



# APART RICE WEEKLY

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District ATMAS, IRRI Assam

## **APART: RICE WEEKLY** **(August 16-20,2022)**

### **Exposure Visit Within District Conducted by KVK, Jorhat**

On August 17, 2022, an exposure visit within district was conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jorhat under Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART). Total 36 farmers from Khanamukh Bamboo Farmer Producer Company (Jorhat) participated in the programme. At the beginning of the programme the participants visited the demonstration farm of the KVK, Jorhat during which Dr. Sanjoy Borthakur, Senior Scientist and Head, addressed the participants and elaborated the purpose of the programme and requested them to harness the benefits of this program. Mr. Plaban Debraj briefly informed the participants about the Krishi Vigyan Kendra Jorhat as well as about the ongoing APART activities. The participants were exposed to the different demonstration units in the KVK Farm as well as farm implements and machineries. After completion of visit in the KVK, the participants proceeded to Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Sotai, Jorhat. The team was accompanied by Mr. Plaban Debraj, Project Associate, APART and Mrs. Prajalita Dutta, Assistant Project Scientist, APART. Dr. Rajib Kumar Kalita, Scientist of RFRI initiated the programme and gave a brief presentation on the works carried out at RFRI, Jorhat. He elaborately discussed about different bamboo species, bamboo nursery, bamboo by-products like preparation of charcoal and briquettes, preservative treatment of bamboo, artificial inoculation of agar wood, lac cultivation and vermi-composting etc. The participants were exposed to the Bambusetum and Vacuum Pressure Impregnation Unit available in the Institute. Towards the end, the participants were taken to a mechanically transplanted Sali paddy demonstration under IRRI-supported activities of APART by KVK Jorhat so that the farmers could have a first-hand experience of mechanically transplanted rice cultivation. The programme was a great success with the coordination of all the scientific staff and APART team of KVK Jorhat.



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### **Two-days Training on Reaper and Combine Harvester at KVK, Kokrajhar**

On August 3 and 4, 2022, two-days training on Reaper and Combine harvester was organised by KVK, Kokrajhar under APART project in collaboration with IRRI. Total 21 number of participants were present in the training programme. The training was started with a welcome address by Ms Narzina Parbin, Assistant Project Scientist, KVK, Kokrajhar. Dr. SK Paul (Chief Scientist, RARS, Gossaigaon), Mr. Rohit Namdeo, (Consultant, IRRI), Shilpi Devi Borah (Project Associate, APART), Mr. PK Mahapatra (RT, IRRI), Mr. Gopal Ch. Roy (RT, APART) and three Research Technicians of IRRI were present in the training programme. Dr. SK Paul (Chief Scientist, RARS, Gossaigaon), gave a brief introduction of the programme. Mr. Rohit Namdeo, (IRRI) started the training programme with a pre-evaluation test to know the basic knowledge of farmers regarding Reaper and Combine harvester. After completion of the test Mr. Rohit Namdeo briefly explained the

specifications of machines (Reaper and Combine harvester) in 4 parts, viz., i) factors to be considered before operating the machine, ii) cost-benefit ratio of the machines, iii) precautionary measures during operation and iv) maintenance of the machines with brief photographic and diagrammatic presentation. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day Machinery Specialist, IRRI conducted the practical class by explaining each and every part of the Reaper and Combine harvester. The participants were highly satisfied, encouraged and motivated to use the Reaper and Combine harvester. A post-evaluation test was also conducted to know about the gain in knowledge of the participants after completion of both theory and practical classes on Reaper and Combine harvester. Training concluded with a vote of thanks given by Ms Narzina Parbin, APS, APART.



#### Contributors



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### Usability Testing of Rice Doctor Application under IRRI-supported activities at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari

On August 20, 2022 the Usability Testing of Rice Doctor Application under APART was successfully conducted by KVK Nalbari at training hall of State Institute of Panchayat & Rural Development (SIPRD), Nalbari with the technical support of International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The programme was conducted in the presence of 31 number of farmers from different locations of the district. The programme was successfully conducted in presence of Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Nalbari, Dr. H. C. Bhattacharyya, Ex-DEE, AAU, Jorhat (as Chief Guest), Mr. Amlandeep Saikia, (Junior Researcher, IRRI), Dr. Daizy Sarma, (Project Scientist, IPM, APART), Miss. Debojani Deori, Project Scientist, APART, Miss Bhanita Kalita, Consultant, IRRI, Guwahati, Mr. Dipankar Kalita, Project Associate and Mr. Rupam Deka, Research Technician of APART, KVK, Nalbari.

