



IARI-ASSAM



AT A GLANCE

(2017 - 2025)



ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam

Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam-787035, India



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INTRODUCTION

The northeastern region of the country is blessed with wide range of agricultural resources, having immense potential for generating revenue on rural front and providing food and nutritional security to predominantly underprivileged tribal population by and large. However, of late, the issues like climate change, eroding biodiversity and over-exploitation of natural resources have posed formidable challenges against sustainable agriculture and allied sectors. And, more importantly, the impact of Green Revolution was less realised in northeastern India. The ICAR-IARI was established at Gogamukh in Dhemaji district of Assam, India, to cater to the needs for undertaking research, developing efficient technologies and fostering extension for ushering into the second Green Revolution through holistic development of agriculture in northeast India. Developing human resource through trainings, on-farm demonstrations, education, consultancies, partnership through outreach activities, expansion of agriculture, fisheries and animal husbandry through technological interventions and knowledge transfer are the other prioritized responsibilities of this Institute to uplift the socio-economic status of the farming communities in the region. However, the top-most priority of IARI Assam is also to undertake graduate and post-graduate programmes in Agriculture. IARI Assam, therefore, aims at conducting high-end research to resolve the challenges of not only northeastern India, but carve a niche in entire south-east Asia, as the most preferred educational destination in agriculture in years to come.

MANDATE

IARI Assam is unique in its structure, functioning, mandate and objectives. It is one of its kind in north-east India with aims and objectives that are specific to north-eastern states.

The main purpose of IARI Assam is to serve as an institution of learning in agricultural sciences in south-east Asia. The major mandates are:

Promote high standards of

- i. Under-graduate and post-graduate education and research
- ii. Need-based agricultural research through in-house and externally funded research projects
- iii. Outreach programmes in agriculture and allied fields



Agrisearch with a human touch

हर कदम, हर डगर
किसानों का हंगसफर
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

OBJECTIVES

Education

Promote excellence, foster high standard research for holistic agrarian development and orient the educational programme towards future needs and opportunities in South East Asia.

Strengthen formal/non-formal training to promote entrepreneurial skills for commercialization of agriculture in the region through different diploma courses in the line of Polytechnique's.

Research

The research program aims to address the specific agricultural challenges and opportunities in the the North Eastern region.

By focusing on region-specific research, the institute aims to develop innovative solutions and technologies that are tailored to the local agricultural context.

Outreach

Generate innovative extension models, dovetail them to developmental models, and disseminate them through KVKs, SAUs' and state agricultural extension and other development departments of different states of the North-East India.

PART OF UNION BUDGET SPEECH FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF IARI ASSAM

Page: 15 (of the Union Budget-2014-15)

“III. AGRICULTURE 75. Farming as an activity contributes nearly 1/6th to our National GDP and a major portion of our population is dependent on it for livelihood. It has risen to the challenge of making India largely self-sufficient in providing food for a growing population. To make farming competitive and profitable, there is an urgent need to step up investment, both public and private, in agro-technology development and creation and modernization of existing agri-business infrastructure.

Indian Agricultural Research Institute, PUSA has been at the forefront of research in this area. However, since independence only one such centre has been established. Government will establish two more such institutions of excellence on similar pattern in Assam and Jharkhand with an initial sum of Rs.100 crores in the current financial year.

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING OUT CEREMONY

(26th May, 2017)



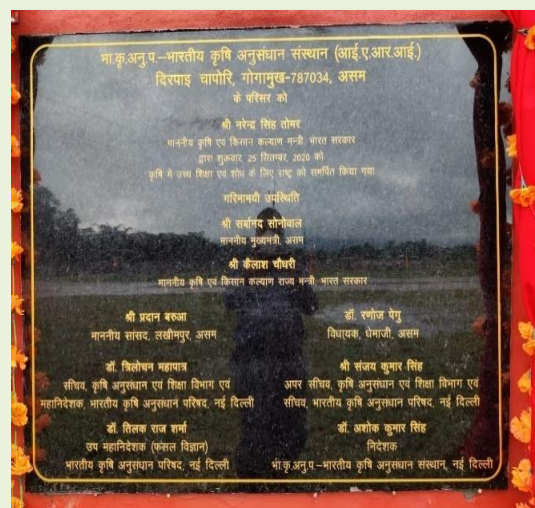
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri. Narendra Modi ji digitally laid out the foundation stone of IARI-Assam at Mohori camp, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam on May 26, 2017 with a vision on all round agricultural development in Northeast Region of India.

