horticultural Research Station (HRS), Kahikuchi. The programme was initiated by Mr Madhujya Bikash Borah, Project Associate, HRS, Kahikuchi with a brief overview as well as the basic objectives of APART and further outlay regarding the importance of the postharvest management. The programme was taken forward by Mr. Mridupawan Mudoi, Junior Researcher, IRRI who detailed and elaborated on the utilisation of machines for farm production, postharvest management and presented on the various postharvest technologies & strategies which can help in mitigating the green house gas emission and improving the agricultural scenario of Assam. Further, the demonstration on machines was carried out by Mr. Bhaskar Boruah, Research Technician, HRS Kahikuchi who demonstrated the usage of super bag to the participating farmers. The farmers showed their keen interest to use the machines in their own settings and desired to have more trainings in their locality. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Project Associate, APART.









Contributors:



Madhujya Bikash Borah PA, APART, HRS, Kahikuchi



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Field Visit of Boro Paddy under APART, RARS, Gossaigaon

A field visit was organized under APART, at RARS, Gossaigaon on May 7, 2022 to monitor the status of various demonstrations at four different locations under IRRI-supported activities. The field was inspected by Dr. Vinod Upadhayay, Junior Scientist (Plant Protection), Ms Anjela Deka (Project Associate) & Mr Monjit Das (Research Technician). Machine Transplanted Rice (MTPR) demonstration plots were inspected at Kurshakati and Kachukata areas, respectively where leaf folder infestation was found and farmers were advised to spray Profexsuper @ 2ml/I once a week. Learning Centre Demonstration (LCD) plot was inspected at Musolmanpara where crop was in panicle initiation stage and no severe pest and disease incidence was observed. Head to Head demonstration plot was observed at Harvangaand it was observed that crop was in panicle initiation stage and farmer was advised to keep the field weed-free and apply appropriate insecticide if pest infestation occurs.







Contributors:



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Monjit Das RT, APART, RARS, Gossaigaon

Postharvest Training Conducted under KVK Bongaigaon

A postharvest training under APART was conducted by KVK, Bongaingaon on May 13, 2022 at Manikpur. The training programme was organized at Manikpur Joha Rice Farmer Producer Company. Dr. Sewali Saikia (SMS, Horticulture), Ms. Krishna Bharadwaj (SMS, Agronomy) and Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj (Junior Researcher, IRRI) were present in the programme.

The training programme started with a brief introductory note by Dr. Sewali Saikia. It was followed by the main objective of the training by Mr. A.J. Bharadwaj with a brief introduction about APART and its various objectives. He also described the use of various machineries related to rice cultivation while laying emphasis on the various postharvest machineries. The participating farmers were also told about different postharvest management practices. It was followed by an interactive session between farmers and the officials present. The participants were also given a brief demonstration on the working of Reaper-cum-Binder machine. The training programme concluded with vote of thanks by Ms. Krishna Bharadwaj. A total of 30 participants attended the programme.







Contributor:

Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj, Junior Researcher, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

Postharvest Training & Demonstration of Sali Paddy under APART, KVK, Dhubri

A training and demonstration programme on postharvest machineries was conducted at two locations of Dhubri district. One was conducted on May 11, 2022 at Hapapara and another on May 12, 2022 at Chotogirairpar. The programmes started with the introductory speech by Mr Bikash J.Gharphalia (SMS, Agrometeorology) where he elaborately discussed the various stress-tolerant rice varieties that have been provided under APART and the various demonstrations under it. It was followed by Mr Ashok K.Gogoi (Project Associate), who briefed on the various postharvest technologies and losses occurring after harvesting of rice. He pointed out the importance of various postharvest machineries and how we can minimize the losses. Through a power point presentation, various postharvest machines used in rice were showcased by Ms Rimjim S. Bora (Assistant Project Scientist). The programme concluded with a demonstration of rice super bag and moisture meter by Mr Bikash J.Gharphalia.







Crop Cutting and Field Day of Boro Paddy under APART, KVK, Dhubri

A day-long field day and crop cutting programme was organised on May 9, 2022 for LCD - STRV of *Boro* paddy at Tarang Gaon of Dhubri District. The programme started with the welcome address by Ms Rimjim S. Bora (Assistant Project Scientist), where she briefed the overview of APART and its objectives. It was followed by a speech from Mr Bikash J. Gharphalia (SMS, Agrometeorology) who discussed at length the characteristics of Bina Dhan 11, its origin and cultivation practices. He also highlighted the importance of cultivating Bina Dhan 11 and its superiority over local varieties. The other members present in the programme were Mr Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj (Junior Researcher, IRRI), Mr Ashok K. Gogoi (Project Associate) and Research technicians (Chandan Mr Bora, Sandhan Kr. Das, Mr Ashraful Ahmed). After completion of the field day, the crop cutting was undertaken and data were collected.







Contributors



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Training & Demonstration on Postharvest Machineries, KVK Sonitpur

A training and demonstration on postharvest machineries was conducted on May 13, 2022 under APART, KVK Sonitpur at village Muwamari, Bindukuri in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The programmewas attended by 30 farmers from the village and nearby areas. The training started with a welcome address by Miss Rupsikha Goswami, Assistant Project Scientist (APART). During her address, she highlighted the importance of stress-tolerant rice varieties and their best management practices. She also stressed on the importance of postharvest management in paddy and proper methods of harvesting and storage. Different machineries and equipments like rice transplanter, reaper, drum seeder, seed-cum-fertilizer drill, moisture meter, IRRI super bag etc., used in rice cultivation and post-harvest activities were discussed in detail during the training programme. Mr. Janmejay Biswal, Research Technician of IRRI described the importance and use of moisture meter and IRRI super bag and demonstrated their use during the training programme. The farmers were also made aware of different paddy procurement centres in the district and were encouraged to sell their harvested paddy in the PPCs at Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the government. They were also made aware of different standards and criteria fixed by the PPCs for procurement of their produce. Mr. Goutam Borah, Mr. Debajit Bhuyan and Mr. Rajib Sahu, Research Technicians under APART also participated in the training programme. The farmers were very much benefited from theprogramme and provided their valuable feedback.







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