



ICAR-IARI, ASSAM NEW SLETTER

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हर कदम, हर डगर किसानों का हमसफर शास्तीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद Agriesearch with a human touch

From the Director's Desk



It gives me immense pleasure to present the July–September 2025 issue of our newsletter, highlighting another eventful quarter in the journey of ICAR–IARI, Assam. This period witnessed major institutional milestones, scientific achievements, outreach initiatives, and continued progress in strengthening agricultural education and research in the Northeast.

A key highlight was our meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, and senior government officials to discuss strengthening agricultural research, education, and farmer-centric programmes. The State's assurance of support reaffirms

our shared vision of transforming Assam into a hub of innovation and agricultural excellence. The formal takeover of the Regional Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Station (RRLRRS), Gerua, from ICAR–CRRI, Cuttack, marked a significant step forward in expanding our research footprint and addressing regional challenges.

This quarter also saw infrastructural growth with the establishment of a temporary poultry shed and a new Natural Resource Management (NRM) laboratory—both aimed at enhancing scientific experimentation, hands-on learning, and farmer's training. Faculty and staff earned accolades through awards, publications, and contributions to national and international platforms, further reinforcing IARI Assam's reputation as a centre of excellence.

Student engagement remained vibrant through experiential learning programmes such as Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE), field visits, and communication and processing technology training. Hostel Day celebrations reflected the spirit of unity and inclusiveness on campus. Outreach and training activities across Assam and neighbouring states benefited hundreds of farmers, focusing on integrated farming, women's empowerment, value addition, and livelihood diversification. Events such as National Fish Farmers' Day, Swachhotsav 2025, and NSS awareness campaigns further showcased our commitment to community development and environmental stewardship.

As we look ahead, our focus will remain on strengthening partnerships, deepening research linkages, and accelerating technology dissemination for sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture in the Northeast. I extend my sincere appreciation to all faculty, staff, students, farmers, and collaborators for their dedication and teamwork in advancing our collective mission.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao Director & Vice-Chancellor ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam



HIGHLIGHTS

Strengthening Assam's Agri-Future: IARI Director Meets Hon'ble Chief Minister and Senior Officials

Guwahati, September 2, 2025: In a significant step towards advancing agricultural research and development in Assam, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, to discuss key issues related to land, research, education, and extension activities of IARI Assam. During the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister lauded IARI's efforts in strengthening the agricultural landscape of the Northeast and assured full support from the Government of Assam in facilitating its future initiatives.



To foster deeper collaboration, Dr. Rao also met Dr. Krishna Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary; Dr. Ravi Kota, Chief Secretary; and Shri M. Ariz Ahammed, Special Chief Secretary, Government of Assam. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional cooperation, promoting integrated farming systems, and expanding farmer-oriented programs in the region. Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya, Scientist-in-Charge, IARI Assam, was also present during the interactions. The meetings marked a crucial step toward realizing the shared vision of transforming Assam into a hub of innovation and excellence in agricultural research and rural development.







ICAR-IARI Assam Takes Over RRLRRS, Gerua Station, Kamrup, Guwahati

On 31st August 2025, ICAR-IARI Assam officially took over the Regional Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Station (RRLRRS), Gerua, Kamrup from ICAR-CRRI, Cuttack, in a ceremony graced by Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director & Vice Chancellor, ICAR-IARI. Dr. Kanchan Saikia handed over the station to Dr. L. K. Baishya, marking a new chapter in agricultural advancement for the Northeast. Dr. Rao highlighted the potential for research in rice, horticulture, and integrated farming systems suited to regional needs. To commemorate the occasion, IARI-Assam organized a training-cum-awareness programme on



"Recent Advances in Rice-based Integrated Farming System", attended by around 100 farmers from Nalbari, Baksa, and Kamrup districts. The event strengthened the link between scientific research and grassroots farming for a sustainable and self-reliant Northeast.



INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Establishment of a Temporary Poultry Shed at ICAR-IARI, Assam Research Farm

A temporary poultry shed has been established at the ICAR-IARI, Assam research farm complex using bamboo and other locally available materials, following scientific design standards. The shed, with a housing capacity of about 400 birds, is designed to support research, training, and demonstration activities in poultry production. It includes four compartments for rearing different breeds and age groups under controlled conditions, along with a separate feed storage section for proper handling and preservation. The unit will facilitate experiments on production, feeding, and health management, with emphasis on scientific care and management practices. Besides research, the facility will offer practical learning opportunities to undergraduate students and serve as a centre for farmer training and capacity building in scientific poultry management. This initiative marks a significant step toward integrating research, education, and skill development for promoting entrepreneurship and livelihood opportunities in the region.







Establishment of an Additional Natural Resource Management (NRM) Laboratory in the ATIC Building at IARI Assam



As part of infrastructural development, an additional Natural Resource Management (NRM) Laboratory has been established in the ATIC building at ICAR-IARI, Assam. The lab, currently in its developing stage, houses key instruments such as a pH meter, spectrophotometer, digestion and distillation units, muffle furnace, BOD incubator, viscometer, and TDS-SAL meter, with a flame photometer recently procured for installation. The facility supports research activities by analyzing soil and plant samples for pH, organic carbon, available nutrients, and microbial populations, thereby enhancing the institute's soil health and nutrient management research capabilities.

SALIENT RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Two New Species of Scarab Beetles Discovered

In a collaborative effort involving scientists from ICAR–National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (Bengaluru, India), ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (Assam, India), College of Horticulture and Forestry, Central Agricultural University (Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh, India), ICAR–Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (Hyderabad, India), and the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle (Geneva, Switzerland), two new species of beetles in the genus *Cyphochilus* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) were discovered from North east India.

