

APART RICE WEEKLY

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District ATMAS, IRRI Assam**

APART: RICE WEEKLY **(Jan 31-Feb 5, 2022)**

Three-day Training on Strengthening of Farmer Producer Companies(FPCs) on Mat-type Nursery and Mechanical Transplanting of Rice Conducted by KVK Sonitpur

A three-day training on strengthening Farmer Producer Company on mat-type nursery and mechanical transplanting of rice was held under APART at KVK Sonitpur. The training was attended by members of Shyamal Farmer Producer Company of Sonitpur district and the members of FPC of Lakhimpur district. Addressing the participants, Dr. Roji Chutia, Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy) stressed that mechanization is a must for today's farming and thus it can be further utilized for improving the agriculture scenario of Assam. She further stated that Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur will provide technical guidance and help to the Farmer Producer Companies.



Mr. P. Srichandan, Research Technician, IRRI demonstrated the preparation of mat-type nursery and mechanical transplanting in field and explained different parts of the transplanter and their usage to the farmers. He was assisted by Goutam Borah and Debajit Bhuyan, Research Technicians under APART during the programme. During the three-day training, technicians of RI Agriculture company also actively participated and explained different parts and functioning of the rice transplanter. The farmers expressed their satisfaction over such training programmes for smooth running of their FPC and provided their valuable feedback at the end.

**Contributor: Rupsikha Goswami, APS, APART,
KVK Sonitpur**



Ms. Rupsikha Goswami, Assistant Project Scientist of APART welcomed the participants and advised the farmers to cultivate stress-tolerant rice varieties (STRVs) through mechanization which will further increase income of the farmers. Mr. Vivek Kumar, Specialist, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) acted as resource person for the training who guided the farmers in establishing a resource-efficient crop production system through preparation of mat-type nursery and usage of mechanical rice transplanter. Mr. Dibyarishi Bhattacharjya, Junior Researcher, IRRI provided technical guidance to the farmers regarding mechanisation and also highlighted the economic benefit through adoption of such technologies.

Successfully Completed Quality Seed Production Training by APART, KVK, Nalbari

On February 3, 2022, a training program on Quality Seed Production (QSP) under IRRI activities was successfully conducted by the KVK Nalbari at Balitara Village of Pub Nalbari Block with 30 farmers of the district. The Programme started with the welcome of participants by Mr. Biswajit Gogoi, RT, KVK Nalbari. Then Mr. Ambika C. Sarma, SMS, Agronomy, KVK Nalbari briefly discussed about the project and encouraged the farmers to get the benefits of project. During technical session, Mr. Amlandeep Saikia, IRRI specialist briefly discussed with the participants about the various cultivation practices and rice varieties. He also told about the different technologies to produce quality seed of paddy.



Mr. Saikia told about the different diseases and insect-pests related to rice crop, and about their management practices to the farmers and gave a method demonstration regarding seed treatment and quality seed selection. He also told about the CHC, where various machineries were stocked for farmers of the district. The whole program was smoothly carried out with the active collaboration of all staff at KVK Nalbari including APART. In the end, Mr. Biswajit Gogoi, RT, KVK Nalbari presented the vote of thanks and asked farmers to keep regular contact with the KVK Scientists for any queries.

GIS Experts Visited the Maize Field of APART, KVK, Nalbari under Objective IV

On February 3, 2022, a GIS expert team visited the maize field demonstration in rice-fallow areas under Objective IV of IRRI activities at KVK, Nalbari. The team was led by Dr. Suranjana B. Borah, Senior Specialist, GIS. The programme was conducted at the Borkhetri block of Nalbari district. The team was assisted by Dr. M. Chakravarty, i/c Head, KVK, Nalbari, Mr. Pranjit Bharali, APS and Mr. Rupam Deka, RT, APART, KVK, Nalbari. The demonstrations were laid out in the fields of 5 farmers of the area, namely Md. Ayub Ali, Md. Sahabuddin Ahmed, Md. Ohed Ali, Md. Dildar Ali and Fullo Bibi. After inspecting the field, Dr. Borah gave good remarks to the APART team of KVK, Nalbari. GIS experts also collected the drone shot of the all plots.