First of all, Mr. Dipankar Kalita gave a warm welcome to all the participant farmers as well as the dignitaries present in the training programme. There after Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Nalbari elaborated about the APART, as well as the objectives of the training programme. He also told the farmers to keep regular contact with the

KVK Scientists for further knowledge related to any crop production. There after Dr. H. C. Bhattacharyya, made a presentation on paddy cultivation and the seed production technology. He also described about the various indigenous techniques related to rice crop cultivation and summarized about the various types of seeds and seed production technologies.

There after the IRRI-APART team took a session on Rice Doctor Application and its usage. After that they technically guided the farmers how to use the application in their own mobile phones. After the mobile app demonstration they had conducted an examination about the whole training programme. During the end of the programme the farmers present in the training programme thanked KVK, Nalbari as well as the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) for giving them opportunity on this type of technical sessions on rice doctor app. Farmers also told that rice doctor app will surely encourage the youth farming community in better management of their crop and will help in making them self-sufficient.

The demonstration programme successfully concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Kalita, Project Associate, APART, KVK, Nalbari.



**Contributors**



**Mr. Dipankar Kalita**  
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**Two-days Training on Repair, Maintenance & Management of Dry Grinding Machine and Portable Rice Mill**

On August 16-17, 2022, the last series of training to strengthen the newly formed FPCs/CHCs on repair, maintenance and management of dry grinding machine and portable rice mill was organized under APART at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagaon premises in collaboration with IRRI. Total 20 participants from 3 FPCs viz., Jaiva Kristi Agro Producer Company Ltd., Disoi Valley FPC and Athkhelia FPC from Nagaon and Golaghat districts, respectively attended the training programme. The technical session was carried out by Mr. Saurajyoti Baishya, Postharvest Specialist, IRRI, where he explained all the details of the machines and gave a brief presentation of the machine parts. The practical sessions were carried out by Mr. Sanjoy Malakar and Mr Dharmendra Das from J S Induatry, Ghy, with the help of Research technicians of APART, KVK, Nagaon. On the last day, the trainees were addressed by Hon'ble Director of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat, Dr. P K Pathak, where he interacted with the FPC members and discussed about the business opportunities, market linkages and farm mechanization. He also distributed the certificates of participation to the FPC members. The participants were very much satisfied with training programme.





### **Stakeholder Workshop: Rice Knowledge Bank (RKB)**

On August 18, 2022, Krishi Vigyan kendra, Nagaon under ongoing APART project conducted a workshop on Rice Knowledge Bank (RKB) with a total of 45 number of participants from different stakeholders including, RARS, Shillongani; KVK, Sonitpur;KVK, Morigaon;DAO, Nagaon;Batadrava and Raha Development Blocks; and some progressive farmers to update on digital tools developed under the project. The programme started with a welcome address by Dr. Niranjana Deka, Head, KVK, Nagaon. Dr. Rupam Borgohain, Nodal officer, OPIU-AAU, APART took a session on AAU initiatives under APART. Dr. Kanwar Singh, Resident Consultant, IRRI gave details of digital tools developed by AAU with the technical support of IRRI and he also updated on the webGIS portal. Dr. A. Sarmah, Chief Scientist, RARS, Shillongani was also present during the event and interacted with the stakeholders. Mr. Jyoti Bikash Nath, Communication Specialist, IRRI, updated the participants on RKB website and Rice Doctor App. In the programme, Crop Consultant APART, ARIAS Society, Dr Arunima Deb Chaudhary, Mr Bhaskar Mahanta, PC, OPIU-AAU, APART and other officials from AAU, IRRI and APART KVK, Nagaon staff also participated. After successful completion of the event, Dr. K. Singh, Mr. J. B. Nath, Ms. Puja Rajkhowa, Ms Bidisha Borah and Mr. Durlav Kalita visited the replicated Rice Variety Cafeteria.



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