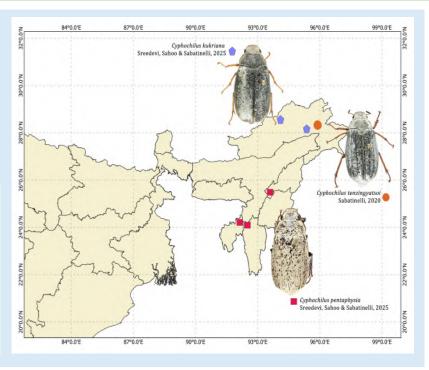
1. *Cyphochilus kukriana* Sreedevi, Sahoo & Sabatinelli, sp. nov. – from Arunachal Pradesh. This species is named after the traditional 'kukri', a short sword historically associated with the Gurkha people, owing to the distinct curved structure in its male genitalia. The species was observed feeding on crops such as maize, mustard greens, and kiwi – the latter being a major commercial fruit in Arunachal Pradesh.



2. *Cyphochilus pentaphysia* Sreedevi, Sahoo & Sabatinelli, sp. nov. – Collected from Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura, the species is named for the presence of five unique projections (apophyses) in its male genitalia.

In addition, *Cyphochilus tenzingyatsoi*, a species earlier known only from Tibet, was recorded for the first time in India (Arunachal Pradesh).





Documentation of Minor Underutilized Fruits and Wild Edible Plants

Artocarpus chama belonging to family Moraceae (Average fruit weight of 452.02 g and TSS of 15.5°B) from Alisopor village, Tuensang, Nagaland. Ficus sp (A fig species with average fruit weight of 126.32 g and TSS of 7.55°B) from Chakpa Village, Mokokchung, Nagaland. Besides, Fruits of Litsea citrata, Hodgsonia heteroclita, and Xanthoxylem oxyphyllum have been collected from Mokokchung village, Nagaland for essential oil and lipid profiling extraction.





Artocarpus chama

Ficus sp.

Exploring the Potential of Joha Rice Varieties for Traditional Indian Cereal-Based Dessert (Kheer) Preparation

The study revealed that Kola Joha rice had the highest antioxidant potential, with a Total Phenolic Content of 59.50 mg/g GAE and a Total Flavonoid Content of 186.5 mg/g, followed by Keteki Joha and Kunkuni Joha. Joha rice varieties contained 10–20 times more phenolics than common white rice, highlighting their strong nutraceutical value. The optimal soaking condition for kheer preparation





was standardized at 50° C for 30 minutes, enhancing texture, flavour, and aroma. Kheer made from broken Kola Joha grains received the highest sensory score (8.20 \pm 0.54) due to better starch gelatinization and milk absorption. Overall, the study underscores Joha rice as a nutritious, aromatic, and value-added cereal suited for traditional desserts and health-oriented innovations.

Agro-Ecotourism for Livelihood Sustainability in North-East India

Under the project "Agro-Ecotourism for Livelihood Sustainability in Northeast India," fieldwork has been initiated in Assam based on a robust conceptual framework and well-defined Agro-Ecotourism Sustainability Index (AESI) indicators. The survey aims to assess the sustainability dimensions of agro-ecotourism through a comprehensive evaluation of economic, social, environmental, and governance parameters. Data collection was conducted at key agro-ecotourism destinations, including the Kaziranga National Orchid & Biodiversity Park and surrounding villages, covering both tourism operators and visitors.



The responses received so far reflect diverse stakeholder perspectives and provide valuable insights into livelihood generation, natural resource conservation, and community participation. Preliminary analysis suggests that the AESI framework effectively captures the multidimensional aspects of



sustainability, helping identify strengths and gaps in existing agroecotourism practices. The project is expected to generate actionable recommendations for policy formulation, capacity building, and model development to promote eco-friendly tourism and rural livelihood diversification in the Northeastern region.

Promising Lentil Genotypes Identified for Acidic Soils and Rice Fallow Systems

Α two-year field evaluation (Rabi 2023-24 and 2024–25) at ICAR-IARI Assam screened elite lentil lines from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, for adaptation to acidic soils and rice fallows. Of 31 initial entries, 19 were shortlisted, and five genotypes namely-PSL9, PSL19, PL8, PAL14, and PHL3—showed consistent superior performance across seasons.





These genotypes demonstrated better growth, pod formation, and yield stability under low pH conditions, highlighting their suitability for resource-constrained ecosystems and potential use in breeding programs targeting Eastern and Northeastern India. [ICAR-IARI, New Delhi: Dr. Dharmendra Singh; ICAR-IARI, Assam: Dr. Abhijith K. P., Dr. Rachit Saxena, Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya and Dr. Sunil Mandi.



EDUCATION AND STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

Educational Visit to a Pineapple Orchard

As part of the Agricultural Journalism (UEXT 108) course, 12 students of ICAR–IARI, Assam visited a pineapple orchard at Tarioni village, Lakhimpur, on 10th July 2025. Managed by progressive farmers Mrs. Ambika and Mr. Surjya Chetri, the orchard follows Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA) practices for sustainable pineapple production. The visit, coordinated by Dr. Alemwati Pongener, Mr. Bhagirath Das, and Dr. Raghavendra H. R., offered students practical exposure to sustainable cultivation and market-oriented fruit farming.



Students Explore Agricultural Radio Broadcasting



On 7th August 2025, thirteen B.Sc. (Agriculture) students of ICAR–IARI, Assam visited Akashvani, Dibrugarh and Radio Gyanmalini, Dibrugarh University as part of the Agricultural Journalism course. At Akashvani, Mr. Jintu Chetia explained how the Farm and Home Unit develops farmer-centric programmes and ensures authentic information delivery. At Radio Gyanmalini, Ms. Swapnali Bhuyan highlighted community-based broadcasting and student participation. The visit, coordinated by Mr. Bhagirath Das, enhanced students' practical understanding of agricultural communication.

