

## **'Front Line Demonstration cum Awareness Program on Kiwifruit Production Technology' Organized by ICAR Sikkim Centre at Yuksom, West Sikkim**

West Sikkim is taking lead in area and production of kiwifruit in Sikkim. Government has taken up several programs to promote kiwifruit cultivation in Sikkim. Under the guidance of Joint Director, Dr. R.K. Avasthe; ICAR Sikkim Centre is also playing imperative role for the technological support in organic horticulture production in the state. To further increase in area and production of kiwifruit in West Sikkim, ICAR Sikkim Centre held a Front Line Demonstration (FLD) cum Awareness program on 'Kiwifruit Production Technology' at Yuksom, West Sikkim on 28 February 2014 under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) project of ICAR. A total of 32 progressive farmers attended the program.

Inaugurating the program at Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee (KCC) office, Shri Kinzong S. Bhutia, General Secretary KCC highlighted the importance of kiwifruit in West Sikkim and anticipated that it will be the important cash crop in coming years. He suggested the farmers to grow kiwifruit on large scale and appreciated the role of ICAR Sikkim Centre for on farm demonstration for the greater benefit of farming community.

Dr. Ashish Yadav, Senior Scientist (Horticulture) elucidated the 'Organic Kiwifruit Production Techniques' and demonstrated the layouting and orchard establishment techniques to the progressive farmers and field assistants of the state department, Yuksom, West Sikkim. Farmers showed keen interest in learning the kiwifruit orchard establishment techniques during the program. Later on during the FLD program, a total of 160 kiwifruit plants were equally distributed to the two progressive farmers of Yuksom. Shri A.D.D. Misra, RA and Shri Avinash, SRF assisted actively in during the program.



Shri Kinzong S. Bhutia, General Secretary Khangchendzonga Conservation Committee, Yuksom addressing the Farmers during Front Line Demonstration on Kiwifruit Production Technology



Dr. Ashish Yadav, Senior Scientist (Horticulture), Demonstrating the Kiwifruit Orchard Layouting and Establishment Techniques to the Progressive Farmers of Yuksom, West Sikkim