----- IMPORTANT MILESTONES -----

- ✚ Establishment of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)-like institutes in Jharkhand and Assam was announced by the then Hon'ble Finance Minister in his maiden budget speech (July 10, 2014).
- ✚ Possession of land (587 acres) for establishment of IARI-Assam at Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam (February 07, 2017).
- ✚ Approval of proposal by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for the establishment of IARI-Assam (May 16, 2017).
- ✚ Laying of foundation stone by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji (May 26, 2017).
- ✚ Sanctioning an outlay of Rs.155.29 crores by ICAR for the establishment of IARI-Assam (June 01, 2017).
- ✚ Demarcation of allotted land by the CPWD (September 23, 2017).
- ✚ Initiation of construction work at the site of IARI-Assam by the executing agency National Project Construction Corporation Ltd. (November 1, 2018).
- ✚ Inauguration of the Campus of IARI, Gogamukh (Assam) by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI, New Delhi, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar ji (September 25, 2020).
- ✚ Inauguration of Administrative-cum-Academic Building, Manas Guest House, Subansiri Girls Hostel, and Brahmaputra Boys Hostel by the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Arjun Munda Ji, in the esteemed presence of Shri Kailash Choudhary, Union Minister of State and Dr. Himansu Pathak, Secretary DARE & DG ICAR, New Delhi (March 05, 2024).
- ✚ Inauguration of Dhansiri Residential Complex by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) (virtually) in the esteemed presence of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi (January 28, 2025).

INAUGURATION OF IARI ASSAM CAMPUS

A glittering feather was added in the colourful cap of IARI Assam on September 25, 2020 as a red-letter day following the inauguration of Assam campus by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GOI, New Delhi, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar ji.



INAGURATION OF ACADEMIC CUM ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING OF IARI ASSAM

IARI Assam's academic cum administrative building, Manas guest house, Brahmaputra boys hostel and Subansiri girls hostel was inagurated by Shri. Arjun Munda, Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, GOI, New Delhi on 4th March, 2024.



INAGURATION OF DHANSIRI RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS OF IARI ASSAM

IARI Assam's Dhansiri residential quarters was inagurated by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary DARE and DG, ICAR, in the August presence of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-chancellor, ICAR-IARI, Assam on 28th January, 2025.



SALIENT ACHIEVEMENTS

With development of infrastructure and posting of scientific and administrative personnel, IARI Assam started different activities, which are now making its impact in research, teaching and outreach activities.

RESEARCH

Institute Research Council Meeting (IRC)

The first IRC meeting of IARI Assam was held under the chairmanship of Nodal Officer, Dr. Robin Gogoi on March 9, 2023 where the progress of different research projects was reviewed.

Currently, this Institute is running its research activities through as many 32 research projects, including externally funded projects.



Glimpses of first IRC at IARI Assam

IMPORTANT RESEARCH OUTCOMES

Fishery-based Integrated Farming System

Different components of fisheries-based integrated farming system leading to improve farm income were identified using some elite models. This enabled us understand the mechanisms underlining the mutual exclusiveness of farming system. Using these outcomes, the net return from fisheries based integrated farming system is being currently optimized, with emphasis on comparison of cereals-based versus horticultural crops -based integrated fish farming systems.

Fish Breeding: A Much-Needed Initiative

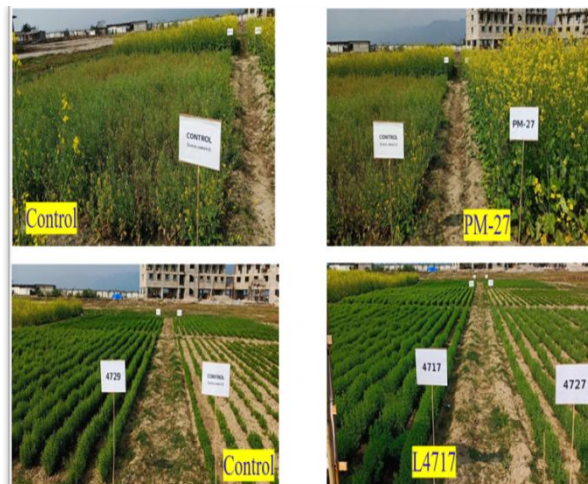
Fisheries as a major agricultural occupation of farmers hold maximum promise towards livelihood security in the region. Needless to elaborate upon existing diversity in fish breeds, the commercial exploitation of many of them are still baffling the fish researchers. With a need to improve the locally used fish species, we succeeded in identifying some fish cross-breeds (Cross between Thai Magur and local breed), the biochemical profiling of these is currently being taken.



