



AAU

Newsletter

Vol. 44, No. 2&3
June & September, 2016

From Vice-Chancellor's Desk ...

Towards a Blue Revolution in Assam

India's fish production has recorded an enviable growth reaching a production figure of 10 plus million tonnes. State like Andhra Pradesh which is a water deficient state as compared to ours is earning handsomely producing fish for North Eastern Region and other states. Why then state like Assam with a bountiful of water resource cannot produce the required quantity of fish is an often asked question. The answer lies in injecting the sector with modern technologies and techniques, which if applied properly can triple the farmers' income and address rural poverty. In countries like Philippines, fish productivity has reached a whopping 15-20 tonnes per hectare against a meagre 1.5 tonnes in Assam. It is high time that we achieve at least 5.0 tonne productivity per hectare in the first place with appropriate production package and make the sector a viable vehicle to transform rural economy and thus the livelihood of poor and poorest of the poor generally engaged in this business of food production. And to realise this dream, following actions are needed :

The general notion that once there is a pond, we need not take much care to have our fish swimming there has to be done away with. For optimum fish production from the pond, water quality assessment is a must - more particularly the pH values since the fish like to grow more under a neutral pH which is 7. By virtue of the soils of Assam being acidic (6.5 and below), the water there also tend to be acidic. Application of lime therefore, is a must if we target higher productivity. Almost every fish farmer is apparently aware of this but the practice of enhancing the pH is hardly followed in right direction and doses. Fisheries department, therefore, will have to be much more proactive towards this. With this intervention alone, per hectare fish productivity could be increased by almost 50 percent and at this rate, from around 55,000 plus hectare of pond areas in the state which is presently giving us a yield of 1.50 tonnes per ha, will start giving us almost 2.25 tonnes taking the production figure to 1.24 lakh tonnes. Together with this is the feed intervention. In Assam, the practice of feeding fish is in an infant stage - call it pond fishery, riverine fishery or *beel* fishery. A mission mode program on fish feed security, in the line of food security for human being, has to be launched immediately which, if done, shall backstop adequately the move for animal food security for human. Our university has already

developed and commercialized quality fish feed by the name of *Sushma* which the fisheries department may consider subsidizing. If this is done, the fish productivity shall go up by another 50 percent i.e. $2.25+1.25 = 3.50$ tonnes i.e. a production level of 1.95 lakh tonnes from the pond fishery alone. Together with this, the good management practices like periodic de-silting of the pond and balancing the stocking density with the use of quality fish seed shall contribute to an additional productivity of 20 percent taking the per ha productivity close to 4 tonnes which will also address the target of doubling fish farmers income.



The second issue is to target the *beels* of Assam which provide us an area of 1 lakh ha. The present productivity in these *beels* varies from 250 kg to 700 kg per ha only. This productivity has to be increased to at least 3.0 tonnes per ha following the Good Management Practices, water treatment and feeding indicated above. For this purpose, all the *beels* will have to be registered and several Self Help Groups from the adjoining areas formed for their management thus enlarging the employment potential. At the rate of 2 SHGs per *beel* with 10 members in each SHG and initial targeting of 1000 *beels*, a total of 20,000 persons will get direct employment. The bio-security aspect will have to be adhered to in these *beels* since food safety is a prime concern today. Advance fish growing technologies like pen culture, cage culture shall have to be practiced in the bigger *beels* measuring more than 10 hectare to realise heavy harvest. Smaller *beels* could be identified for conserving and improving indigenous fish species. This way, an additional quantity of 2.50 lakh tonnes of fish could be produced from the *beels* i.e. against an average productivity of 0.5 tonnes per ha as harvested presently totalling around 0.50 lakh tonnes, the total production @ 3.0 tonnes per ha will be 3.0 lakh tonnes. With the additional production of 3.18 lakh tonnes (4.00 lakh - 0.825 lakh tonnes) from the pond fisheries, the total addition will be 5.68 lakh tonnes thus not only meeting the present shortfall of 0.34 lakh tonnes but also producing more than 5 lakh tonnes additional fish for trading and/or value added fish products.

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From VC's Desk...

We have then the rivers, the major source of capture fishery which unfortunately are drying up. Besides, the capture and natural replenishments are not at harmony. Replenishment by private and government bodies are also not in practice. In many pockets of the rivers, the water depth is not very much conducive for optimizing fish productivity. If the plan of the government to dig rivers like Brahmaputra gets underway, the scenario will change completely - there will be adequate water depth for different species of fish for optimum growth and thus to record an elevated production. Having met the deficiency from pond and *beel* fisheries, the produce from the rivers shall add to the fish basket for commercial trading as fresh running water fishes which will help in capturing the cross regional fish market paving the way towards an actual Blue Revolution and to bring that extra smile on the face of the fish farmers.

Preventing the escape of fish from pond and *beels* during flood period under the pressure of flood water is an issue. Technological options like raising the dyke height, making rural connectivity roads by the side of the *beels*, increasing the water retention capacity therein/ undertaking massive water harvesting infrastructure, use of geo-textiles, creation of excess water diversion channels are some of

the options to deal with the problem. For such attempts, however, appropriate convergence building with sister departments/ministries will be necessary which is why I am advocating for Agriculture Cabinet in the state. Which department will take the credit in the event of an actual Blue Revolution is not the issue, the issue is to usher in a Blue Revolution collectively to encase the potential offered by the water resources of the state.

It is heartening that the state government is seriously contemplating to realise a rich dividend from this hitherto unexplored sector. The plan conceived for this purpose needs to be fine tuned and make foolproof to realise the intended dividend. Together with the developmental plan, Research and Development will be a crucial factor particularly to address climate vulnerabilities in fishery sector as well as to keep on producing the desired input deliverables. Let us, together work on a mission mode to demonstrate our capabilities to economically explore this niche area of excellence called fishery sector of Assam.