IARI Assam Students Explore Tea Processing and Weather Science in Dibrugarh

On August 8, 2025, B.Sc. (Agriculture) students (II and III Year) from ICAR–IARI Assam undertook an educational visit to the Manohari Tea Factory and the IMD Observatory, Dibrugarh. The programme was coordinated by Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr. Amit K. Srivastava, Dr. Prabhash Mishra, Dr. Sunny Arya, Mr. Dau Ruhi Pde, Mr. Raghavendra H. R., and Mr. Umakanta Dash. Students observed the complete tea processing chain—from withering to grading—and explored weather monitoring systems, aviation instruments, and the Doppler Weather Radar at IMD. The visit offered valuable experiential learning linking tea industry practices and meteorological science with agricultural education.



IARI Assam Commences Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) Programme



ICAR–IARI Assam has commenced the Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) Programme for final-year B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture students to connect academic learning with real-life farming practices. The programme began on 8th September 2025 with a week-long orientation at IARI Assam, followed by a seven-week village attachment in Lakhimpur district, where students will engage with farmers, farming systems, and rural development activities. During the inauguration, Dr. S. Manivannan and Dr. L. K. Baishya emphasized RAWE's importance in nurturing practical



competencies and field-level understanding. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. Bornalee Handique, and Mr. Bhagirath Das, who highlighted its contribution to developing skilled and socially engaged agricultural professionals.

Students Celebrate Hostel Day with Enthusiasm and Team Spirit

From 15–18 July 2025, students of ICAR–IARI Assam celebrated Hostel Day through a vibrant blend of sports, fitness, and cultural competitions, fostering unity and joy among hostel residents. The celebration began with tug-of-war contests, followed by an exciting treasure hunt and room decoration (both in boys hostel and girls hostel). The fitness challenge and eating competitions added energy and laughter. In the Master Chef contest, students showcased creativity through innovative fireless dishes. The event concluded with the Mr. Brahmaputra and Miss Subanshiri titles, where participants displayed confidence and talent. The four-day celebration truly reflected the spirit of teamwork, enthusiasm, and togetherness among IARI Assam students.



Students Gain Hands-on Experience in Pineapple Planting



On 19 September 2025, undergraduate students of ICAR–IARI Assam participated in a learning-by-doing exercise on the layout and planting of pineapple. Around 200 crowns of cv. Kew were planted in a double-row system on raised beds, following a spacing of 60 cm between rows, 30 cm between plants, and 90 cm between beds—a layout that can accommodate about 44,500 plants per hectare (\approx 6,000 plants per Bigha). Dr. Alemwati Pongener and Dr. Raghavendra H. R., providing students with valuable exposure to scientific fruit crop management, coordinated the practical session.

EXTENSION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Exposure-cum-Training Programme for Progressive Farmers

On 4th July 2025, ICAR–IARI Assam organized an exposure-cum-training programme for 20 progressive farmers from Dhal Ghagar Farmer Producer Company Ltd., Lakhimpur. The programme focused on Integrated and Sustainable Agriculture, Organic and Integrated Farming Systems, Scientific Fish and Poultry Management, and Value Addition in Farm Produce. Farmers also visited the Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) and the Agro-Processing Unit, where they explored demonstration models and showed keen interest in value-added products such as fish pickle. The programme was coordinated by Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. Amjad K Balange, Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah and Dr. Bornalee Handique.



National Fish Farmers' Day Celebrated at ICAR-IARI, Assam

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam celebrated National Fish Farmers' Day on 10th July 2025 under the leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, with a Farmer-Scientist Interactive Meet and Input Distribution Programme. Chief Guest Shri Chandan Pegu, Anchalik Member, Gogamukh Gram Panchayat, stressed the need for scientific and commercial fish farming for sustainable livelihoods, while Guest of Honour Smt. Pinki Nam



Das, Anchalik Member, Dirpai Mohari Camp, highlighted local challenges like poor water retention and limited awareness. Around 70 fish farmers participated. 10,000 quality fingerlings (Jayanti rohu, Amur common carp, GI catla, etc.) and 5 kg lime per farmer were distributed. Three progressive farmers were felicitated for their achievements. Scientists addressed field-level issues, reaffirming IARI Assam's commitment to sustainable aquaculture and rural prosperity. The programme was coordinated by Dr. A. K. Balange, Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah and Mr. Dau Ruhi Pde.



Scientist Farmer Interaction Meeting



A scientist farmer interaction meeting was organized at IARI Assam on 28 July, 2025 in collaboration with three different Farmers Producers Company (FPC 's) viz. Dhemaji Agro Fed Company Limited, Moumari Dhemaji Farmer Producer Company Limited and Apaprajay Farmers Producer Company Limited. The theme of the interaction meeting was promotion of Natural, Organic farming in Dhemaji region and awareness about different government schemes. Total 50 farmers participated in the meeting. From IARI Assam Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Dr. S. Manivannan coordinated the meeting.

Training on Post-Harvest Technologies and Value Addition for Women Tea Estate Workers

ICAR–IARI Assam organized a one-day training on post-harvest technologies and value addition for women tea estate workers on 27th August 2025 at the Dejoo Community Centre for Plantation Labour, North Lakhimpur, under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI. The programme aimed to promote entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods by training participants in fruit beverage and RTS product preparation through technical sessions and hands-on demonstrations. Twenty-nine women actively participated, showing great enthusiasm. The event, coordinated by Dr. Alemwati Pongener, Dr. Dibyendu Deb, Mr. Bidyut Tanti and Mrs. Snigdha Borah Sonowal, marked a meaningful step toward empowering women in the tea community through skill development and value addition.