Fishery-based Integrated Farming System

Rice Fallow Utilization

Considering the lack of land use options for rice fallow period, different varieties of mustard and lentil crops were evaluated for their field performance comparing with one local variety as standard check. Out of five Pusa mustard varieties (PM-25, PM-26, PM-27, PM-28 and PM-33), PM-27 variety out-smarted the performance of other mustard varieties. Likewise, the field performance of five Pusa lentil varieties (L4717, L4727, L4729, PDL1 and PSL9), L4717 variety out-yielded over other varieties, suggesting the suitability of these two varieties on alluvial soils of Assam.



Comparative Field Performance of Mustard and Lentil in Rice -fallow

Underutilized Horticultural Crops (cultivated and wild) of North-East India

North-east India as a part of Himalayan and Indio-Burma biodiversity hot spots support more than 50% of total plant diversity in India. It has been estimated that out of 800 species of wild edible crops, about 300 species are used by the people of the north-eastern region. Such a diversity puts forth a strong possibility to exploit such diversity, especially cultivated and wild species of underutilized horticultural crops.

Initial efforts were made to document such crops located in Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts of Assam, besides few attempts to document commercial and wild fruits in Mokokchung (Nagaland) and Dirang (Arunachal Pradesh).



Commercial fruits well known in Assam comprise of Assam lemon and Pineapple; while lesser-known fruits include Burmese grape, elephant apple and *Teportenga*. Minor fruits widely acknowledged in Nagaland include *Prunus nepalensis*, passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis sims*) and some unidentified nut crops. Efforts are currently being made to undertake complete nutrient profiling of these fruits, while expanding the exploration in other states as well to catalogue the maximum possible diversity.

Livelihood Diversification of Farmers

The drivers determining the source of livelihood of farmers were identified and implemented them on possibilities of diversifying the current land use pattern to ensure higher sustainability coupled with profitability. This study enabled us in identifying the alternatives towards more sustainable options of diversification. Accordingly, livelihood diversification strategies are being developed



Picture of Diversified Models of Horticulture Based Integrated Farming

Development of Agro- techniques for Finger Millets Production

Experiments were carried out for development of agro-techniques for finger millets in eastern Himalayan zone. Application of 40 kg/ha N + 20.0 kg/ha P₂O₅ + 20 kg/ha K₂O + 10 kg/ha S produced the best growth and yield of finger millets on sandy soils of Dhemaji district of Assam.



View of Experimental Plot, IARI-Assam

EDUCATION

This Institute, after having developed all necessary research logistics, started teaching students at graduate and post-graduate levels from the academic session of 2015-16 onwards covering five disciplines. The institute presently extends teaching for a total of 141 B.Sc. (Agri.) students across different states of India including Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal. Besides, four M.Sc. (Ag.) students are presently pursuing their degree at IARI-Assam campus in the disciplines of Agronomy and Soil Science.

Students' Achievements:

- Md. Safvan, a second year B.Sc. (Agriculture) student of our campus got selected as one of the winners of NAAS-YUVA infographic competition at National level.
- Ms. Sneha Bharadwaj, a student of IARI-Assam received best M.Sc. student award during the 63rd convocation of IARI.



INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



Academic cum Administrative Building



Students' Hostel



Computer Laboratory



Natural Resources Management Laboratory



Undergraduate Smart Classroom



Crop Improvement Laboratory



Animal, Poultry and Fisheries Laboratory



Fish Specimen Repository

EXTENSION

Capacity Building through Training-cum-Workshop

Institute conducted capacity building programme through different skill-oriented training and workshop programmes, especially for female farmers with focus on developing skilled human resource. Such capacity building programme involved teaching (Practical issues related to crop management in the light of various biotic and abiotic stresses, selection of mother trees of fruit crop, integrated management of farm land and problems related to fish health during winter season), field exposures (Self-help groups, model integrated farms, fish farms and hatcheries and elite fruit orchards) and hands-on- training (Preparation of value added products from Assam lemon viz., ready-to-serve drinks, juice concentrate and pickles; fish products such as fish pickle, fish cutlet and fish snacks; and millet-based products). Such integrated training is expected to transform the livelihood of tribal women and make them financially independent and add to agricultural development.



Farmer's Training Programme

One week training programme on millet cultivation practices was organized from 20th -26th March, 2025.



Input Distribution

For the betterment of farming community, IARI Assam organized input distribution programme for the farmers from time to time. On the occasion of National Fish Farmers Day on 10th July, 2023, IARI Assam distributed a total of 25000 fish seed and 500 lemon saplings to farmers.



Farmers Scientists Interaction Programme

On 27th January, 2025 a farmer scientist interaction cum input distribution programme was organized by ICAR-IARI, Assam under the NEH component of ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana. Hon'ble Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI graced the programme as Chief guest. A total of 110 farmers (including 36 female farmers) majority of them from Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts of Assam attended the programme. Input kits in form of Knapsack Sprayer, Maize seeds (hybrid), vegetable seed kit (including ridge gourd, Bhendi, cow pea, cucumber, methi, coriander), spade and Jabra were distributed to the participating farmers.