(K M Bujarbaruah)

Important meetings attended by the Vice-Chancellor

- Attended Pulse meeting at New Delhi on Apr 12, 2016
- Attended EEI Management Committee at Shillong on Apr 20, 2016
- Attended EC meeting of IAUA at New Delhi on Apr 28, 2016
- Attended Task Force meeting of Animal Biotechnology at New Delhi on May 2-3, 2016
- Chaired the meeting of Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed award at New Delhi on May 10, 2016
- Attended interview of Deans/Directors of SAUKT as Expert Member on May 12-13, 2016
- Performed VCI duty as Observer of Vety Entrance Test at Guwahati on May 14, 2016
- Attended meeting at KVK Darrang on May 28, 2016
- Attended PMFBY Programme at Sivasagar on May 29, 2016
- Attended PMFBY Programme at Kahikuchi on May 31, 2016
- Attended PMFBY Programme at Nalbari on Jun 1, 2016
- Attended 28th Foundation Day Celebration of National Research Centre on Mithun, Dimapur on Jun 2, 2016
- Attended PMFBY Programme at Dibrugarh on Jun 6, 2016
- Attended a meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture GoA on Jun 9, 2016
- Attended meeting at NITI Aayog, New Delhi on Jun 21, 2016
- Visited Citrus Research Station and KVK Tinsukia on Jul. 7, 2016

- Attended BOM meeting and inauguration of Indoor Stadium by Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture on Jul. 15, 2016
- Attended AIAVCA meeting at Udaipur on Jul. 16-17, 2016
- Attended meeting with Secretary, DBT, Gol in New Delhi on Jul. 18, 2016
- Attended IAUA work in New Delhi on Aug. 3, 2016
- Attended ICAR work in New Delhi on Aug. 4, 2016
- Attended DBT meeting in New Delhi on Aug. 5, 2016
- Visited Raj Bhavan, Guwahati on Aug. 9, 2016
- Attended Foundation Day at Khanapara on Aug. 18, 2016
- Attended Orientation Training for KVK at Barapani on Aug. 27, 2016
- Attended meeting with Hon'ble Assam Governor on Aug. 27, 2016
- Attended EC meeting of IAUA, New Delhi on Aug. 29, 2016
- Attended fund release discussion at ICAR, New Delhi on Sep. 9, 2016
- Attended the ICAR Score Card review committee on Sep. 19, 2016
- Attended the Selection Committee meeting at ASRB, New Delhi on Sep. 20, 2016
- Visited College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha to attend Freshman Social on Sep. 21, 2016
- Attended Policy meeting with Agril. Officers at Khanapara on Sep. 21, 2016
- Attended Agriculture Policy meeting with Veterinary and Fishery Department at Khanapara on Sep. 22, 2016



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam visits AAU, Jorhat

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Sri Sarbananda Sonowal was felicitated in a gorgeous function organized in the Dr. M.C. Das Memorial Auditorium of AAU, Jorhat on Sep. 6, 2016. The other dignitaries present in the function were the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of Assam Sri Atul Bora, ; Satradhikar of Auniati Satra of Majuli, Sri Jit Pitambar Dev Goswami; Sri Bhabendra Nath Bharali, MLA, Dergaon Constituency; Sri Tapan Goswami, MLA, Sonari

Mahmara Constituency; Sri Jogen Gogoi, MLA, Mahmara Constituency; and Sri Hrishikesh Goswami, Press Adviser to the Chief Minister, Assam. Addressing the faculty and students of the University, the Hon'ble Chief Minister lauded the University for its achievements and appealed to the University



community to lead the state towards development in the agriculture sector. He also urged that the University should put all out effort to materialize the dream of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modiji of transforming the entire North East to a hub of organic agriculture. Earlier, in the welcome address, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah briefly presented the contribution of the University towards the development of agriculture and allied sectors in the state. Sri Atul Bora, Agriculture Minister, Assam, in his address, assured that the Department of Agriculture will work hand in hand with AAU in the endeavor of agricultural upliftment of the state.

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Agriculture Minister Sjt. Atul Bora visits AAU

Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Govt. of Assam Sjt Atul Bora visited Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat for the first time on June 17, 2016.

Addressing scientists of the University after inaugurating the state-of-the-art Plant Pathology department-cum-administration building in the



University campus, Bora said making the state self-

sufficient in seeds would help make them available to farmers on time and that the state would help in the University's efforts to do so.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah said that the University would make the state self-sufficient in seed production within three years if the state government provided adequate help. "The government has to ensure convergence of different departments like agriculture, soil conservation, irrigation and PWD for the development of agriculture here," he said. "Moreover, the government must form an agriculture cabinet and a farmers' commission for development of farmers," he added.

Smt. Renuroma Rajkhowa, MLA, Teok and Sri Bhaben Bharali, MLA, Dergaon also visited the University along with Sjt. Bora.

Later, Sjt. Bora laid the foundation of a boys' hostel in the University campus.

Visit of Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Sjt Radha Mohan Singh along with Sjt Atul Bora, Minister of Agriculture, Veterinary etc., Govt. of Assam visited College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara campus along with Dr. T Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR for a state level review meeting on agricultural progress on



June 17, 2016 at the conference room of CVSc. The Meeting was also attended by Hon'ble V.C., CAU, Dr. M. P. Singh, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Govt. of Assam and dignitaries of ICAR and AAU. Later in the evening both the ministers addressed the faculty and students of College of Veterinary Science, AAU in the C.V.Sc. Auditorium.

48th Foundation Day of AAU, Jorhat observed

The 48th Foundation Day of Assam Agricultural University was observed on April 1, 2016. In a graceful function presided over by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, the Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Dr. Sunil Roy, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Kaziranga University, Jorhat. Speaking on agricultural development of the state, Dr. Roy stated that besides producing human resource, the AAU plays a very important role in contributing towards technology

be given to pulses production in the state through the KVKs under AAU, and awareness among farmers would be created on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and Soil Health Card, he added.

As a part of the ceremony, the best teachers of the year Dr. Polash Debnath and Dr. Probodh Borah; the best



Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU delivering his address

generation and dissemination for the farming community of the state as well as the region. Dr. Bujarbaruah, in his address, thanked the University community for their support and efforts in bringing about the positive changes in the University and giving it a respectable status among the agricultural universities of the country. Special importance would



Ms. Tusi Chakma receiving Dharmananda Das Memorial Award from the Vice-Chancellor, AAU

research scientists Dr. Tamizuddin Ahmed and Dr. Niranjana Kalita from the Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Science respectively and the best extension scientist Dr. Rupam Borgohain were awarded. The Dharmananda Das Memorial Award for best graduate in the Department of Tea Husbandry & Technology was given away to Ms. Tusi Chakma. The other programmes of the Day included friendly volley ball match and a colourful cultural evening.



SPECIAL FEATURES

Awareness programme on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Awareness programmes on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) were organized by 23 KVKs under Assam Agricultural University during May-June, 2016, to sensitize



Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty, MP addressing in the Awareness Programme at KVK, Kamrup

the farmers of the state about the crop insurance scheme. The programmes were organized following the directive of ICAR, with the cooperation of Line Departments of Govt. of Assam.

