

APART RICE WEEKLY

June 19-24, 2023

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District ATMAAs, IRRI Assam**

APART: RICE WEEKLY **(June 19-24, 2023)**

One-day Training on Best Management Practices of *Sali* Paddy held at KVK Golaghat

A one-day training was held at KVK Golaghat on best management practices of *Sali* paddy on June 23, 2023. A total of 31 participants took part in the training program. The programme was facilitated by Sanjukta Saikia, SMS. Dr. Bhabesh Deka, Head, KVK, Golaghat briefed about the objectives of the training program and the various APART ongoing activities in Golaghat district. During the programme, Ms Ankita Sahu, Sr. Researcher (IRRI) acted as resource person who explained that application of best management practices increases the profitability and sustainability of rice farming. The step by step process of BMPs applies the best possible technologies and practices to manage technology-delivery at specified time related to crop growth stage so that inputs are used more efficiently. Important topics like fertilizer and nutrient management, integrated pest management, integrated weed management, seed treatment, storage options, etc. were also discussed with the farmers during the program. Different resource-efficient crop establishment methods like mechanical transplanting and direct seeding of rice were also discussed. It was pointed out that with BMPs farmers can increase their yield, reduce cost of production and minimize pollutants in the field, thereby preserving the environment. The program concluded with vote of thanks from Mr Manoj Pegu, PA, APART.



Awareness Training & Hands-on Demonstration of Harvest and Postharvest Machineries at Assam Rice Research Institute, Titabor

An awareness training and a hands-on demonstration of harvest and post harvest machineries was organized by ARRI on June 19-20, 2023 at ARRI, Titabor. The programme was attended by 600 participants. The training programme was facilitated by Ms Gitasree Goswami, PA, ARRI and was attended by other ARRI scientists -Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah and Dr. Rituraj Saikia. During the training programme, Miss Ankita Sahu, Sr. Researcher, IRRI explained about different harvest and postharvest machineries. She mentioned about the usage of crop harvester, reaper, combine harvester and other post-harvest machineries that can help minimizing the labour cost, managing the time efficiently and reducing drudgery in the ongoing harvesting season. She also discussed

about the axial flow thresher and referred it to as one of the most successful methods in minimising threshing losses in comparison to traditional threshing method. A detailed discussion on mechanical transplanting of rice also took place as the participants were interested in knowing about the technology. All the participants actively took part in the training programme. The programme ended with vote of thanks by PA, ARRI Titabar.



Contributor:
Ankita Sahu
Senior Researcher,
IRRI



Grand Harvest Programme of *Boro* Paddy and One-day Training on Rice Doctor Application for Extension Functionaries under IRRI-Supported Activities of APART at KVK, Kamrup

A Grand Harvest Programme of *Boro* paddy using combine harvester was organized at Mazgumi, Chaygaon under APART, KVK, Kamrup on June 19, 2023. The programme was attended by Dr. Dharendra Nath Kalita, Head, KVK, Kamrup, Dr. Vipin Kumar, Specialist IRRI, Dr. Rituparna Saikia, SMS Soil Science, Miss Pinky Basumatary, PA, Fishery, Miss Naina Goswami, APS, APART and Mr. Ananta Gogoi, RT, APART. The programme was witnessed by 140 farmers including male and female from different parts of Kamrup District. In the beginning of the programme, Dr. Dharendra Nath Kalita, Head, KVK, Kamrup welcomed all the participants and explained about the objective of the programme along with various ongoing activities under APART, KVK, Kamrup. After that, Dr. Vipin Kumar gave a detailed presentation on importance of farm mechanization and strengthening the agricultural sector by using new technologies. At the end of the programme, all the participants were guided to paddy field where on the spot harvesting of the paddy using combine harvester was carried out and its handling was demonstrated to the participants. All the participants were very much interested to use the combine harvester and provided their valuable feedback at the end of the programme. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Miss Naina Goswami, APS, KVK, Kamrup.