ORIENTATION PROGRAMME OF NEWLY JOINED SCIENTISTS & TECHNICALS



Visit to KVK, Dhemaji



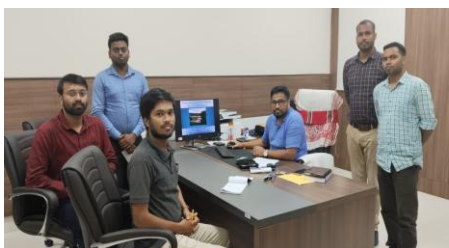
Visit to farmers' field



Visit to IFS Farm



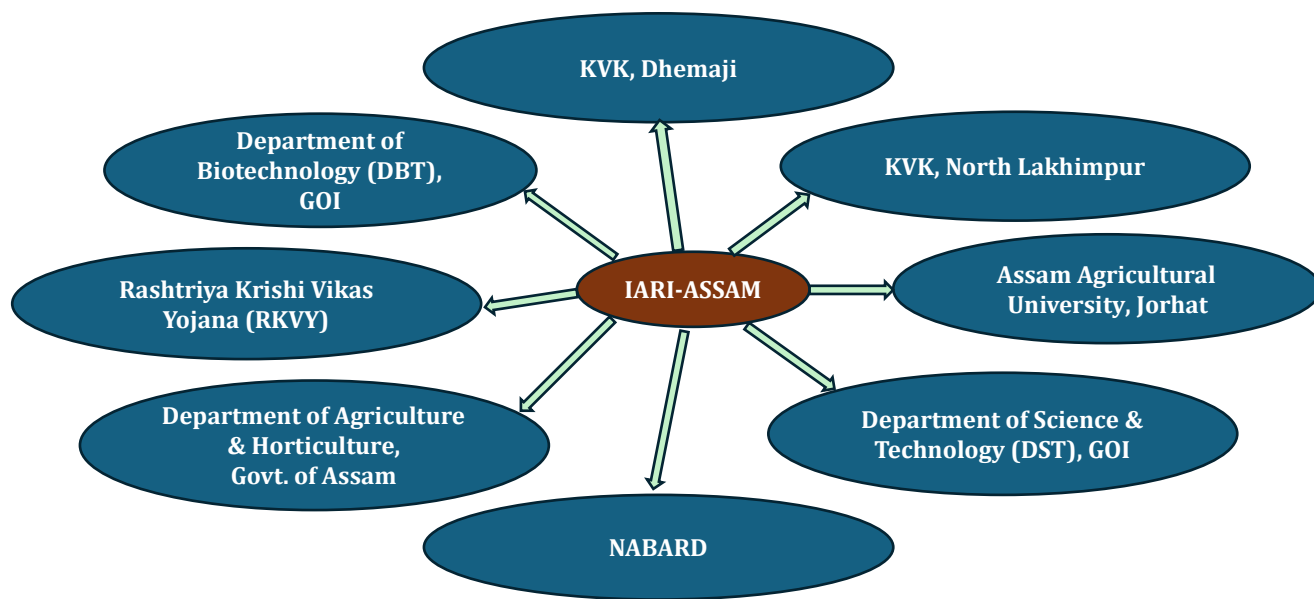
Visit to MAC, Gogamukh



Interaction of newly joined technical staff (T1) with scientists



NETWORKING PARTNERS



EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

- Translating the Native Fish Germplasm for Socio- Economic Benefits through Aquaculture and Fisheries in Himalayan Region (**DBT Funded**)
- Agri-Drone Project (**RKVY Funded**, through ATARI, Guwahati)
- Biomass and Carbon Mapping Across Altitudinal Gradient of Major Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya Land Use: Implication for Carbon Sink Management and Mitigation (**SERB, DST Funded**).

IMPORTANT EVENTS



National Science Day (28th February, 2023)



World Environment Day (5th June, 2023)



World Environment Day (5th June, 2024)



Independence Day (15th August, 2024)



Hindi Pakhwada (1st Week of September, 2024)



Republic Day (26th January, 2025)



Participation in sports activities of ICAR-IARI, Assam

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES



Republic Day Celebrations 2025



Harmony Fiesta



Exposure Visit



Essay Writing Competition



Fresher's Party: Rendezvous



Diwali Celebrations



Best out of Waste (Crafts)



Ganesh Chaturthi



New Year Celebrations



Arts Competition, RANGREZ'25



World Egg Day Celebrations



The Discourse Arena: Debate

Golden India :Heritage & Development



2025 : bridging past and future
pathway through tradition and progress

e-Designing

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