Honourable Members of Parliament of the respective Lok Sabha Constituencies and MLAs of the local Legislative Constituencies

attended the programmes as Chief Guests and Guests of Honour respectively. The hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of AAU Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah attended the programmes at KVKs



Sri Rameswar Teli, MP and Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, AAU distributing Soil Health Cards in the Awareness Programme at KVK, Dibrugarh



Sri Ramen Deka, MP addressing In the Awareness Programme at KVK, Darrang

of the districts of Jorhat, Sivasagar, Kamrup, Dibrugarh and Golaghat. Dr. B.C. Deka, Director, ATARI, Zone-III, Umiam



Sri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, MP; Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, AAU and other dignitaries in the Awareness Programme at KVK, Sivasagar

and Dr. H. C. Bhattacharyya, Director of Extension Education, AAU, other statutory officers of the University, officials from line departments, bank and insurance sectors were present in these programmes. In his address, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor highlighted the merits of the Yojana and emphasized on involvement of every farmer for its effective adoption. Soil Health Cards were also distributed among farmers; and Farmers' Fair and Farmer-Scientist Interaction Programmes were also held as part of the programme.

Governor of Assam and Nagaland visits KVK, Karimganj

His Excellency the Governor of Assam and Nagaland, Shri P. B. Acharya visited KVK, Karimganj under AAU on Jul. 2, 2016. The Governor took part in a tree plantation programme



His Excellency the Governor of Assam and Nagaland, Shri P. B. Acharya in KVK, Karimganj

in the KVK campus as a part of Vana Mahotsav week. Thereafter, he had an interaction with the Programme Coordinator and Scientists of the KVK and released the fourth edition of the KVK Karimganj Newsletter. Towards the end of the programme, the Governor visited the Demonstration Units and lauded the success of Vanaraja poultry in the KVK as well as in farmers' fields of Karimganj district.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Best Centre Award for ICAR Seed Project to Assam Agricultural University

The University has been adjudged as the 'best centre' of the ICAR Seed Project - 'Seed Production in Agricultural Crops' for the year 2015-16 among 39 agricultural universities associated with the project. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Pathak, Associate Director of Research and also Nodal Officer of the project at AAU received the 'Best Centre Award' from Dr. Mangala Rai, Vice-Chancellor, GB



Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (GBPUA&T), Pantnagar and Dr. J. S. Sandhu, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR on August 18, 2016 on the occasion of XI Annual Review Meeting of ICAR Seed Project held at GBPUA&T on August 17-18, 2016.

In the recent years, the AAU has demonstrated its capability to produce large quantity of quality seeds of the major crop varieties. 'The Technology Showcasing Programme conceived by the Vice-Chancellor Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah and launched in 2010 at his instance has led to significant change in the AAU's seed production scenario which has allowed in one hand to demonstrate to the farmers the worth of improved crop varieties and technologies in very large compact block and on the other produce large quantity of quality seeds in the farmers' fields with their active participation helping the farmers produce and trade seeds keeping in desired quality standards, learn better crop husbandry and seed production technology, and most importantly facilitating very quick dissemination of new varieties, Dr. Prasanna Pathak stated. Dr. Pathak also added that the works and achievements in relation to quantum of seed production, farmers' capacity building, technology demonstration, popularization of new varieties with their seed

production and dissemination, timely reporting of technical and financial developments have made AAU the 'best centre' among all the universities involved with the project.

Brain Storming Session on 'Problems and Prospects of Banana in North East India'

A brain storming session on 'Problems and Prospects of Banana in North East India' was organized at AAU, Jorhat under the sponsorship of Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India during June 2-3, 2016. Dr. Ashok Bhattacharyya, the Organizing Secretary of the session welcomed the house. Dr. G. N. Hazarika, DR (Agri.), AAU, Jorhat, in his



introductory remarks requested the house to work in a collaborative mode to address need based issues of the region. In a video conference, Dr. T. Madhan Mohan, Advisor to DBT, Govt. of India and the guest of honour of the function, urged the house to work in a holistic way on specific problems of NE India. Dr. B. Padmanabhan, i/c Director, NRC Banana, Tiruchy in his address, stressed on eco-friendly approaches for pest and disease management of banana to make the crop pest free.

In the inaugural speech, the chief guest Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, VC, AAU pointed out the strategies to increase the overall productivity of banana in the NE region in collaboration with Biotechnology, Horticulture, Plant Protection, Nanotechnology etc. He emphasized that while devising the strategies, like-minded scientists should work together to address the location as well as state specific issues of North Eastern states with respect to specific climatic conditions and downstreaming possibilities. Dr. Bujarbaruah suggested the house to work on location-specific varieties, its breeding and multiplication for easy access of quality planting material for the growers. He also stressed to rediscover the varieties which are on the verge of extinction, and may be of good source of gene pool for development of resistant/tolerant varieties against the biotic and abiotic stresses.

Dr. S. K. Mukherjee, Senior Consultant, NER-BPMC, DBT, Govt. of India offered vote of thanks and urged the house to work on development of some varieties of banana that are rich in Vitamin A and other nutrients.



SPECIAL FEATURES

4th Certificate course on Tea

The Department of Tea Husbandry & Technology has successfully conducted the 4th Certificate course on 'Tea Production Technology & Management' of six months duration starting from Nov. 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016. The objective of this course is to help the unemployed youth to develop skill on various aspects of tea cultivation with hands on training both at the tea garden and factory of the University. A total of 23 students have successfully completed the course and were awarded certificates from the University at a valedictory function held on May 30, 2016 in the august presence of Dr. G.N. Hazarika, DR (Agri); Dr.C.Hazarika, Director of Post Graduate Studies; Dr.R.K.Saud, Associate Director of Extension Education (P&I), AAU, Jorhat and all the faculty members of the department.



Veterinary Council of India inspected C.V.Sc., AAU, Khanapara

Expert team of Veterinary Council of India inspected C.V.Sc., AAU Khanapara from June 23-25, 2016. The team was comprised of Dr. A.K. Ishwar, Chairman and members Dr. J.D. Ghosh and Dr. P.K. Pati. On 23rd June they were briefed by the Dean F.V.Sc. in presence of Officers and HoDs of CVSc about various Teaching, Research and Extension activities of the college. Later on they visited all the departments and other establishment to assess CV.Sc. as per VCI norms.