A one-day training on Rice Doctor application for extension functionaries was held at KVK, Kamrup on June 22, 2023, under APART with technical support of IRRI. The training was attended by 30 participants including ADOs, ATMs and BTMs of Kamrup district, including Dr. Dharendra Nath Kalita, Head, KVK, Kamrup; Dr. Suja Thanga (IRRI Specialist); Miss Pooja Rajkhowa (Junior Researcher-Communication, IRRI); Dr. Munmi Bora (PA, APART) and Miss Naina Goswami (APS, APART). The programme started with a welcome address by Miss Naina Goswami, Assistant Project Scientist, APART, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kamrup. During her speech, she explained the objectives and importance of the training programme. During the programme, Dr. Dharendra Nath Kalita, Head, KVK, Kamrup, and chief guest of the program emphasized on use of the application and interacted with the participants about scientific technologies along with mechanisation of farming sector. After that, Dr. Suja and Miss Pooja Rajkhowa made the participants aware about the usefulness of Rice Knowledge Bank (RKB) and Rice Doctor (RD) app and demonstrated the use of the Rice Doctor (RD) app. The training concluded with a

vote of thanks by Dr. Munmi Bora, PA, APART. The participants were highly satisfied with the training and provided their valuable feedback. Mr. Ananta Gogoi, RT, APART and Mr. Arupjyoti Kakoti, RT, APART assisted in imparting training to the participants.



Contributors:



Naina Goswami,
APS, APART
KVK Kamrup



Dr. Munmi Bora,
PA, APART
KVK Kamrup

Stakeholders' workshop cum seed dialogue organized by Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat at IIBM, Guwahati

A two-day stakeholders' workshop cum seed dialogue was organized by Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat with technical support of IRRI under objective III of IRRI-supported activities under APART at IIBM Guwahati on June 16-17, 2023. The meeting was attended by 73 participants from AAU, IRRI, ISARC Varanasi, ASOCA, ASCL, seed producing farmer producer companies (FPCs) from different districts of Assam, seed producers, DoA officials and ARIAS Society officials. The meeting was graced by Dr. Swati Nayak, South-Asia Lead from ISARC Varanasi along with Mr. Mowsam Hazarika, Director, ASOCA, Govt. of Assam, Dr. V.K. Yadav, Resident Co-ordinator, IRRI, Dr. R. P. Singh, Team Leader, Seed Vertical, ASCL, Mr. Baljeet Singh, Market Analyst & Operation Specialist, ARIAS, Society, Dr. Rupam Borgohain, Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer and Dr. Debanand Das, Principal Scientist & Alt. Nodal Officer, OPIU AAU, Jorhat. The objective of the meeting was "Successful community-based seed production strategies and their market linkages".

Dr. R. Borgohain highlighted the current scenario of seed production in Assam and its potentiality as a business model. He also emphasized on strengthening the seed systems in every districts of Assam and requested the FPCs to create a roadmap on how to move forward beyond APART. Mr. Baljeet Singh mentioned about the marketing strategies to be adopted by seed producing FPCs. He encouraged the FPCs to have their own agriculture input shops to get full profit margin and to own seed licence to do seed business. Dr. R.P. Singh explained the technical aspects of quality seed production and current status of seed production in government farms. Mr. Mowsam Hazarika, Director ASOCA narrated the role of ASOCA in seed certification in Assam. Sharing his experiences during his recent visit to New Zealand on seed production scenario of that country he urged upon to maintain proper quality of seeds of selected crops to gainfully capture a significant share of the seed market. Dr. Swati Nayak, South-Asia lead, Seed System and Product Management, IRRI described possible models for product positioning and branding of the products.

The technical session started with a presentation from Dr. V.K. Yadav on the on-going activities of APART to increase rice productivity and profitability in Assam and also to develop an exit strategy under APART. Dr. Swati Nayak started her session on strengthening seed systems in Assam along with its options and

opportunities. She stressed on the fact that one should first see the feasibility of a crop in a particular location for assessing the seed requirement for the crop and then plan for seed production. An online presentation was made by Avinash Wagh from Pinnacle International on improved seed storage for quality seed production. The following day workshop began with a detailed presentation on seed production and certification guidelines for FPCs/FPOs by Mr. Pranjal Gogoi, Assistant Seed Certification Officer, ASOCA. After that there was an online presentation on seed processing plant and its mechanism by Dr. V. Kalbande, Chief General Manager (Mktg &Prod) from INDOSAW. In the group discussion, the participants raised several issues faced by FPCs during seed production & certification. Lastly Dr. Debanand Das, Principal Scientist & Alt. Nodal Officer, OPIU AAU thanked all the participants for their gracious presence and active participation in workshop.



