

Workshop on 'Frontier in Dairy Farming in Tripura'

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Complex, Tripura Centre organized one day workshop on 'Frontier in Dairy Farming in Tripura' under 'National Initiatives on Climate Resilient Agriculture' (NICRA) project on 5th June 2012 at Lembucherra, West Tripura. A total 74 dairy farmers from Dhalai, South Tripura and West Tripura actively participated in the workshop. The Hon'ble Chairmen of Tripura Industrial Development Corporation, Govt. of Tripura, Shri. Pabitra Kar was present as chief guest in the workshop. At the outset, the Joint Director of ICAR, Tripura Centre, Dr. M. Datta welcomed the dignitaries, the dairy farmers, the officers of Tripura Animal Resource Development Department, the scientists of ICAR, KVK and other allied sectors. Dr. Datta explained the aim of the workshop, while milk availability in Tripura is only 81 grams per head per day, which is far below to the requirement of 250 grams per head per day according to the recommendation of Indian Council of Medical Research. He also mentioned that a figure of about 75000 cross breed cattle out of nearly 950000 cattle in the state is meager to make availability of sufficient milk for the state people. The Director of Animal resource Development Department, Govt. of Tripura, Dr. M. Sarkar has given a complement to ICAR for conducting the workshop and providing a space for discussion on dairy development in the state. He stressed on crossbreeding with either Jersey or Holsteine Friesian bull's frozen semen from replacing low milk yielder, deshi cows. Dr. Pradip Kumar Das from West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata delivered an elaborated talk on importance of dairy farming, cattle breeding policy, feed and fodder cultivation strategy etc. in the workshop. Dr. Das has given much emphasis on number of cross breed calves born than number of artificial insemination done. He also suggested to take up a plan for the tribal and remote areas for up-gradation of deshi cows through natural breeding with Indian Sahiwal, Gir like bulls. In the workshop. Farmers of different districts took active part in discussion on various problems in dairy farming. Shri. Pabitra Kar, Chairmen of Tripura Industrial Development Corporation, Govt. of Tripura appreciated the efforts taken by ICAR to organize such interactive workshop. He welcomed rural youth to come forward and start dairying as a source of income and self-employment. Shri. Pabitra Kar suggested to identify 200 farmers who rear at least 10 cows and support them with some infrastructural facilities for modernization in dairy farming in different districts of the state. The senior scientist and the coordinator of organizing the workshop, Dr. Avijit Halder informed the farmers that ICAR recently established an animal vaccine bank at Lembucherra and farmers could get the access of

facilities of vaccines for protecting their livestock. Prof. H.D. Harne, Principle of Tripura College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry talked briefly on the importance and improvement of dairy farming in the state of Tripura. The bank personals discussed on loaning facilities for dairy farming in the workshop.



The Joint Director, ICAR, Tripura Centre, Dr. M. Datta is addressing the gathering in Workshop on 'Frontier in Dairy Farming in Tripura' on 5th June 2012 at ICAR Research Complex, Tripura

Spawn Distribution & Mushroom Cultivation Training under TSP Project

A mushroom cultivation and spawn distribution training under TSP project was organized by ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre on 18th April, 2012. Dr. M.

Datta, Joint Director of this centre was the Chairman of the inaugural session, while, Dr. D. P. Sarkar, Director of Horticulture, Govt. of Tripura was the Chief Guest and Dr. B.B. Sarkar, Consultant, IGNOU, Tripura and Ex Additional Director of Horticulture, Govt. of Tripura was the Guest of Honour. In the training programme 59 tribal youths had participated from Gamchhakobra, Shipaipara, Balaram Choudhuri Para and Shankar Senapati Para. They were given training by Dr. S. Biswas, Sr. Scientist of this centre on oyster mushroom cultivation with the use of intact straw in polythene bag method. They were also provided at the end of the training programme by mushroom spawns (5 packets to each), polypropylene bags (10 numbers to each) and a few hangers for keeping mushroom beds at their homes. Later on, the farmers also successfully produced mushroom fruit bodies at their homes.



A TSP trained youth shows her production

Rice Production in Dhalai District, Tripura

A programme for creating awareness amongst the farmers for Seed Replacement, 100% seed treatment and thereby reaping a bumper harvest with reduced level of cost of cultivation was jointly organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhalai, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Tripura Centre, Lembucherra, and the State Agriculture Department of Tripura on 13th June, 2012 at Salema Town Hall. This was followed by a Seed distribution programme of High Yielding Varieties to the farmers.

Smt. Pranati Das, Shabhadhinetri, Dhalai Zilla Parishad was the Chief Guest and Sri Sailesh Chandra Acharjee, Chairman, Salema Panchayet Samiti inaugurated the programme. The function was presided over by Sri Jagat Das, Pradhan, Salema Gaon Panchayet. Among others Dr. M. Datta, Joint Director and a couple of Sr. Scientists from ICAR, Tripura Centre, Lembucherra, Programme Coordinator and Subject Matter



Zilla Shabhadhinetri distributing HYV Paddy seeds to farmers. Right to her Panchayet Samiti Chairman.

Specialists of KVK, Dhalai, Dy, Director of Agriculture Dhalai district, Superintendent of Agriculture Salema Agricultural Subdivision were present. About 400 farmers from different Gram Panchayets were attended the programme,

Smt. Pranati Das, Shabhadhinetri, Dhalai Zilla Parishad and Sri Sailesh Chandra Acharjee, Chairman, Salema Panchayet Samity both in their speech appreciated the joint efforts taken by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhalai, ICAR, Tripura Center and the State Agriculture Department for the all-round development of the Agriculture and Allied Sector in the district.



Joint Director, ICAR addressing the farmers at Salema

A detailed highlight on Paddy and Groundnut cultivation was given by Dr M. Datta, Joint Director, ICAR. The present agricultural scenario with major emphasis on paddy and groundnut was focused by Sri Arun Bhattacharjee, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Dhalai District. Dr. S. Biswas, Senior Scientist, ICAR discussed about the plant protection measures including seed treatment techniques. The gap between scientific technology and the farmers' practices of Paddy and Groundnut cultivation was

explained through a Power Point Presentation by Dr S. P. Das, Senior Scientist, ICAR.

Welcome address was given by Sri Subrata Shib, Programme Co-ordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhalai and he explained the role of KVK, Dhalai in disseminating the new technologies already tested for the district and necessity for seed replacement for achieving self sufficiency in food grain crops.

At the end, HYV Paddy seeds of Ranjit, Naveen, MTU-1010 and Gomati and Groundnut Variety-ICGS 76 seeds were distributed to more than 400 farmers of the locality. This effort will increase the Seed Replacement Rate in the ensuing season. It has also been discussed that the farmers shall grow paddy in SRI method with the newly received seeds so that at least 35-40% yield advantage is harnessed over the traditional system. State Agriculture Department shall extend benefits to the farmers providing other inputs like chemical fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and assistance for nursery bed components.