World Veterinary Day Celebrated

The World Veterinary Day was celebrated jointly by the College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara; Blue Cross Society, Assam; AAU Teachers' Association (Veterinary Faculty) and Indian Association of Women Veterinarians (Assam Chapter) on April 25, 2015. On this occasion, a meeting was held in the auditorium of CVSc, Khanapara where Dr. C.K. Rajkonwar, former Director, A.H. & Vety. Dept., Govt. of Assam, Rtd. Assoc. Dean, LCVSc, North Lakhimpur was the chief guest and Dr. Chandan Rajkhowa, Rtd Director, NRC, Mithun (ICAR), Nagaland was the guest speaker. The prestigious "Pranimitra Award" was given to

Dr. S. N. Kalita, Rtd. Professor, Dept of Anatomy, CVSc, Khanapara by Blue Cross Society, Assam.

Skill development Training on Pig Farming"

To develop the entrepreneurial skill and also for capacity building of the rural educated youths, the Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara organized a 5-day "Skill Development Training on Pig Farming" during Apr. 6-10, 2015 in collaboration with State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Assam. A total of 30 educated youths and progressive farmers from Karbi Anglong, Sivasagar, Morigaon, Dibrugarh, Dhemaji and Kamrup districts attended the training programme.

Observance of World No Tobacco Day

The Dept .of Extension and Communication Management, College of Home Science observed the World No Tobacco Day on 31st May 31, 2016. A documentary film made by the professional elective students of the Department on 'Effect of tobacco chewing' was screened to mark the occasion.



Training on "Advanced Methods for Molecular Typing of Microbes"

A short-term hands-on training programme on "Advanced Methods for Molecular Typing of Microbes" was conducted by the DBT-funded State Level Biotech Hub of College of Veterinary Science, Assam Agricultural University, Khanapara, Guwahati from May 9-13, 2016. A total of 10 selected research scholars and faculty members from different parts of the North-Eastern Region participated in the training programme. Dr. N. Senthil Kumar, Prof.& Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, Mizoram University and Dr. Pranab Goswami, Professor, Dept. of Bioscience & Bioengineering, IIT, Guwahati acted as the resource persons for the training programme. Dr. Probodh Borah, Coordinator, State Biotech Hub and Prof. & Head, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, conducted the training programme as the Course Director.



SPECIAL FEATURES

DBT's Task Force Meeting on Aquaculture & Marine Biotechnology

The 5th Meeting of the Task Force on Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, was organized at Fisheries Research Centre (FRC), Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat on 14-15 July, 2016.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Dilip Kumar, Former Director, CIFE, Mumbai and Co-chaired by Dr. Iddya Karunasagar, Former FAO Fellow. Prominent personalities like Dr. A.S. Ninawe,

Advisor, DBT, Dr. W.S. Lakra, Former Director, CIFE, Mumbai, Dr. Sudhir Raizada, ADG (Inland Fy.), ICAR, New Delhi, and others participated. A total of 36 nos. of projects were discussed in the meeting. On the closing day, a plantation programme was organized in the premises of the new building of FRC, AAU, wherein all the members of the DBT's task force took part.



MoU signed for commercialization of AAU fish feed- Sushama

An MoU signing ceremony was organized on 30th August, 2016 between Assam Agricultural University and M/s S.D. Bajaj of Guwahati, for commercialization of AAU Fish Feed 'Sushama', developed by Fisheries Research Centre,

Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat. The ceremony was held in the conference hall of College of Veterinary Science, AAU Khanapara. The dignitaries present were Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah; Hon'ble Member of NEC, Shri T.C. Das; Dr. A.K. Chakraborty, Director of Research (Vety); Sri. S.K. Das, Director of Fisheries, GoA; Dr. R.N. Goswami, Dean, College of Veterinary Science,



The ceremony was held in the conference hall of College of Veterinary Science, AAU Khanapara. The dignitaries present were Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah; Hon'ble Member of NEC, Shri T.C. Das; Dr. A.K. Chakraborty, Director of Research (Vety); Sri. S.K. Das, Director of Fisheries, GoA; Dr. R.N. Goswami, Dean, College of Veterinary Science,

Khanapara; Dr. K.K. Tamuli, Dean (i/c), College of Fisheries, Raha; Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Principal Scientist AAU, Jorhat; besides faculty of College of Veterinary Science and other stakeholders.

Capacity Building Training on Livestock Entrepreneurship Development for North Eastern Region

An model training programme on "Capacity Building on Livestock Entrepreneurship Development for Field Functionaries of North East Region" was organised by the Dept. of Extension Education, College of Veterinary Science from Sep. 23-30, 2016, where twenty six Veterinary Officers from different North Eastern states participated. The programme was sponsored by the Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India. Inaugurating the programme,

Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU laid emphasis on livestock entrepreneurship development. Resource persons from noted institutes of the region like Indian Institute of Management (IIM, Shillong), EEI Jorhat, MSME, NSIC participated.



Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the NEC funded project

The foundation stone laying Ceremony for the NEC funded project 'Pig Farming through Promotion of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)' was held on Sep. 27, 2016 at Khandikar, Baska. Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU was the Chief Guest of the ceremony. The foundation stone for the base breeding farm & office complex was laid in presence of Shri Ram Muivah, IAS, Secretary, North Eastern Council Secretariat, Nogrims Hills, Shillong,

Mehgalaya, Sjt S N Brahma Choudhury, Economic Advisor (Retd), Ministry of DoNER, Dr Apurba Chakraborty, Director of Research (Vety), PC

, officers and staff of KVK Baska, District Veterinary officers, bank officials. More than 200 beneficiaries and farmers have attended the ceremony.



Brain Storm on "Innovative Interventions and Effective Disease Management in Duck"

A brain storm session was held at AAU, Khanapara on Jul. 26-27, 2016 organised jointly by the Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India and Directorate of Research (Vety), AAU, Khanapara. Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble



Vice-Chancellor, AAU chaired the session. Dr. T Madan Mohan, Adviser DBT, Dr. Lalkrishna ADG (Retd) ICAR, now advisor DBT, Dr. Pabawn Sharma, Advisor DBT, Dr. J. M. Kataria, Director, CARI, Izatnagar and hosts of experts from reputed and renowned institutes from all over India attended the sessions. The faculties from FVSc, AAU, Khanapara also took part in the deliberation. All issues pertaining to duck covering management, health, nutrition and biotechnological tool to improve the duckery sector of entire country were discussed in detail. Based on the outcome of the session the DBT has invited proposals for developing the duckery sector of the country with special emphasis to North Eastern Region.

Celebration of World Ozone Day

A Rally was organized by the Dept. of FRM, CHSc on Sep. 16, 2016 on occasion of World Ozone Day. Play cards were prepared by the students of 1st year on ozone



depleting substance, effect of ozone depletion, effect on human health, preventions, facts related to ozone depletion etc. The main objective of the day was to make the people aware regarding importance of ozone layer and consequences of ozone depletion. An effort was taken to generate awareness among the people throughout the campus regarding preservation of the Ozone Layer.

