



# APART RICE WEEKLY

**31st Aug - 4th Sept '21**

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District ATMs, IRRI Assam**

## **APART: RICE WEEKLY** **(31<sup>st</sup> Aug-4<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2021)**

### **Training and Demonstration on Postharvest Machineries under KVK, Jorhat**

Two number of trainings and one demonstration on postharvest machineries were organized by APART, KVK, Jorhat on September 1, 2 and 3, 2021, respectively, at various locations of Jorhat district. The first training was held at Bonai Napamua village, the second training at Chintamonigarh village and the demonstration on postharvest machineries was held at Teok, Jorhat. Mr. Saurajyoti Baishya, Postharvest Specialist (IRRI) acted as a resource person in both the trainings and one demonstration. He explained about different machines used in postharvest operations and importance of using postharvest machineries for reducing cost, time and losses during different agricultural operations. He also mentioned about the Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) which has been established under Jhanjiporia Agri-Horti FPC at Amtal village, Jorhat to provide machines on rent to farmers for accomplishing agricultural operations from crop production to postharvest management. The trainings and demonstration were coordinated by all the APART staff of KVK Jorhat.



**Contributor:**  
**Kasturi Goswami, APS (APART), KVK Jorhat**

### **One-day Training organized at KVK Nalbari**

On September 1, 2021, one-day training program was successfully conducted by the KVK Nalbari at the training hall of KVK Nalbari with 31 number of farmers of the district. The Programme was started with the welcome speech by Mr. Homeswar Mazumdar, SMS, Horticulture, KVK Nalbari. Dr. Manashi Chakravarty, i/c Head KVK Nalbari provided an overview of the project. During the technical session Mr. Amlandeep Saikia, Junior researcher, IRRI presented different STRVs promoted under APART and crop establishment methods of rice. He also briefed about different machineries related rice value chain. Mr. Pranjit Bharali, APS, APART, KVK Nalbari discussed different diseases and insect pest of rice and their management practices. Mr. Dipankar Kalita, Project Associate, APART, KVK Nalbari provided vote of thanks to all the participants and advised the farmers to remain in regular touch with the KVK scientist for any queries.



**Contributors:**



**Mr. Dipankar Kalita**  
Project Associate, APART, KVK, Nalbari



**Mr. Pranjit Bharali**  
Associate Project Scientist, APART, KVK, Nalbari

## **Two-days Training on Strengthening FPC on Rice Value Chain through Mechanization by KVK, Kokrajhar**

On September 2-3, 2021, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kokrajhar organized two-days training program on strengthening Farmer Producer Companies (FPC) on rice value chain through mechanization under Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART). The training was held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kokrajhar by involving the members and Board of Directors of two CHCs, namely Milon Self Help Group CHC of Kokrajhar and Luit CHC of Dhubri district. The training was inaugurated with the welcome address and brief introduction on APART by Dr. Manoj Kumar Bhuyan, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Kokrajhar. During the two days training program Dr. Rupom Borgohain, Nodal Officer, OPIU, APART, AAU and Dr. Kanwar Singh, Resident Consultant, IRRI addressed the participants virtually and briefly explained the impact of AAU and IRRI activities in strengthening the rice value chain. Mr. Sisir Chandra Das, Nodal Officer, APART, Kokrajhar district explained about the concept of forming FPC and proper utilization of farm machineries for income generation. Role of CHCs in improving the adoption of farm mechanization and the ways to improve their capacity to operate different farm-machineries was addressed by Dr. Suryakanta Khandai, Associate Scientist, IRRI. Brief description of different farm machineries promoted under APART was explained by Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bhardwaj, Junior Researcher, IRRI. Mr. Dibakor Roy of Milon Self Help Group CHC and Mr. Sambhu Charan Roy of Luit CHC of Dhubri, briefly introduced their CHC and shared their experiences in promotion of rice value chain activities. Mr. Bikash Jyoti Gharphalia, SMS (Agro-Meteorology), KVK, Dhubri, Dr. Gitasree Goswami, PA and Hemanta Borkakati, APS, KVK, Kokrajhar were present during the entire training program. The first day of the session ended with interaction between the participants and representative from AAU and IRRI officials.

The second day of training started with the recap of first day activities followed by the technical sessions. The business planning and demand aggregation was addressed by Mr. Jyoti Bikash Nath, Specialist Agriculture and Research Development, IRRI. The concept of FPC and the facilities provided under APART like Common Service Centre (CSC) and Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) for the benefit of FPC associated small and marginal farmers were addressed virtually by Mr. Probin Kr. Bharali, Cluster Development Specialist, APART, ARIAS Society. Accounting and service charges for machines and fixing of targets for different machines



at CHC level were explained by Dr. Suryakanta Khandai. The two-day training program came to an end with the vote of thanks by Dr. Manoj Kr. Bhuyan, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Kokrajhar.