IARI Assam Empowers North East Farmers through Smart and Sustainable IFS-Based Capacity Building



A three-day training programme on "Smart Farming for a Sustainable Livelihood: The Integrated Farming System (IFS) Approach" was conducted at ICAR–IARI, Gogamukh, Assam, from 24–26 September 2025, under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR–IARI, New Delhi. The programme brought together 110 small and marginal farmers from across the region to learn about IFS, a holistic approach integrating crops, livestock, poultry, fisheries, horticulture, and agroforestry to optimize resources, enhance income, and maintain ecological balance. Farmers were



introduced to the concept, significance, and components of IFS, received hands-on exposure to region-specific demonstrations, and were provided with inputs such as seeds and small farm implements to support adoption. Coordinated by Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. A. K. Balange, Dr. P. K. Mishra, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Dr. Bornalee Handique, the training concluded with a strong call to action, encouraging participants to implement IFS-based smart farming for sustainable, climate-resilient rural livelihoods in the North Eastern region.

Kishan Gosthi on Livelihood Diversification for Farmers

On 25th September 2025, ICAR–IARI Assam organized a Kishan Gosthi at Lotak Village, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, focusing on livelihood diversification strategies to enhance farmers' income. The programme saw active participation from 80 farmers who engaged in discussions on various approaches to improve agricultural productivity and income sources. The event was coordinated by Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. P. K. Mishra, Dr. Bornalee Handique and Dr. L. K. Baishya, providing farmers with valuable insights and practical guidance for sustainable rural livelihoods.



Field Day to Promote Integrated Farming Systems



On 25th September 2025, ICAR–IARI Assam conducted a Field Day on the Promotion of Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) at the farms of progressive farmers Mr. Girija Prosad Doley and Mr. Benjamin Doley in Gogamukh, Dhemaji, under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR–IARI. The event attracted around 100 small and marginal farmers, including several women, and aimed to demonstrate diversified and resource-optimized IFS models suitable for the North Eastern Region. Participants were introduced to systems such as rice-fish–poultry–horticulture integration, which showcased how enterprise combination enhances productivity and income stability.

The host farmers' dragon fruit cultivation initiative garnered special interest, inspiring attendees to explore high-value horticultural ventures within integrated systems. Coordinated by Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. P. K. Mishra, Dr. Bornalee Handique & Dr. L.K. Baishya, with active participation from Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite and Mr. Sanjay Kumar, the Field Day concluded with an interactive session where farmers shared insights and expressed eagerness to adopt IFS-based approaches for sustainable livelihoods.

Summary of Training/ Field Day/ Farmers Interaction Meeting/ Input Distribution Programme Organized by ICAR-IARI, Assam

Sl. no.	Title of the Event	Date	Venue	No of Beneficiaries
1.	Exposure-cum-training programme for 20 progressive farmers from Dhal Ghagar Farmer Producer Company Ltd., Lakhimpur	4 th July 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	20
2.	Farmer-Scientist Interactive Meet and Input Distribution Programme on National Fish Farmers' Day	10 th July 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	70
3.	Scientist farmer interaction meeting was organized in collaboration with three different Farmers Producers Company (FPC 's) viz. Dhemaji Agro Fed Company Limited, Moumari Dhemaji Farmer Producer Company Limited and Apaprajay Farmers Producer Company Limited	28 th July 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	50



4.	One-day training on post-harvest technologies and value addition for women tea estate workers at the Office of the Labour Welfare Organiser, Dejoo Community Centre for Plantation Labour, North Lakhimpur, Assam	27 th August 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	29
5.	Training-cum-awareness programme on "Recent Advances in Rice-based Integrated Farming System	31 st August, 2025	RRLRRS, Gerua	100
6.	Three-day training programme on "Smart Farming for a Sustainable Livelihood: The Integrated Farming System (IFS) Approach	24–26 September 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	110
7.	Kishan Gosthi focusing on livelihood diversification strategies to enhance farmers' income	25 th September 2025	Lotak Village, Gogamukh, Dhemaji	80
8.	Field Day on the Promotion of Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) at the farms of progressive farmers	25 th September 2025	Gogamukh, Dhemaji	100

HAPPENINGS AT IARI-ASSAM

NSS Activities

On 19th July 2025, the NSS unit of the Postgraduate School, ICAR–IARI Assam, organized a community outreach programme on the theme "Say No to Drugs," engaging around 150 students and 10 staff members under the guidance of Dr. S. Manivannan. Coordinated by Dr. Ansheef Ali and Dr. Ch. Kakai Mate, the students were divided into three groups to conduct awareness drives in nearby villages, including Mohari Camp, Dirpai, and Halakbhari. The initiative focused on sensitizing the rural population about the harmful effects of drug abuse and promoting a drug-free, healthy lifestyle among the community.



Swachhotsav 2025 at ICAR-IARI Assam

Under the national theme "Swachhta Hi Seva", ICAR–IARI Assam observed Swachhotsav 2025 through a series of cleanliness drives, awareness programmes, and community outreach initiatives to promote hygiene and environmental consciousness. Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite, AAO, served as the Nodal Officer for Swachhotsav 2025, with Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Technician, assisting in the organization and coordination of all activities. The fortnight-long celebration reflected the institute's commitment to cleanliness, health, and community welfare, aligning with the vision of a Swachh and sustainable India.









Key Activities under Swachhotsav 2025

Date	Name of the Activity	Coordinators
17 September 2025	Swachhta Pledge administered to all staff and students	Dr. Amjad K. Balange, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Rahul Singh and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite
18 September 2025 Campus cleanliness drive including lawn weeding and waste removal		Dr. Amjad K. Balange, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Rahul Singh and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite
19 September 2025	Awareness programme at Dirpai Primary School, Gogamukh; dustbins distributed to nearby shopkeepers	Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite
22 September 2025	Free health check-up organized at IARI Assam for permanent and contractual staff	Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Rahul Singh, and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite
25 September 2025	Awareness campaign at Gogamukh Market on reducing plastic use and maintaining hygiene	

Farmers Join Hands in Human Chain at ICAR-IARI Assam Under Swachhotsav 2025

ICAR-IARI Assam organized a Human Chain Formation on 25th September 2025 as part of Swachhotsav 2025, aligning with the national vision of Swachh Bharat. The event was held under the visionary leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, highlighting the vital role of agricultural institutions in



promoting social and environmental responsibility. The programme adopted a farmers' participatory approach, symbolizing unity and collective action for cleanliness and sustainability. Around 100 farmers from nearby villages joined IARI Assam staff and scientists in forming a long human chain across the campus, conveying the message that a clean environment begins with shared effort. The event was successfully coordinated by Dr. Lohit Baishya, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Rahul Singh, Dr. P. K. Mishra, Dr. Bornalee Handique, and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite, with enthusiastic participation from all staff and farmers.

