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

APART: RICE WEEKLY (Jan 24-29, 2022)

Quality Seed Production (QSP) Training under Boro Paddy

The QSP training for Boro paddy was successfully completed in Sastar village under Hajo development block, Kamrup on January 25, 2022. The training program was organised by KVK Kamrup with technical support of IRRI officials. Seed is the primary input for any crop production, so use of quality seed has great impact in rice crop production in terms of getting higher yield. Dr. Kasturi Goswami, Junior Researcher, IRRI attended the program as resource person. She gave a brief introduction about the APART and shared the role of KVK and IRRI. She mentioned about various stress tolerant rice varieties introduced in the project and explained the detailed characteristics of BINA Dhan 11 and DRR Dhan 44, given to the farmers in the ongoing Boro season. She also explained the importance and process of paddy seed treatment to the farmers. During her session she mentioned about various classes of seeds, process of quality seed production and the seed certification process.



Then, a practical demonstration on seed cleaning with salt water was demonstrated by Mr. Arupjyoti Kakoki, Research Technician (RT), KVK Kamrup. The seed treatment process was explained, which includes the following steps.

- 1. Preparation of salt water solution by taking a raw egg as indicator of the amount of salt to be added for the solution.
- 2. Untreated seed were then put in the solution and stirred well in the solution.
- 3. After few minutes, the chaffy/unfilled seeds and diseased seeds floated on the surface of water and all the floating seeds were removed.
- 4. The good quality seeds settled at the bottom were selected andwashed with clean water for two to three times to wash away the salt.
- 5. The seeds were then treated with a fungicide and kept for few hours.

The farmers were advised to follow this seed treatment process in order to avoid disease infestation in the main field.



Dr. Kasturi Goswami, Junior Researcher, IRRI, APART



Mr. DibakarMohodi, APS, APART, KVK Kamrup

Mat-type nursery prepared by female farmer under RARS, Gossaigaon

On January 24, 2022 a demonstration on preparation of dry mat-type nursery was laid in Guabari village, Kachugaon block of Kokrajhar district. A female farmer named Mrs. Guljan Dewa of Guabari village received BINA Dhan 11 variety seed under APART from RARS, Gossaigaon along with technical support from IRRI. She showed interest to adopt mechanical transplanting of rice by raising mat-type nursery as she was interested to harness the benefits of the new technology. Hence she decided to prepare dry mat-type nursery which will cover an area of 1 ha, under APART demonstration. The farmer was technically supported by Mr. Monjit Das (RT, RARS, Gossaigaon) and Mr. P. Mahapatra (RT, IRRI) on the day of raising the nursery. The farmer was very eager to learn about this new technology which will lower the cost of production and also provide better yield.





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Farmer's satisfaction on innovative cropping system approach through mechanization in Nagaon District

The cropping system demonstrations under Objective IV were planned and executed with an aim of "Field testing of innovative cropping systems to increase the cropping intensity in Assam". A field visit on these demonstrated plots was organized on January 22, 2022 by KVK, Nagaon APART team. In *rabi* season of 2021-22, two demonstrations of 10 bigha each were assigned to Nagaon district. The demonstrations comprised of four crops viz., rice followed by green pea, mustard, lentil and potato. Each crop was sown in 2.5 bigha area. The cultivars used in these demonstrations were NRCHB 101 for mustard, Kashi Nandani for greenpea, WBL 77 for lentil and Kufri Pukhraj for potato.



The demo was implemented under supervision of KVK, Nagaon team comprising, Ms. Bidisha Borah (APS), Debojit Bhuyan (RT) and Dulav Kalita (RT) and Mr. Janmejay Biswal, Research Technician, IRRI. The sowing was done on December 30, 2021 and all the crops are now in vegetative stage. The farmers are satisfied with the growth of the crop till now and are hoping to get a good yield. They mentioned mechanized establishment of these crops is helping them in saving time and cost and farmers shared that they willadopt the mechanised methods of sowing in coming seasons with more area. During this visit, farmers were also advised to apply pesticides in future, if any pest infestation will occur.



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