**Contributor: Hemanta Borkakati, Assistant Project Scientist, KVK, Kokrajhar**



## Season Long Training at RARS, Gossaigaon under APART 2021-22

RARS, Gossaigaon in collaboration with International Rice research Institute (IRRI) under APART organized 1<sup>st</sup> phase of season long training on “Raising productivity, profitability and resource use efficiencies of rice based cropping systems in Assam” on September 3, 2021. The training was conducted with 25 number of participating farmers of Kokrajhar district. The training program was initiated and welcomed by Madhujya Bikash Borah, Project Associate of the station and briefed about the objective of the training program.



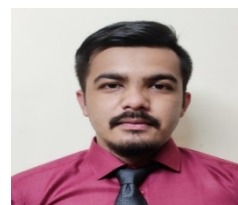
Dr. Sunil Kumar Paul, Chief Scientist, RARS, Gossaigaon, discussed about the various prospects for enhancing productivity, value addition, marketing chain which was followed by Mr. Sishir Chandra Das, Nodal officer of APART under District Agriculture Office, Kokrajhar emphasized on new methods & technologies of crop production and also briefed about the procedure of selling farm produce at Paddy Procurement Centers (PPCs) and through various market linkages. Dr. Kameswar Das, Principal Scientist, Agronomy, RARS, Gossaigaon discussed about the different cultivation methods & procedures for better crop establishment, productivity & profitability. At the end, an interactive session of the participating farmers was arranged with the experts about the challenges faced during the production and possible solutions. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks.



### Contributors:



**Madhujya Bikash Borah**  
Project Associate, APART RARS, Gossaigaon



**Mr. Akhoy Jyoti Bharadwaj,**  
(Junior Researcher, IRRI)

## Installation of Pheromone Traps as Plant Protection Input under IPM Superimposed Cluster Demonstration at Goalpara under HRS, Kahikuchi

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecological and sustainable approach for efficient management of insect-pests and diseases in agriculture. It is considered as an integrated strategy as it is a combination of cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical methods of pest control. Plant protection through IPM is an environment friendly approach as it employs the application of chemical pesticides in a harmonious and compatible manner and as it is a last choice to suppress the pest population when they surpass the Economic Threshold Level (ETL). For the construction of an effective IPM module, the four basic strategies need to be undertaken which include prevention (restricting the pest from infesting the crop), avoidance (minimizing the use of harmful chemicals and increasing the adoption of cultural management methods when the pest population is below ETL), monitoring (field evaluation on weekly basis followed by identification and monitoring of the pests by installation of pheromone traps, sticky traps etc) and pest management (adoption of sustainable, ecological, economic and farmer friendly pest management practice). To decide and adopt the best management practice against a particular pest, the ETL is the critical factor that needs to be identified for that pest and which can be achieved by field monitoring and tracing the level of damage.



Under Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART), in this ongoing Sali season (2021-22), Horticultural Research Station, Kahikuchi has fostered the concept of effective pest management practices for adoption by the beneficiaries through field level demonstrations of several methods like seedling root dip treatment with *Trichoderma viride*, application of pre-emergent herbicides (Pretilachlor 50% EC) and installation of pheromone traps. Since last week, scientists from Horticultural Research Station (Mrs. Ranjita Bezbaruah and Dr. Samiran Pathak), experts from IRRI (Mr. Mridupaban Mudoj and Mrs. Kasturi Goswami) along with the APART staffs (Ms Priyanka Das, Dibakar Mohodi, Bhaskar Boruah, Anurag Khound and Ashrafal Ahmed) have been visiting the paddy fields under IPM super-imposed cluster demonstration covering the different development blocks of Goalpara i.e., Balijana, Rongjuli, Krishnai etc., for monitoring, identifying and evaluating the level of damage by particular pest and suggesting relevant and effective management practices to control the pest infestation.

Several interventions, undertaken in IPM module of paddy are seed/seedling root dip treatment with *Trichoderma* strain (bio-fungicide); application of pre-emergence/post-emergence herbicides; use of ITKs (Indigenous Technical Knowledge) like clipping of leaf tips prior to transplanting against stem borer by discarding the eggs laid on the tips, hanging dead frog/poultry birds against Gundhi bug attack during milking stage, installation of T-perches for allowing the predatory birds to feed on harmful pests like rice swarming caterpillar; installation of pheromone traps and tricho cards to monitor and check the infestation of stem borer; application of recommended dose of chemical insecticides only in case the pest population surpasses the ETL.



Pheromone traps with Scirpo lure (@ 8 nos/ha) against the stem borer were installed in the 20-25 days transplanted main field under cluster demonstrations at a suitable height above the crop canopy. Pheromone traps as an eco-friendly and cost-effective plant protection measure against the stem borer works on the principle of trapping the male adults in the plastic pocket of the trap hung below, using the sex hormone of the female adult as lure. For better and more effective results the lure should be changed over a period of 2-4 weeks. Likewise, another cost-effective plant protection input i.e., Trichocards containing the egg parasitoids of *Trichogramma* species as a control measure against stem borer and leaf folder will be installed shortly as a component of IPM under cluster and dealer network demonstrations.

**Contributors:**



**Miss Priyanka Das (PA, APART, AAU-HRS, Kahikuchi)**



**Mr. Dibakar Mohodi (APS, APART, AAU-HRS, Kahikuchi)**