



ICAR-IARI, ASSAM NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 1
January-March, 2025

CONTENTS

Highlights.....	2
Research.....	5
Education.....	7
Extension & Capacity Building.....	10
Awards & Honours.....	24
Meetings & Visits.....	26
Staff Position.....	31

IARI-Assam Welcomes Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao as Director

Dr. Cherukumalli Srinivasa Rao assumed charge as the Director of the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute on Dec 26, 2024. Dr. Rao is a globally renowned scientist with extensive expertise in agricultural research and institutional leadership. Prior to joining ICAR-IARI, he held several prestigious positions, excelling as Director, ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad (2017-2024); Director, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) (2014-17); Project Coordinator, All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA), Hyderabad (2013-14) among others.



He is a distinguished Fellow of reputed Science Academies of India such as INSA, NASI & NAAS and professional Societies like Indian Society of Soil Science, A.P Academy of Sciences and Telangana Academy of Sciences. During his illustrious career, he has been honoured with 48 prestigious National and International awards, including the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award for Outstanding Research in Agricultural Sciences, the ICRISAT Millennium Science Award, the Coromandel Plant Nutrition Award by the FAI and the Dr. N.S. Randhawa Memorial Award by NAAS.

His exemplary leadership acumen brought accolades to the Institutions he led, with CRIDA (2015) and NAARM (2021) receiving the Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award. He has published 361 research papers in reputed journals, 56 authored/edited books, 18 copyrights and numerous scientific articles. He has held key responsibilities in various National and International Committees such as Technical Chairman at National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Coordinator of ICAR flagship programme-NICRA, International Dryland Development Commission (IDDC), Cairo, Egypt; Asian Long Term Experimental Network for Agriculture (ALTENA), Japan. He has served as an Expert in the Committee of National Biodiversity Authority. His pivotal contributions as India's Global Climate Change Negotiator at the UNFCCC CoP, IPCC and APN meetings have been appreciated. His recent presentation on the "Biodiversity-Water nexus with Food Security" at the Royal Society of London received widespread acclaim amongst peers.

Under his visionary leadership, ICAR-IARI, Assam is committed to advance its mission on "Science-led sustainable and globally competitive agriculture for food, nutrition and livelihood security" for the nation.



From Director's Desk

Greetings from ICAR-IARI, Assam!

It gives me immense pleasure to share with you the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter, capturing a vibrant and progressive start to the year 2025. The months of January to March have been both eventful and inspiring, showcasing our collective commitment towards agricultural advancement, capacity building, and community engagement in the North Eastern region. One of the most significant milestones this quarter was the inauguration of the Dhansiri Residential Complex by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and DG, ICAR. This development, along with the ongoing expansion of our research farm and installation of cutting-edge facilities, underscores our dedication to creating a holistic ecosystem that fosters both scientific excellence and community empowerment.

Our academic and research initiatives continue to grow in strength. The successful organization of the ICAR-sponsored Winter School on smart agriculture and several training programs on millets, biofertilizers, animal husbandry, fisheries and integrated farming systems have marked a new chapter in capacity building for farmers, students, and entrepreneurs. The hands-on learning approach adopted during events like the Flower Show, Drone demonstrations, Value added fish products preparation and Exposure visits reflect our vision of

experiential learning for sustainable agriculture.

We also deepened our engagement with stakeholders through impactful outreach activities such as the Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Exhibition, Kisan Melas, and multiple Farmer-Scientist Interaction Programmes. These platforms enabled us to disseminate improved technologies, distribute critical inputs, and strengthen ties with farming communities. Special emphasis was given to livelihood improvement, entrepreneurship promotion, and secondary agriculture through collaborations with ICAR institutes like IIWBR, IVRI, NBFGR, NBAIM, IIMR, CIFT. Another proud moment for the IARI Assam family was the recognition received by our faculty and students at national platforms exemplify the spirit of excellence that defines our institute.