Contributors:



Dipankar Kalita, PA, APART, KVK Nalbari



Pranjit Bharali, APS, APART, KVK Nalbari

Farmer Finds Hope with Method of Mechanical Transplanting of Paddy in BoroSeason

Biraj Kumar Bhuyan, a farmer of Salaguri, Sivasagar has been cultivating rice following the traditional methods of cultivation. Machines were used only for ploughing the field and all the other operations were carried out manually using agricultural labourers. Traditional method of raising nursery was followed which was then transplanted manually into the field. The seedlings were planted randomly without following proper spacing which made the intercultural operations difficult. Change came in the year 2022 with the introduction of mechanical rice transplanter method in BoroSeason. Mat-type nursery bed was introduced for transplanting an area of 10 bighas. As Boro paddy is not prevalent in Sivasagar district, the farmer is quite optimistic about the future of the success of the technology that was disseminated by KVK Sivasagar and IRRI staff.



**Contributor: Saurajyoti Baishya, IRRI,
Specialist-PH&RVC**



Wet DSR Demonstration for Boro Paddy 2021-22 under RARS,Gossaigaon

Generally rice is cultivated by raising seedlings in nursery and finally transferred to the main field. With the changing global as well as prevailing Assam scenario of disinclination towards agricultural activities, specifically cultivation, the World Bank aided APART project initiated new resource-efficient technologies for Assam condition to reap the benefits in the days to come.

Wet Direct Seeding with the help of drum seeder in rice cultivation is customary for crop establishment in Kokrajhar district after the execution of APART project. Farmer have opted wet DSR method of sowing by dropping their normal method of transplanting.



Wet direct seeded rice demonstration of BINA 11 variety was organized in Molandubi village with farmer Rahim of Rupshi block, Kokrajhar in Boro season 2021-22 in 1 ha area on February 2, 2022. Mr.Madhuja Bikash Borah, Project Associate along with Monjit Das, Research Technician under APART Project, RARS, Gossaigaon have provided the technical know how on the wet DSR.The farmers of the nearby area witnessed and acknowledged the new technology using drum seeder for its advantages like conformity, minimal labour and time.

**Contributor: Madhuja Bikash Borah,
PA, APART, RARS Gossaigaon**



One-day Training at KVK Sonitpur

On February 2, 2022, a one-day training on resource-efficient crop establishment method and best management practices of rice was organized in KVK, Sonitpur under APART AWP 2021-22 for summer season. In the training, 25 farmers from various villages participated. Dibyarishi Bhattacharjya from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) imparted training on different topics such as types of nursery raising and management, integrated weed management, integrated pest and disease management, mechanical transplanting, direct seeding, machine harvesting, water management, etc.



Practically, the farmers were demonstrated with the utility of a reaper in crop harvest in toria crop and the operation of a mechanical rice transplanter. The efficiency of the machine in the said operation was applauded by the farmers in view of sustainable agriculture and mechanized farming. The training was nicely organized and coordinated by Mr Palash Thengal, PA and Ms Rupsikha Goswami, APS, APART, KVK Sonitpur. The training was captured in video by Doordarshan-Krishi Darshan for preparation of a documentary on agriculture.

Contributor: Dibyarishi Bhattacharjya, JR, IRRI



Training on Rice Value Chain Conducted by KVK, Darrang

On February 2, 2022, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Darrang, in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), organized a training on rice value chain (Boro) under APART with 30 farmers at village Bahabari of Darrang district. The programme started with the welcome of participants by Mr. Amlandeep Saikia, Junior Researcher, IRRI who further discussed about STRVs and also briefed the activities of APART. Mr. Saikia explained the working principles of various machines used for post-harvest operations in rice. Mr. Kushil Gogoi, RT, KVK, Darrang with the help of Mr. Amlandeep Saikia demonstrated the use of super bags and moisture meter. He also informed participants about the Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) and how they can benefit from it. Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, Assistant Project Scientist and Kushil Gogoi, Research Technician helped in smooth running of the programme. The training ended with a vote of thanks to the participants.



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Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, APS, KVK, Darrang explained the working principles of various machines used for rice value chain. Mr. Amlandeep Saikia briefly described and demonstrated the use of super bags to the farmers. Mr. Kushil Gogoi, RT, KVK, Darrang with the help of Mr. Amlandeep Saikia demonstrated the use of super bags and moisture meter. Hands-on demonstration on moisture meter and super bag was demonstrated to the farmers. Mr. Hemanta Borkakati, Assistant Project Scientist and Kushil Gogoi, Research Technician helped in smooth running of the programme. The training concluded with a vote of thanks to the participants.

Contributors:



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