Capacity Building of SHGs

A training programme on 'Capacity Building of SHGs' was successfully conducted in the Dept. of Extension

and Communication Management, College of Home Science, AAU, Jorhat from Sep. 8-15, 2016.



Altogether 25 members from 12 SHGs from three operational villages of AICRP-Home Science participated in the programme.

Training on Commercial production of vermicompost

A series of training programme on Commercial production of vermicompost was organised in the Dept. of Extension and Communication Management, College of Home Science, in collaboration with NGO 'SNEHPAD' on PPP mode from Sept 19-Oct 3, 2016 where 75 trainees from ten different Farmers Clubs of Titabar subdivision participated.

Release of two new bulletins

Two bulletins namely "RARS, Diphu at a glance" and "AST-1, a high yielding sesame variety" were released on Sep. 22, 2016 during

the ZREAC (Rabi) meeting by Dr. R. K. Saud, ADEE (P&I), AAU, Jorhat and Mr. M. Rajbongshi, DAO, Karbi Anglong at RARS, AAU,



Diphu. Scientists of RARS, Diphu, Scientists of KVK, Karbi Anglong, DAO, Dept. of Agriculture, Dima Hasao, representatives from Dept. of Irrigation, DVO, Dept. of Veterinary, Deptt. of Agriculture Engineering and farmer representatives were also present on the occasion. Dr. Saud appreciated the Chief Scientist and his scientific staff for publishing these valuable documents.

Awareness-cum-demonstration programme

An awareness-cum-demonstration programme on management of Swarming caterpillar primarily in rice field was organized by the Dept. of Extension Education, FA, AAU in collaboration with Dept. of Entomology, FA, AAU and State Agri. Dept., Govt. of Assam, Jorhat on Sep. 16, 2016 at No. 1 Sonari Gaon, Alengmara, Jorhat. Necessary inputs were provided by the State Agriculture department to the farmers. Farmers of adjacent villages were also benefitted.

SPECIAL FEATURES

ACHIEVEMENT

- * Dr. Probodh Borah, Professor & Head, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara attended the WHO Workshop on animal biotechnology held at Thammasat University, Rangsit Campus, Thailand from April 4-8, 2016.
- * Dr B K Sarmah, Director, DBT-AAU Centre has been awarded the prestigious Norman Borlaug Chair in International Agriculture 2016 and the National Professor position by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. Dr. Sarmah, upon invitation delivered a talk on "Transgenic chickpeas" in the annual meeting for the Chickpea Innovation Lab, held in the campus of Ege University, Izmir, Turkey during May 30 to June 2, 2016. Dr. Sarmah was also invited to participate in the workshop 'GM Crops in India- Way Forward' organized by the ICAR, New Delhi on 17th May, 2016
- * Mrs. Premila L. Bordoloi, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition, College of Home Science, AAU, Jorhat participated in poster presentation in the 1st International Conference on Food Nutrition and Health (ICFNH- 2016) organized by Indian Dietetic Association, Kilakarai chapter and Thassim Beevi Abdul Kader College of Women, Madurai, Tamil Nadu on June 6-8, 2016.
- * Dr. Probodh Borah, Professor & Head, Dept. of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara, Guwahati has been nominated as a Member of the Core Committee and Chairman of the Animal Biotechnology Subcommittee constituted by DBT, Govt. of India for 'Course Curriculum Revision Exercise of Post-graduate Programmes in Biotechnology' in July, 2016.
- * Dr. Priyadarshini Bhorali, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Agricultural Biotechnology, AAU, has bagged the 'Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship (Borlaug Fellowship) 2016'. She is currently pursuing her research under the mentorship of Dr. Sorina C. Popescu, faculty at the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Plant Pathology and Entomology at Mississippi State University, USA
- * Four students (Geetimollika Hazarika, Ananya Baruah, Ricky Raj Paswan and Mausumi Hazarika) from the

Dept. of Agril. Biotechnology have bagged the prestigious BRAVE fellowship under the Erasmus Mundus programme to complete their Masters' research work at various universities of Europe in the current semester.

- * Dr. Sayanika Borah, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Extension and Communication Management, College of Home Science, AAU, Jorhat has received the "Outstanding Participant" award during ICAR sponsored summer school at BCKV, West Bengal during Sep. 7-27, 2016.
- * Dr. Dulal Chandra Roy, Professor cum PI, Dept. of Pharmacology & Toxicology, CVSc, AAU, Khanapara was conferred Bharat Jyoti Award-2016 on 13th Aug, 2016 at India International Centre, New Delhi for meritorious services, outstanding performance and remarkable role in advancement of Science at a Seminar cum Award function organized by India International Friendship Society (IIFS). Dr. Roy was also conferred the Award for Research Excellence-2016 on 13th Sept, 2016 at the Indo-American Education Summit 2016 organized by the Indus Foundation, New Jersey, USA at Taj Vivanta Ambassador, New Delhi for his creative expression and outstanding contribution to the knowledge in advancement of scientific research.
- * Dr Juri Baruah, Professor, Dept. of Human Development & Family Studies delivered lectures on "Teaching beyond books" and "Know your Learners" in the Teachers workshop in Oil Shikshya Ratna Award ceremony organized by ILFS in Oil India Limited, Duliajan on 21st March and 22nd September, 2016 respectively. She also delivered another lecture on "Identification and Early Intervention of Disability" in the occasion of 59th International day of Deaf, organized in the district of Jorhat on Sep. 24, 2016.
- * Mr Sourav Pathak, Instrumentation Engineer, DBT-AAU Centre, AAU, Jorhat attended a workshop on "Introduction to Robotics" during April 29-30, 2016 at Tezpur University under the e-Yantra Lab Setup Initiative project funded by MHRD, Govt of India.
- * Mr Surajit Mishra, IT Consultant, DBT-AAU Centre, AAU, Jorhat attended training on "Bioinformatics" at Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata on bioinformatics analysis of data w.e.f June 1, 2016.



Indoor stadium at C.VSc. inaugurated by Minister for Agriculture and Veterinary

Sjt Atul Bora, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Agriculture and Veterinary etc., Govt. of Assam inaugurated the indoor stadium of College of Veterinary Science in presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr K. M. Bujarbaruah, AAU on July 15, 2016. Sjt Atul Bora, MLA of Dispur Constituency was



the guest of honour of the inauguration ceremony. The sporty Agriculture Minister also played badminton with VC and other dignitaries on that occasion.