भा.कृ.अनु.प.–भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, असम में हिंदी पखवाड़ा (14–28 सितंबर 2025) का सफल आयोजन



भा.कृ.अनु.प.-भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान, असम में 14 से 28 सितंबर 2025 तक हिंदी पखवाड़ा के अंतर्गत विविध प्रतियोगिताओं एवं कार्यक्रमों का उत्साहपूर्वक आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी सुलेखन प्रतियोगिता (डॉ. राहुल सिंह एवं डॉ. मनीष पांडे), हिंदी गान प्रतियोगिता (श्री सरोज कुमार सिंह एवं श्री देव प्लासिआ), हिंदी परिचय कार्यक्रम (श्री शुभम कुमार एवं डॉ. प्रभास कुमार मिश्रा), हिंदी आशुभाषण प्रतियोगिता (डॉ. सन्नी आर्य एवं डॉ. माधव चौधरी), हिंदी निबंध प्रतियोगिता (डॉ. ए. के. श्रीवास्तव एवं डॉ. मनीष पांडे) तथा हिंदी प्रश्लोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता (डॉ. रवि भूषण प्रसाद एवं डॉ. सनी आर्य) का आयोजन किया गया। इन कार्यक्रमों ने संस्थान में हिंदी के प्रचार-प्रसार एवं राजभाषा के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।



ICAR-IARI Assam Celebrates Independence Day with Community Spirit

On 15th August, 2025 ICAR–IARI Assam celebrated the 78th Independence Day with great enthusiasm at its campus. The National Flag was hoisted by Dr. L. K. Baishya, SIC followed by inspiring messages on patriotism and agricultural development. Local school students performed a parade and cultural programmes, while nearby villagers and institute staff actively participated, making the event a vibrant celebration of unity and national pride.







Honouring the Divine Architect: Vishwakarma Puja Observed with Enthusiasm at ICAR-IARI Assam

ICAR-IARI, Assam celebrated Vishwakarma Puja on 17th September 2025 with great devotion and enthusiasm at its campus. Staff members, both permanent and contractual, along with students, actively participated in the rituals, offering prayers to Lord Vishwakarma—the divine architect—for progress, innovation, and the continued growth of the institute. The celebration reflected unity, dedication, and the collective spirit of the IARI Assam fraternity.



IARI Assam and NEADS Strengthen Farmer Linkages



On 16th September 2025, ICAR–IARI Assam and NEADS jointly organized a linkage meeting at Gogamukh to connect farmers with model practitioners. About 30 farmers from ten villages interacted with successful growers from Chauldhuwa and Dhemaji. The event, coordinated by Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya, Dr. Amjad K. Balange, Dr. Rahul Singh, and Mr. Rajen Saikia (from NEADS), encouraged experience sharing and adoption of improved farming practices.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Senior Scientist at ICAR-IARI Assam, was invited as a
distinguished guest at NAARM, Hyderabad, to interact with the 114 FOCARS
participants. During the event, titled "ICAR Achievers Inspire FOCARS
Participants through Experience-Sharing Interaction," Dr. Bhowmik shared
his professional journey and insights with the ARS scientist probationers,
inspiring the next generation of agricultural scientists through his experiences
and achievements.



- Dr. A. K. Balange received a Certificate of Recognition from Springer Nature in acknowledgment of his valuable contributions as a reviewer for manuscripts submitted to the journals Discover Food and Scientific.
- Dr. Amit Kumar Srivastava received Ram Singh Memorial National Animal Welfare Award 2025 in the All India Article Writing Competition on "Strengthening Animal Welfare for Viksit Bharat@2047: Integrating Compassion, Policy and Technology" organised by Pashudhan Praharee, Agrovet Research Development Foundation and Veterinary Association of India on 15th August, 2025.
- Dr. Chethan C R recognized by the ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur for licensing, transferring and commercialization of the technology "Adjustable spray boom holding attachment for multi nozzle knapsack sprayer" developed during the tenure of Scientist at ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur to the Vidhyashree Traders, Jabalpur on 22nd July, 2025.



• Dr. Prabhat Pramanik received Best Scientist Award by the Academy for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in the field of Natural Resource Management. The award was handed over during the National Conference on Transformative Approaches and Smart Technology in Plant and Animal Health for Sustainable and Climate-ready Agriculture on 18-19 September 2025.



- Dr. Arpan Bhowmik has been nominated as a Member of the internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of L.T.K.
 College, Azad, North Lakhimpur
- Mr. Saroj Kumar Singh recognized As a Lead-Trainer by the Capacity Building Commission, Govt. of India under Rashtriya Karmayogi Large Scale Jan Seva Program.

