Training on Integrated Farming System of Tuber Crops

Tuber crops are very important group for food security and income generation. All these crops are rich in starch and good source of energy. These crops are adapted to the wide range of agro-climatic conditions and give good performance even under marginal growing conditions. Tuber crops such as Elephant foot yam, Diascoria, Greater yam and Cassava etc. are hardy crops and fit well in various cropping systems. In Tripura, though the climatic condition is suitable for cultivation of various tuber crops, however, has not been widely adopted by the Tribal farmers due to lack of availability of good varieties, quality planting materials as well as technology for cultivation. Though, locally available tuber crops are used by the Tribal communities for food as well as for animal feed since ancient times. Popularization of tuber crops to the Tribal farming communities in Tripura is very important for their food security and livelihood sustainability. A training programme was organized at Tripura Centre, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Lembucherra, on 9th April, 2013. Around 50 Tribal from different parts of Tripura participated in the training. Dr. R. C. Samui, Principal, College of Agriculture, Govt. of Tripura, and Shri F. B. Jamatia, Joint Director, Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Govt. of Tripura, delivered lecture on scope and prospects of tuber crops in Tripura. Dr. M. Datta. Joint Director, ICAR RC for NEH, Tripura Centre, deliberated on importance of tuber crops under integrated farming system for livelihood. Dr. M. Nedunchezhiyan, Principal Scientist, Central Tuber crop Research Institute, Regional Station, Bhubaneswar, delivered lecture on the improved technologies for scientific cultivation and management practices of different types of tuber crops. Dr. Biswajit Das, Principal Scientist, demonstrated the planting techniques of different tuber crops in the field. Tuber crops such as Elephant Foot Yam, Diascoria, Tapioca stem cutting and Tannia planting material were distributed among the farmers.