Training on Crop Simulation Models

A training programme on Crop Simulation Modelling for Yield Forecasting was organized by the Dept. of Agrometeorology, AAU, Jorhat during June 20-25, 2016. The training was inaugurated by Dr D. K.



Borah, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat and a total of 20 Scientists and Researcher from various Agricultural Universities and ICAR Research stations of the north-eastern region of India participated in the training programme. Resource persons from India Meteorological Department, New Delhi, Regional Meteorological Centre, Guwahati and AAU gave extensive and hands-on training on crop models. The training was sponsored by the IMD, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

College of Agriculture Celebrated its 69th Foundation Day

College of Agriculture, Jorhat celebrated its 69th Foundation Day on August 16, 2016 with a colourful start of



the cultural procession by the students which was flagged off by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah followed by flag hoisting

by Dr. D. K. Bora, Dean, College of Agriculture. After the Swahid Tarpan, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, delivered a short and impressive speech to the students, teachers and employees. An exhibition and a cultural function were also organized to commemorate the Foundation Day.

14th Group Meeting of AINP on Agricultural Acarology

The Fourteenth Biennial Group Meeting of All India Network Project on Agricultural Acarology was held in the Department of Entomology, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat during April 21-23, 2016. In the meeting the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah addressed the gathering as chief guest. About twenty five acarologists from different institutions throughout the country attended and discussed the progress report

of last two years and formulated technical programme for next two years. Dr. N. Srinivasa, the Project Coordinator



presented the research activities of the project carried out throughout the country. While Dr. G.N. Hazarika, Director of Research (Agri) highlighted the research achievements of AAU, Jorhat centre. The participating scientists appreciated the organizers for holding the meet in a befitting manner. Dr. Sahidur Rahman, Principal Scientist and Principal Investigator of the project was the Organizing Secretary of the Meet.

STUDENTS' WELFARE

Orientation Workshop on Teaching Technology

An Orientation Workshop on Teaching Technology was held at AAU, Jorhat campus on July 7-9, 2016. The workshop organised by the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU was attended by 50 newly recruited faculties at AAU, Jorhat campus under Colleges of Agriculture, Home Science, Sericulture and Horticulture. The programme was

inaugurated by Dr. D.K. Borah, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture in presence of Dr.(Mrs) S.Kaur, Dean, Faculty of Home Science, Dr. C. Hazarika, Director of Post Graduate Studies,



Dr. B.K.Sarmah, National Professor and Director, AAU-DBT Centre. The inaugural function was attended by Heads of various departments of AAU, Jorhat. In his inaugural speech, Dr. D. K. Borah emphasised on adopting a student centric teaching style to prepare 21st century ready students so that they can be able to cope up with the real challenges. On the second day of the workshop, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah addressed the participants throwing lights on various aspects of teaching and learning. While discussing with the participants, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor urged the participants to well-equip themselves to develop different kinds of graduates for fulfilling the various needs of the society. He too stressed on maintaining the teaching quality by every teacher and making the teaching more interesting for students by using various techniques. The three day workshop was attended by several senior faculty members of AAU, Jorhat as resource persons.

NAAS Lectures organized at AAU, Jorhat

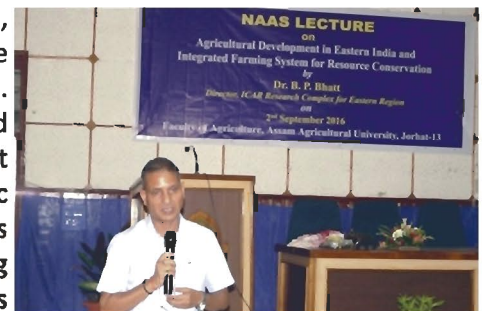
On Sep. 2, 2016, Dr. B.P. Bhatt, Director, ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (ICAR-RCER), Patna delivered an invited lecture on the topic "Agricultural Development in Eastern India & Integrated Farming System for Resource Conservation" for the students and faculty of the College of Agriculture, Assam Agricultural University(AAU), Jorhat. The lecture was the second in a series of lectures being sponsored by National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) at AAU. Dr. Bhatt made an excellent



exposition on problems and prospects of Agriculture in Eastern India, emphasizing more particularly the North East.

Earlier in June 2016, the first of the series of lectures on the topic "Relevance of Home Science Education to Address Socio-Economic Issues" was delivered by Dr. Minaxi Pathak, Retd. Dean, Faculty of Home Science, AAU.

She highlighted the important socio-economic issues confronting Assam as well as other north eastern states of India which could be effectively addressed by the home scientists of the region. The lecture immensely benefitted the students and teachers of the College.



AAU signed MoU with Bayer Crop Science Ltd

Bayer Crop Science Ltd, Thane, Maharashtra, and Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat have signed MoU on 12th July, 2016 to initiate Bayer Fellowship programme at AAU. Bayer has donated the fellowship funds to AAU for the years 2015 to 2018, as a part of its corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Dr. C. Hazarika, Director of Post Graduate Studies, AAU, and Mr. Rajshekhar Sakhalkar, Head, Development & Regulatory Affairs, Bayer Crop Science were the signatories of the MoU.



Four numbers of fellowship (each of Rs. 6,000.00/month) for M.Sc. (Agri), and 2 nos. (each of Rs. 10,000.00/month) for Ph.D. degree programme for the academic session 2015-16 were awarded to the students.





Assam's Native Pig Registered as Breed

'Doom', a native variety of pig of Assam, has been registered as a breed with accession number 'INDIA_PIG_0200_DOOM_09006' by the Breed Registration Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi. The 'Doom' pig is the first livestock of



Assam ever registered as a breed. The registration certificate of the breed of pig was presented to Dr Galib Uz Zaman and Dr Subimal Laskar, both professors at the Dept. of Animal Genetics and Breeding, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara, by Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary of Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) and Director General of ICAR, at a function held on Aug. 23, 2016 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The 'Doom' pig is a native variety of pig found in pure form in its breeding tract in Dhubri, Bongaigaon and some parts of Kokrajhar district.



This breed is adapted to a special management system called migratory scavenging system with minimum input from the economically backward people whose main

vocation is pig rearing. They are larger in size as compared to other indigenous pigs of North East region and the meat of 'Doom' pig is lean and palatable. The breed has a small population and there is a need to make efforts for its conservation. The data required for registration of this breed was generated from the project "Conservation of Doom Pig" funded by Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Gol in operation at Livestock Research Station, AAU, Mandira.