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Participation in Training/Workshop/Conference

CI						
SI No	Title	Mode	Organizer/Venue	Date and Duration		
1.	AAAS National Conference on Transformative Approaches and Smart Technology in Plant & Animal Health for Sustainable & Climate Ready Agriculture. Participant: Prabhat Pramanik	Offline	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	Date: 28- 30 June, 2025 Duration: 03 days		
2.	M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International Conference 2025. Participant: L.K. Baishya	Offline	Society for Community Mobilization for Sustainable Development, CAU, Imphal, and ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya	Date: 22-24 May, 2025 Duration: 03 Days		
3	Brain storming Session on Use of Waste Waters in Agriculture Participant: S. Manivannan	Offline	ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal	Date: 14th September , 2025 Duration: 1 Day		
4	Unlocking India's Forestry Sector Contribution in Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Chang. Participant: Umakanta Dash	Offline	IIFM, Bhopal	Date: 08th September – 12th September, 2025 Duration: 5 Days		
5	21 days national online training on Recent technologies of Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock based Integrated Farming Systems for Doubling Farmers income. Participant: Bornalee Handique	Online	OUAT, Odisha and NADCL, Baramulla	Date: 05th August – 25th August, 2025 Duration: 21 Days		
6	Advances in mobile app development. Participant: Ravi Bhushan Prasad	Online	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad	Date: 18th August – 22nd August, 2025 Duration: 5 Days		
7	Impactful AI Tools in Agriculture. Participant: Ravi Bhushan Prasad	Online	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad	Date: 15th September – 19th September, 2025 Duration: 5 Days		



8	Training Program on Analysis of Experimental Data Using R Participant: Da u ruhi Pde	Online	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad	Date: 21th July – 25th July, 2025 Duration: 5 Days
9	Training Program on Analysis of Experimental Data Using R. Participant: M.B.Chaudhary,	Online	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad	Date: 21th July – 25th July, 2025. Duration: 5 Days
10	Hybrid Workshop on Sensitization in Efficient and Expeditious Handling of Procurement Matters Participant: Subham Kumar and Jitender Singh Gaite		IARI New Delhi (Internal Finance Division)	Date: 11th September, 2025 Duration: 1 Day

Paper Presented in Conferences/Seminars/Symposium

- Oral Presentation of the paper entitled "Stability of the applied organic amendments determines the rate of methane emission from submerged rice fields", in the "AAAS National Conference on Transformative Approaches and Smart Technology in Plant & Animal Health for Sustainable & Climate Ready Agriculture" during 18-19 September, 2025 (Prabhat Pramanik).
- Oral presentation of papers entitled "Present scenario of fish processing in India and future prospects: With special emphasis on North East India" in 2nd Indian Fisheries Outlook 2025 at College of Fisheries, OUAT, Berhampur, Odisha during 12-14 July 2025 (Amjad K. Balange).

Resource Person in Training Programme/Workshops

Name	Name of the Institute/ Organization, where served as resource person	Name of the Event	Title of the Talk	Date
Dr. L. K. Baishya	AAU-Zonal Research Station Assam Agricultural University North Lakhimpur-787032	ZREAC Meeting	Rabi crop cultivation: Scope and opportunities in Assam	24.09.2025
Dr. Arpan Bhowmik	College of Horticulture, Thenzawl, Central Agricultural University, Imphal	Teaching Session for B. Sc. (Horticulture) and M. Sc. (Vegetable Sciences).	R Software	23.07.2025
	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad	114th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS)	Panel Member for Interactive Session with Young Scientists with notable achievements with 114th FOCARS	26.07.2025
	Lachit Panchajanya LLP, Dhemaji	Farmers-Scientist Interaction on Income diversification	Income enhancement through diversified agriculture	01.09.2025
Dr. Chethan C R	Indian Society of Weed Science (ISWS) and ICAR- Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur (online mode)	ISWS National Training on Smart Weed Management for Sustainable Agriculture	Smart techniques in mechanized weed management	02.09.2025



Dr. Sunny Arya	Horticulture Training Institute Uchani (Karnal)	Technologies for smart Orchard Management	Technologies for smart Orchard Management	29.08.2025
Dr. Manish Pandey	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karbi Anglong, AAU, Assam	ARYA Project	Scientific Pig Farming (Offline)	05.09.2025
Dr. Bornalee Handique	Seujbhumi Agro Producer Co. Ltd, North Lakhimpur, Assam (Offline)	General Body Meeting	Processed Maize: A Key to Sustainable Livestock Production	20.08.2025

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers

Sl. No	Detail of the Paper	NAAS Rating 2025*	National/ International
1.	Singh R., Chethan C.R., Bhaisya L.K., Das B., Mishra, P.K., Raghavendra H.R., Ch. Jamkhokai Mate, Srivastava, A.K., Shil, S. and Gaibimei, P. (2025). Incubating Rural Innovation: Agri-Startups and the Shifting Paradigms of Indian Agriculture. Agricultural mechanization in Asia Africa and Latin America, 56(7). DOI: 07.13596/Ama.28.08.2025.01.	6.4	International
2.	Chaudhary, M. B., Rao, K. J., Bihola, A., & Adil, S. (2025). Standardization and characterization of Mohanthal using response surface methodology. Scientific Reports, 15(1), 1-14.	10.8	International
3.	Chaudhary, M. B., Rao, K. J., & Bihola, A. (2025). Correlation Studies on Sensorial and Textural Characteristics of Mohanthal During Optimization of Sugar Syrup Concentration. Journal of Culinary Science & Technology, 1-22.	7.39	International
4.	Chattopadhyay, K., Xavier, K. M., Porayil, L., Balange, A. K., & Nayak, B. B. (2025). Effects of chitosan molecular weight on proteins and lipids interactions in fish mince emulsion sausages. International Journal of Biological Macromolecules, 145562.	14.5	International
5.	Nayak. S. L., Sethi, S., Asrey, R., Singh, B., Bhowmik, A. and Dubey, A. K. (2025). Retention of 'Dancy'Tangerine Quality Attributes with Chitosan Coating and Phytosanitary Irradiation Dose. Applied Fruit Science, 67 (4), 206.	-	International
6.	Das, R., Pudhuvai, B., Jha, K. K., Koul, B., Biswas, P. K., Shil, S., & Chakraborty, A. (2025). Paradigm of potato farming in North-Eastern Himalayan region of India to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. Potato Research. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11540-025-09922-5	8.1	International
7.	Anas, H., Bhupendra, K., Subhra, S., Pabitra, A., & Rajib, D. (2025). Effect of physical and chemical mutagens on the growth performance of two soybean (TGX 1987-62F and TGX 1835-10E) varieties in the M1 generation. Plant Science Today. https://doi.org/10.14719/pst.9136	6.7	International
8.	Sreedevi, K., Sahoo, K. C., Ajaykumara, K. M., Boopathi, T., Sushil, S. N. & Sabatinelli, G. (2025) Revision of Indian <i>Cyphochilus</i> Waterhouse, 1867 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Melolonthinae) with description of two new species. Zootaxa, 5693 (2), 201–222. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5693.2.4	6.8	International



