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# APART: RICE WEEKLY (May16-21, 2022)

#### Submerged Condition of Boro Paddy Demonstration

On May 19-20, 2022, a visit was made by APART team accompanied by Dr. Yater Das, Junior Scientist, RARS, North Lakhimpur, to Boro paddy demonstration conducted under Karunabari and Naoboisa blocks of Lakhimpur district. During the visit, it was observed that most of the demonstration plots of var. Bina Dhan 11 under Integrated Crop Management Demonstration (ICMD) and Learning Centre Demonstration (LCD) were completely submerged under water depth upto130 cm for five days due to inceassant pre-monsoon rains. Though the crop attained maturity stage with good growth, farmers may or may not be able to get the good harvest if flood prolongs further. Such uncertain conditions of weather damage the crop without giving any chance to minimize or cover the losses. Furthermore, the paddy farmers faced a huge loss as their storage for the whole year gets affected due to such unpredictable weather condition. Farmers were suggested to cultivate high yielding rice varieties in the coming *Sali* season following best management practices to meet the paddy requirement.





## Training and Demonstrations on Postharvest Machinery in *Sali* paddy under APART

Training on postharvest machinery under APART were organized by RARS, North Lakhimpur at three diferent locations viz., 1 No. Ahmedpur, Kawoibhuruka and Bongalmara from May 19-21, 2022. A total of 101 participants including 43 females and 58 males attended the programmes. The training started with a welcome address by Dr. Pinky Pathok, Project Associate, APART. During her address, she highlighted the objective of the training programme and explained importance of using different machinery in crop production. Dr. Yater Das, Junior Scientist, RARS, North Lakhimpur brifed about best management practices of *Sali* paddy including preparation of mat-type nursery to minimize cost of cultivation per unit area. The technical session was carried out by Dr. Gayatree Goswami and Dr. Abhilisa Mudoi, Project Scientist, APART. They discussed in detail about various machinery and equipment used in paddy cultivation right from sowing to harvesting and storage. They explained the working principle of Super bag and demonstrated the use of Moisture Meter. Practical demonstration on Dry Grinding Machine was explained by Mr. Champak Saikia and Mr. Sanjay Kr. Yadav, Research Technician, IRRI, APART. All the participants expressed their satisfaction regarding functioning of the machines and showed eagerness to purchase in recent time for expanding women SHGs in business mode.









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#### **Postharvest Training and RVC Demo**

During this week, total 4 training and demo programmes under objective III of APART were successfully completed at different villages of Kamrup district by APART officials of KVK Kamrup. The first two training programmes on postharvest machinery were conducted at Patttorpur and Jajikona villages of Bhedia Dev. Block on May 19, 2022. The training programmes were scheduled one at forenoon and another in afternoon session at two different villages. Similarly, on May 21, 2022, two training and demo programmes, one on post-harvest machinery training and another on rice value chain demo, were also successfully completed at Jaji and Kumarbori villages of Chayniborduar Dev. Block of Kamrup district, respectively.

All the trainings began with a brief introduction regarding objective of training by Mr Dibakar Mohodi, APS APART, KVK Kamrup. Dr. Rohit Kumar Namdeo, Specialist from IRRI helped in training on post harvest to the participants. During training session, Dr. Rohit Kumar covered all the basic topics like postharvest losses, major factors involved in postharvest losses, useful machinery for different postharvest activities to minimize the postharvest losses, etc. He also briefly added that how the utility of machinery can change the scenario of value-addition sector in Assam. Besides postharvest machinery. Dr. Rohit Kumar also shared and explained the videos of various machinery like transplanter, power weeder, battery operated sprayer, etc. which are highly useful in paddy cultivation. Mr Ananta Gogoi, RT, APART and Mr. Arup Jyoti Kakoti, RT APART also actively contributed to make theprogramme a successful event.

In order to increase the effectiveness of the programme, towards the end, a short verbal interaction session among the participants and officials is arranged to analyse the knowledge gained through the training or demo programme. So, as per our training agenda at the end of the programme we arranged a short interaction session, and also we resolved the various queries of the farmers like price of machinery, subsidy availability, how to access the machinery present at different CHCs or stations, etc. The programme ended with voteof thanks by Mr Dibakar Mohodi, APS, APART.





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## Demonstration and Training on Postharvest Machineries (PHM) under IRRI-supported Activities by APART KVK, Nalbari on May 20, 2022 at Lotus NGO, Marowa

A demonstration and training programme on postharvest machineries (PHM) under IRRI-supported activities was successfully conducted involving 58 women farmers by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Nalbari on May 29, 2022 at "Lotus Progressive Society" campus situated at Morowa village under Assam Agri-business & Rural Transformation Project(APART). Mr. RohitNamdeo, IRRI consultant was present on the programme as chief guest. The programme was started with welcome address by Mr. Naba Kumar Baishya, Co-ordinator, Lotus Progressive Center, Marowa. After that Mr. PranjitBharali, APS, APART, KVK, Nalbari briefly elaborated about the Project as well as the objective of the training programme.

During technical session, Mr. Namdeo briefly discussed with the participants about the various machineries related to paddy crop and their uses. He also discussed about RKB website, RKB portal, use of RKB website and different machineries related to paddy crop along with their benefits. He requested the women participants to create an Common Interest Group (CIG) among themselves and connect it to FPC with the help of KVK, Nalbari and Department of Agriculture at District level. During his presentation, he also presented uses of various machineries related to paddy cultivation from seed sowing to storage. Demonstrations on paddy moisture meter, and IRRI Super bag, etc. were arranged by the IRRI expert and APART team to acquaint the participants regarding their usage and functioning. The technical session was conducted by Mr. Pranjit Bharali (APS) and Mr. Rupam Deka (Research Technician) APART, KVK, Nalbari who also described about the importance of farm mechanization in the present agricultural scenario.

After the demonstration programme, positive feedback was given by the female participants. The training and demonstration programme successfully ended with the vote of thanks by Mr. Tapan Baishya, Secretary Lotus Progressive Society, Marowa.





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## TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMMES UNDER APART, KVK DHUBRI

A demonstration programme on Rice Value Chain and a training and demonstration programme on Post-Harvest Machineries were conducted at two locations of Dhubri district. The former was conducted at Borogirairpar village of Dhubri district on 18<sup>th</sup> of May, 2022 and the latter was conducted Paschim Medhipara village on 19<sup>th</sup> of May, 2022. A total of 30 nos. of participants were present in each of the programmes. The programmes started with the introductory speech of Mr. Bikash J. Gharphalia (SMS Agrometeorology), where he briefly stressed on the importance of Stress Tolerant Rice Varieties (STRVs) provided under APART project, along with their best management practices. The meeting was carried forward by Mr. Akhoy J. Bharadwaj (Junior Researcher, IRRI), where he elaborately discussed the utilization of various machines *viz.* rice transplanter, reaper, combine harvester for post-harvest management of rice through proper methods. Further, Mr. Ashok K. Gogoi (PA, APART) demonstrated the use of IRRI Super Bag and Moisture meter to the farmers. The







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