Inauguration of Family Counselling Centre

A family counselling centre was established by AICRP-CD in collaboration with Sansad Adharsha Gram Yojna (SAGY) on May 8, 2016 in Balijan Shyam Gaon, Mariani. A large crowd from nearby villages attended the inaugural programme. The need of the



counselling was explained to the people present there. Dignitaries present were Dr. G. N. Hazarika, DR (Agri), Assam Agricultural University, Ms. Raushni Aparanjee Karate A.D.C, Jorhat, and Mr. Amit Kumar Khuswaha, Prime Minister Rural Development Fellow.

ZREAC meetings held for Kharif, 2016

The Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Committee meetings of different Agroclimatic Zones of Assam for the *Kharif*, 2016 season were held during 21.04.2016 to 30.04.2106 as per the table given below:

Zone	Venue	Date
Upper Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Titabar	21.04.16
Hill Zone	RARS, Diphu	22.04.16
Lower Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Gossaigaon	28.04.16
Central Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Shillongani	29.04.16
Barak Valley Zone	RARS, Karimganj	29.04.16
North Bank Plain Zone	RARS, Lakhimpur	30.04.16

Technical committee meetings for Kharif, 2016 held

The Technical Committee Meetings (TCM) of different technical groups viz., Crop Improvement, Crop Management & Farming System, Crop Protection, Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Social Sciences and Home Science for the *Kharif*, 2016 were held from May 9-16, 2016. The concerned teachers and scientists from the Faculties of Agriculture and Home Science attended the meetings of the relevant technical groups and presented the findings of the on-going projects and also the technical programme for the ensuing *Kharif* season.

ZREAC meetings held for Rabi 2016

The Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Committee meetings of different Agro-climatic Zone of Assam for the *Rabi*, 2016 season were held during 20.09.2016 to 06.10.16 as per the table given below :

Zone	Venue	Date
North Bank Plain Zone	RARS, Lakhimpur	20.09.16
Barak Valley Zone	RARS, Karimganj	21.09.16
Hill Zone	RARS, Diphu	22.09.16
Central Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Shillongani	23.09.16
Upper Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Titabar	27.09.16
Lower Brahmaputra Valley Zone	RARS, Gossaigaon	06.10.16





Training on Organic Tea Production for Small Tea Growers

Considering the growing demand for organic tea in recent time, the Dept. of Tea Husbandry & Technology organised an institutional training programme on 'Husbandry Practices and Processing of Organic Tea' for small tea growers from May 23-28, 2016. During the course of the training programme, emphasis was given on establishing market linkage for selling the hand-made organic teas of the trainees in national and international markets. Altogether 28 numbers of small tea growers from different parts of Assam attended the training and were awarded certificates from the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture.



Orientation training for Field Assistant

An orientation course was organized by the Directorate of Research (Agri) during July 21-22, 2016 for the newly appointed Field Assistants under the Directorate in different Research Stations including Head Quarter. There were altogether 49 participants and the course covered various aspects of crop production, design and layout of on station research trials and plant protection aspects of field as well as horticultural crops. The participants were also appraised about use and management of farm implements and tools through some practical classes.



RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE RESEARCH PROJECT POOL

Title of the Project	Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Amount (Rs.)
Molecular Breeding for development of cold tolerant boro rice cultivars at the seeding stage suitable for Assam condition	Dr. A. R. Baruah	DBT	107.85 lakh
Understanding the Mechanism of tolerance to low light intensity in rice	Dr. B. Bharali	NASF, ICAR	23.88 lakh
Development of Nuclear Stock of Honeybee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>) on participatory mode	Dr. A. Rahman	National Bee Board	20.00 lakh
Design Innovation Centre (DIC)	Dr. N. Bhattacharyya	IIT, Guwahati	100.00 lakh
Genetic improvement of Taro through radiation technology	Dr. B.K.Saud	BRNS, GOI	20.57 lakh
Breeding for higher productivity of indigenous joha rice (<i>Oryza sativa</i> L.) of Assam through induced mutations for morpho agronomic traits	Dr. D. Sarmah	BRNS, GOI	21.29 lakh
Introduction of mutations in summer greengram (<i>Vigna radiata</i> L. Wilczek)	Dr. (Mrs) A. Sarmah	BRNS,GOI	28.42 lakh
Development and evaluation of dehydrated and irradiated jackfruit (<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>) products	Dr. Pranati Das	BRNS, GOI	29.52 lakh
Management of Green Waste For Economic Benefits and Women Empowerment	Dr.Bijoylaxmi Bhuyan	DBT	40.33 lakh
Study of mitochondrial electron transport chain (ETC) dysfunction that modulates aging and development in <i>C. elegans</i> through CEP-1, the worm homolog of mammalian p53"	Dr Aiswarya Baruah	DBT	123.56 lakh
Development of Gamma ray induced mutant strain on honeybees resistant to insecticides	Mukul Kr. Deka	BRNS, GOI	23.94 lakh
Development of leaf folder, (<i>Cnaphalocrosis medinalis</i>) resistant rice variety through mutation breeding.	Purnima Das	BRNS, GOI	29.22 lakh
Development of stem borer, (<i>Scripophagus incartulus</i>) resistant rice variety through mutation breeding.	Anjumoni Devi	BRNS, GOI	30.72 lakh
Direct seeded rice (DSR)	N. T. Rafique	ICAR_IRRI	0.30 lakh
Development of shorter duration mega variety Ranjit with the help of mutation breeding and Marker aided selection	S. K. Chetia	BRNS, GOI	21.81 lakh
Identification of genes contributing resistance to <i>Alternaria brassicae</i> from a nonhost plant and their characterization in <i>Arabidopsis</i> for durable crop protection against blight disease in <i>Brassica rapa</i>	P. Bhorali	DBT, GOI	41.29 lakh
"Screening of indigenous rice germplasm of Assam for tolerance to anaerobic condition during germination and marker assisted introgression of traits into elite Rice Variety"	P. K. Das	DBT, GOI	63.16 lakh
Efficiency Innovation for pounding of rice	Ruplekha Borah	MHRD	5.7 Lakh
Design approaches for occupational wellness of pickers engaged in manual tea plucking activity	Nandita Bhattacharyya	MHRD	8.7 Lakh





Vaccination cum Elephant Treatment Camp

An immune belt against dreaded Foot and Mouth Disease was formed around the Nameri National Park, by organising a two-day livestock vaccination cum treatment



camp in the fringe villages of Nameri Tiger Reserve on April 2-3, 2016 by the Dept. of Extension Education, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara in collaboration with Assam (Bhorelli) Angling and Conservation Association and Western Assam Wildlife Division, and with active support from the state AH & Vety Dept., Sonitpur.