9.	Yadav, B. K., Rudra, S. G., Goswami, A. K., Bhowmik, A., Joshi, A., Pal, P. and Bhardwaj, R. (2025). Calcium enriched guava crisps: effect of material and process parameters. Journal of Food Processing and Preservation. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13197-024-06141-7	8.0	International
10.	Handique, B., Saha, S.K., Choudhary, L.C. and Roshan, A.P. (2025). Laboratory preparation and quality evaluation of cabbage and cauliflower waste silage. Indian Journal of Animal Nutrition. 42(2): 205–212. doi: 10.56093/IJAN.v42i2.8	5.19	National
11.	Da u ruhi Pde, Nuzaiba, P.M., Subodh Gupta, Tincy Varghasee (2025). Trypsin encapsulated nanoparticle to improve growth performance in <i>Labeo rohita</i> (Hamilton) fingerling fed plant-based diets. Discover Animal, 2, 67. https://doi.org/10.1007/s44338-025-00120-8	-	International
12.	Paul, P. R., Das, R., Shil, S., Jha, K. K., Biswas, P. K., Chakraborty, A., Dey, J. K., & Koreti, K. (2025). Assessing stakeholder dynamics, livelihood security and vulnerability in live fish supply chain: Study from Tripura, India. Discover Sustainability, 6, 1057. https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-025-01952-w	-	International
13.	Patel DA, Srivastava AK, Ankuya KJ, Patil SS, Panchasara HH, Chaudhari JD and Patel HA (2025) Studies on udder and teat shape in relation with milk production in indigenous Kankrej cows at organized herd. Biochem Journal, SP-9(7):589-594.	5.29	International
14.	Sahoo, K. C., Nayak, S. K., & Shashank, P. R. (2025). New combination of genus <i>Ancylophyes</i> Diakonoff, 1988 and three new records of moths of subfamily Olethreutinae (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) from India. Journal of the Entomological Research Society, 27(2), 327-339.	6.30	International
15.	Akkalareddy, S., Reddy, D. L., Arivalagan, M., Bhaskar, V. V., & Prakash, T.(2025). Genetic inheritance and identification of molecular markers linked to male sterility in African marigold (<i>Tagetes erecta</i> L.). Journal of Horticultural Sciences, 20(1). https://doi.org/10.56093/ijas.v86i10.62101	6.20	National
16.	Darshan, K., Krishnappa, C., Shirin, F., Mishra, S. N., Dubey, S., Parte, D., & Kumar, H. A. (2025). First report of <i>Alternaria tenuissima</i> causing leaf blight disease on <i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (Mahua) seedlings in India. Physiological and Molecular Plant Pathology, 102896.	8.8	International
17.	Sreekanth, D., Pawar, D.V., Basavaraj, P.S. Kumar, R., Mahesh, S., Chethan, C.R., Jamaludheen, A., Sondhia, S., Singh, P.K. and Mishra, J.S. (2025). Effect of <i>Phalaris minor</i> and <i>Medicago denticulata</i> on Wheat Growth and Yield Under Drought Stress: Physiological and Biochemical Insights. J Plant Growth Regul. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00344-025-11769-6	9.9	International
18.	Sreekanth, D., Pawar, D.V., Sahadeo, I.K., Kumar, R., Basavaraj, P.S., Chethan, C.R., Naidu, V.S.G.R., Sondhia, S., Singh, P.K. and Mishra, J.S. (2025). Advancements in CRISPR/Cas technology for generating herbicide tolerant crops: A comprehensive review. Journal of plant biochemistry and biotechnology. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13562-025-00984-7	7.60	International
19.	Shil, S., Raj, A., Bhardwaj, A., Dash, U., Maurya, L., Ashwath, MN, Mankur, MK., Kumar, V. (2025). A comprehensive analysis of silvipastoral potential in Indian agroforestry landscapes. Small Scale forestry, 24(3):31	7.40	International



20.	Chaudhari J.D., Gupta J.P., Purohit P.B., and and Srivastava A.K (2025). Estimation of variability in body morphometric measurements using principal component analysis in Mehsana goats. Advances in Research; 26(4):433-440. https://doi.org/10.9734/air/2025/v26i41423.	4.76	International
21.	Chavda K., Ankuya P. and Srivastava A.K (2025). Effect of cumin (<i>Cuminum cyminum</i>) seed powder supplementation on the growth performance and carcass characteristics in broiler chicks. The Pharma Innovation Journal; 14(7):189-192		International

* JCR Impact Factor if NAAS Rating is not available

Book Chapters

- Singh, J., Thakur, S., Akshay Kumar, H.M., Sree, V.L.S., Chahal, K.S. (2025). Melatonin Involvement in PAMP-Triggered Immunity (PTI) and Effector-Triggered Immunity (ETI) Against Fungal Diseases. In: Tiwari, R.K., Lal, M.K., Kumar, R., Altaf, M.A. (eds) Melatonin: Signal Transduction Mechanisms and Defense Networks in Plants. Springer, Singapore, pp.205-225. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-8869-2_9. ISBN: 978-981-96-8869-2
- Rakshit, S., Gorai, S. K., Das, B., Sahu, S., Gills, R., Ray, P., & Mukherjee, A. (2025). Empowerment of Rural Women and Youth Retention as Drivers of the Agricultural Economy. In Indian Agriculture: Challenges, Priorities and Solutions (pp. 149-181). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.