Contributors:



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OPIU, APART, AAU, Jorhat



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Project Appraisal Expert
ARIAS Society

Hands-on Demonstration of Different Harvest and PostHarvest Machineries conducted by AAU-ARRI, Titabar

A one-day demonstration programme on different harvest and postharvest machineries was organized at AAU-Assam Rice Research Institute (ARRI), Titabar on June 20, 2023 under APART in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). Dr. Rituraj Saikia, Lead Scientist, APART, AAU-ARRI, Titabar, Dr. Safiqul Hussain, Senior Scientist and Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah, Scientist from AAU-ARRI Titabar, Miss Ankita Sahu, Senior Researcher from International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and a total of 30 participants including both male and female farmers were present in the demonstration programme. The programme started with a welcome address by Dr. Gitasree Goswami, PA, APART, AAU-ARRI Titabar. Dr. Rituraj Saikia, Lead Scientist of APART AAU-ARRI Titabar delivered a brief overview of the objectives of the programme. Dr. Safiqul Hussain, Senior Scientist imparted a lecture on different varieties of rice and the mechanization in agriculture sector. Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah, scientist from AAU-ARRI, Titabar provided the knowledge on different storage techniques of rice. Miss Ankita Sahu, IRRI gave the demonstration on postharvest machineries to the farmers. An interactive session between farmers and scientists was also conducted after the demonstration programme. Mrs. Munna Saikia, Research Technician, APART, AAU-ARRI, Titabar helped in smooth running of the programme.



**Lecture delivered by Dr. R. Saikia
Lead Scientist (APART), AAU-ARRI, Titabar**



**Lecture delivered by Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah,
Scientist (Soil Science), AAU-ARRI, Titabar**



**Demonstration on Post-harvest Machines given by
Miss Ankita Sahu, Senior Researcher, IIRRI**



Group photograph with the trainees

Awareness Training on Different Harvest and Postharvest Machinery conducted by AAU-ARRI, Titabar

A one-day awareness training on different harvest and postharvest machinery was organized at AAU-Assam Rice Research Institute (ARRI), Titabar on June 19, 2023 under APART in collaboration with IIRRI. Dr. Rituraj Saikia, Lead Scientist of APART, AAU-ARRI, Titabar, Dr. Safiqul Hussain, Senior Scientist and Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah, Scientist from AAU-ARRI Titabar, Miss Ankita Sahu, Senior Researcher from IIRRI and a total of 30 farmers including both male and female were present in the training programme. The programme started with a welcome address by Dr. Gitasree Goswami, PA, APART AAU-ARRI Titabar. Dr. Rituraj Saikia, gave a brief overview of the objectives of the programme and different APART activities undertaken by AAU-ARRI, Titabar during *Sali* season 2023-24. Dr. Safiqul Hussain delivered a lecture on different varieties of rice and their benefits along with the mechanization process in agriculture sector. Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah briefly elaborated the importance of soil health in paddy field and storage techniques of rice. Miss. Ankita Sahu, Senior Researcher imparted training on different postharvest and rice value chain machineries and their use in agricultural field. An interactive session between farmers and scientists was also conducted after the training programme. Mrs. Munna Saikia, Research Technician, APART, AAU-ARRI Titabar helped in smooth running of the programme.



**Lecture delivered by Dr. Safiqul Hussain,
Senior Scientist (Rice breeder)**



**Lecture delivered by Dr. Sanjib Ranjan Borah,
Scientist (Soil Science), AAU-ARRI, Titabar**



**Awareness training on different harvest and
post-harvest machinery**



Group photograph with the trainees

**Contributor:
Dr. Gitasree Goswami
PA, APART
AAU-ARRI Titabar**