A group of 11 teachers, 5 Ph.D. scholars and 25 M.V.Sc. students under the leadership of Dr. A. Borgohain, Professor and Head, Extension Education Deptt. participated in the camp, where a total of 800 cattle were vaccinated against Foot and Mouth Disease in the fringe village of Nameri Tiger Reserve and 436 livestock and poultry were treated free against different ailments.

Training for Veterinary Nursing Assistant of NDRF Personnel

A training programme for Veterinary Nursing Assistant of NDRF was organized by the Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara Campus in association with 1st BN, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Ministry of Home Affairs, Patgaon, Guwahati from May 30 to June 3, 2016. A total of 24 participants of various NDRF Battalions attended the training programme. The main



objective of the training was to develop skill among the NDRF personnel for the management and health care of the animals during natural disaster. The training schedule was designed and formulated for the capacity building of the participants to take active role in rescue and rehabilitation operation in emergency during flood, earthquake etc.

Cluster Front Line Demonstration on Oilseed

KVK, Baksa introduced a new variety of sesamum "Nagaon Til" through Cluster Front Line Demonstration (FLD) on *Rabi* oilseed 2015-16 in summer season under NMOOP. A total of 25 farmers were involved with this FLD in an area of 10 ha at Sansad Adarsh Gaon, Naokata under Tamulpur sub-division of Baksa District. In this connection, after harvesting the sesamum a field day was organized in farmer's field. The farmers expressed their pleasure as the yield of the variety was highly satisfactory. The average yield/ha was 4.3 q in comparison to local check (2.9 q/ha).



KVK, Dhemaji inaugurates Custom Hiring Center

On May 1, 2016, KVK, Dhemaji inaugurated a Custom Hiring Center of Farm Machinery at the No. 1 Solokhoni Village under the Tribal Sub Plan project. The center was inaugurated by Dr. G. N. Hazarika, DR (Agri.), AAU, Jorhat in presence of Mr. V. Carpenter, Deputy Commissioner, Dhemaji; KVK officials and hundreds of farmers. The Deputy Commissioner, Dhemaji urged the farmers to take farming activities seriously for better income generation and livelihood promotion. In his speech, Dr. Hazarika, made the farmers aware of steps taken by the AAU towards improvement of farm mechanization and attaining the objectives of the TSP project.



Exposure visit cum training for farmers/extension facilitators

An exposure cum training for farmers/Extension facilitators of Namsai District, Arunachal Pradesh on Dairy, Piggery and Goat farming was organized by the Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara in collaboration with District A.H. & Vety. Office, Namsai Arunachal Pradesh during Sep. 21-23, 2016. A total of 32 participants of the district attended the programme. Farmers were exposed to modern and latest farm management and health care practices adopted in various organized farms. The participants had a very fruitful discussion with all the scientists and faculty members.





Ceremonial distribution of soil health card by KVK Baksa

A ceremonial distribution programme of Soil Health Card (SHC) was organized by KVK Baksa on 20th Aug, 2016 at Dr Bhupen Hazarika Memorial Auditorium, Dhepargaon of Baksa district. The programme was graced by Dr B. C. Deka, Director, ATARI, ICAR, Zone-III; Mr. M. Basumotary, EM, BTC; Mr. B. Kalita, MLA, Rangia constituency and Mr. K. Deka, DAO, Baksa.



Dr U. J. Sarma, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Baksa delivered his welcome speech and

also explain the purpose of the meeting. Dr B. C. Deka, Director, ATARI elaborated about the aims and objectives of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and their importance towards upliftment of socio-economic condition of rural livelihood. Also he described the farmers about the benefits of soil testing and importance of SHC in his speech. In that programme, a total of 250 nos of SHC were distributed among the farmers by the Chief Guest and other dignitaries. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Mr. H. Mazumdar, SMS of KVK, Baksa.

Distribution of Magur & Carp Hatcheries at KVK, Nalbari

KVK Nalbari distributed a total of 9 numbers (5 magur and 4 carp) of portable FRP hatcheries to selected fish breeders of Nalbari district, Assam on Jul. 14, 2016. Portable Magur and carp hatcheries, made of fiber reinforced plastics (FRP), are devised for easy operation of spawn production of



fish. The hatchery set can be dismantled and shifted to any convenient place at any time which make the hatchery operation an easier one. The hatcheries were distributed under a collaborative programme of KVK Nalbari with ICAR-

are devised for easy operation of spawn production of

NEWS FROM ATIC

Farmers' visit : A total of 2931 farmers visited ATIC and were provided advisory services.

Products sold : Paddy seeds of different HYV, vegetables, Biofor-PF, tea, jaggery, etc. were sold.

ATIC continues to be an active collaborator in Gyan Yatra Programme of Govt. of Assam

CIFA, Bhubaneswar. The formal distribution programme was chaired by Dr. H.C. Bhattacharyya, Director of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat. The Programme Coordinator, KVK Nalbari, Dr. Mridul Deka gave an account of work done by KVK Nalbari in fisheries sector. Hon'ble MLA of Nalbari constituency Mr. Ashok Sharma attended the meeting as Chief Guest and delivered a speech on his experience in fishing and fish farming. He urged the farmer friends to culture different indigenous fish species and culture their breeding. Dr. B.C. Deka, Director ATARI, Zone III, ICAR, Meghalaya attending the programme as Guest of Honour congratulated the KVK and farmer friends for their commendable work in fisheries sector in his brief speech. The ceremonial meeting was also attended by District Fishery Development Officer, Officer in charge SIRD, Nalbari and DAO, Nalbari.

Animal Vaccination cum Treatment Camp

KVK, Sonitpur organized a day-long Animal Vaccination cum Treatment Camp in the village on Sep. 15, 2016 in collaboration with Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Dept., Sonitpur and Dept. of Microbiology, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara, Guwahati, during which around 150 cattle, 17 buffaloes and 15 goats were vaccinated against the endemic animal disease



Black Quarter. Besides vaccination, several other ailing animals were treated by a team of veterinary doctors. The team from Dept. of Microbiology, College of Veterinary Science, Guwahati, led by Dr. D.K. Battacharyya also participated in the camp and collected a few blood samples of livestock animals for surveillance of endemic animal diseases. Dr. Binoy Kumar Barman, Sub Divisional Veterinary Officer, Sonitpur was also present during the Animal vaccination cum treatment camp.

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Published by the Directorate of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat.

Phone : 0376 - 2340029; Fax : 0376 - 2340001, 2310708; Email : dee@aau.ac.in; Website : http://www.aau.ac.in. Printed at Bhabani Offset Pvt. Ltd., Guwahati-26