Popular Articles

- Singh, R., Das, B., Bhwomik, A., Mishra, P.K., Chetan C.R., Mandi, S., Ch. Jamkhokai Mate, and Baishya, L.K. 2025. Foxtail Millet (Setaria italica): A Future-Ready Grain for Sustainable Nutrition", Agriculture & Food: e- Newsletter, 7(8):129-132
- Handique, B., Pde, D. R. and Chaudhary, M. B. (2025, July). Utilization of vegetable and fruit wastes as animal feed: A sustainable approach to agricultural residue management. 5(7): 8070–8073. DOI:10.5281/ ScienceWorld.16319428
- Advantages of Indigenous Minor Carp for Sustainable Aquaculture in Northeast India (Hindi). Da U Ruhi Pde,
 M. B. Choudhary, Amjad K. Balange, Arunjyoti Baruah, Dipjyoti Baruah, Manish Pandey, Bornali Handique, and
 Azhaguraja M. Sashakt. ICAR CIWA
- Saikia, P., Handique, B. and Azhaguraja, M. (2025). Entrepreneurial behaviour of tribal fish farmers in Assam, North-East India. Scientia Review. 1(3): 36-38
- Baruah D., Balange A.K., Baruah A., Da U Ruhi Pde and Srivastava A.K. (2025). Sport Fishes in Northeast India. Scientia Review. 1(2): 31-34.
- राघवेंद्र एच. आर., राहुल सिंह, वरुण एम. हीरेमठ, सिद्धरूढ़ मरगल, अर्पण भौमिक, रमेश बाबू, चेतन सी. आर., और एल. के. बैश्य. 2025. "भारत की GI पंजीकृत सिब्जियाँ जैव विविधता, स्थानीय संस्कृति और आर्थिक समृद्धि की त्रिवेणी.कृषक भारती : राष्ट्रीय मासिक पत्रिका. P. 67-68.

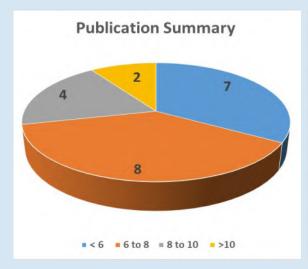
Leaflets/Brochures/Folders/Booklets

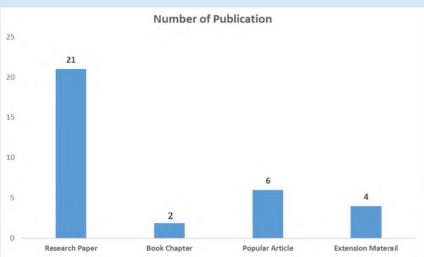
- Chethan, C.R., Baishya, L.K., Bhowmik, A., Singh, R., Mishra, P.K., Raghavendra, H.R. and Mate, Ch. J. (2025). Agricultural Machinery package for Integrated Farming System. P.28. Published by ICAR-IARI, Assam, India. IARI-A/BL/2025/01.
- Singh, R., Mishra, P. K., Chethan C.R., Bhowmik, A., Mandi, S., Das, B., Dash, D., Baishya, L. K., Balange, A. K. (2025). Smart Farming for a Sustainable Livelihood: An Integrated Farming System (IFS) Approach. Published by ICAR-IARI, Assam, India. Booklet no. IARI-A/B/2025/25
- Chethan, C.R., Choudhary, V.K. and Mishra, J.S. 2025. Standard Operating Procedure for herbicide application through drones. ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. P. 10.



• Mukherjee, P.K., Dubey, R.P., Raghuwanshi, M., Choudhary, V.K., Chethan, C.R., Gharde, Y., Ghosh, D., Singh, P.K., Sondhia, S., Pawar, D.V., Sreekanth, D., Jamaludheen A. and Dubey. J.K. 2025. Impact of technological intervention under Farmer FIRST Programme on productivity and profitability of rice-wheat-greengram/blackgram cropping system. ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur. P. 20

Summary of Publications





Promotion/New Joining/Transfer /Retirement

- Dr. Amjad K Balange, Head (APF) Campus-in-charge (CIC) w.e.f. 29.09.2025
- Dr. L. K. Baishya, Head (NRM) Scientist-in-charge (SIC) upto 28.09.2025
- Mr. Prashant Sharma, Comptroller Transferred to ICAR-CPCRI, Kasaragod
- Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Principal Scientist Superannuated on 31.07.2025

Media Highlights





IARI Ranked No. 1 in Agriculture Category and No. 2 in SDG Institutes Category in National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) by Ministry of Education, Government of India, on 4th September 2025. Honorable Minister of Education, Sri Dharmendra Pradhan jee presented the ranking certificate.

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From the Editors

Greetings from ICAR-IARI, Assam!

We are delighted to present the July–September 2025 edition of our newsletter, showcasing another vibrant quarter of growth, innovation, and outreach at our institute. This period marked several milestones, from the official takeover of the Regional Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Station (RRLRRS), Gerua, to the Director's meetings with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam and senior officials, reaffirming the State's strong support for agricultural advancement in the Northeast. The quarter saw exceptional student engagement through field visits, the RAWE programme, and hostel activities, along with extensive outreach programs such as IFS-based farmer training, women empowerment initiatives, and livelihood diversification events. Celebrations like Swachhotsav 2025, NSS drives, Hindi Pakhwada, and Independence Day added to the spirit of community participation on campus. We take pride in the accomplishments of our scientists and students whose research publications, awards, and recognitions continue to raise the profile of IARI Assam nationally and internationally. We extend heartfelt thanks to all contributors, faculty, staff, and partners for their dedication and teamwork. We hope this edition inspires continued collaboration and commitment to a sustainable and prosperous agricultural future for the region.

Compiled and Edited by

Dr. Arpan Bhowmik

Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo

Dr. Abhijith K. P.

Dr. Azhaguraja M.

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Mr. Chandan Maji

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Guidance and Advisory

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Published by

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