As we continue to work towards our vision of agricultural transformation in the North East, I extend heartfelt thanks to all our scientists, staff, students, collaborators, and farming partners for their unwavering efforts and dedication. Let this newsletter serve not just as a record of our achievements, but also as a reflection of our aspirations and the journey ahead.

Warm regards,
Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
Director & Vice-Chancellor
ICAR-IARI, Assam



HIGHLIGHTS

Inauguration of Dhansiri Residential Complex

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), virtually inaugurated the Dhansiri Residential Complex at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in the esteemed presence of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-IARI on 28th January 2025. In his address, Dr. Pathak lauded ICAR-IARI Assam for its rapid development of state-of-the-art facilities and emphasized that the institute was established with the vision of becoming a center of excellence in research, teaching, and extension in Northeast India and neighboring countries. He stressed the importance of students and teachers in shaping the institute's future and expressed confidence that ICAR-IARI Assam would emerge as a leading educational



Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and DG (ICAR), virtually inaugurating the Dhansiri Residential Complex



Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, with all the staff and dignitaries of IARI and NPCC at the Residential complex

institution in the country.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao expressed gratitude to Dr. Himanshu Pathak for his ongoing support and guidance in development of this newly established institute. He accentuated that the inauguration of the residential quarters at the campus would greatly uplift the morale of the scientists and bring vibrancy to the campus. After

the virtual inauguration of the residential complex, Dr. Rao, along with all the staff and dignitaries, visited the residential complex area to unveil the foundation stone. The residential complex is being developed by National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC). The programme was attended by all the joint Directors of ICAR-IARI, all the staff of IARI Assam, and officers from NPCC.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao expressed gratitude to Dr. Himanshu Pathak for his ongoing support and guidance in development of this newly established institute. He accentuated that the inauguration of the residential quarters at the campus would greatly uplift the morale of the scientists and bring vibrancy to the campus. After the virtual inauguration of the residential complex, Dr. Rao, along with all the staff and dignitaries, visited the residential complex area to unveil the foundation stone. The residential complex is being developed by National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC). The programme was attended by all the joint Directors of ICAR-IARI, all the staff of IARI Assam, and officers from NPCC.



Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, unveiling the foundation stone in presence of all the staff and dignitaries

Solar Fish Drier Installed at IARI Assam

Fish drying is an ancient method of fish preservation where fish is dried in sun for 2 to 3 days and then packed in gunny bags. Such dried fish can be kept for 6 months in good condition. However, with this traditional method there are chances of cross contamination as due to lack of scientific knowledge the fisher community end up in producing low quality dried fish. The solar dryer is a low-cost equipment with solar panels and a cabinet where fresh fish is kept for drying.



Here the temperature can be controlled and fish is kept in close cabinet avoiding chances of cross contamination. The time required for drying is also less. Therefore, the resulting dried fish products are

of excellent quality. This facility was installed at ICAR-IARI Assam in February, 2025 with support of ICAR-CIFT, Cochin under their NEH Scheme and will be useful for skill enhancement of fisher community and also students.

Republic Day Celebrations

On the auspicious occasion of Republic Day 2025, our institute proudly celebrated the spirit of unity, diversity, and patriotism with a vibrant array of cultural and intellectual activities. The event commenced with the unfurling of the national flag done by honourable Director of ICAR-IARI, Dr. C Srinivasa Rao, accompanied by the resonant notes of the national anthem, instilling pride and patriotism among all present. The cultural program showcased the rich heritage of various states through rally, mesmerizing folk dances, traditional music, and dramatic performances that brought India's unity in diversity to life.

Through the competitions organised by Arts Club, students displayed exceptional creativity through

painting, crafting innovative items using the concept of "Best out of Waste" and designing impactful E-posters. The Literary Club added an intellectual dimension with activities such as debates, extempore speeches, essay writings, and an engaging quiz that tested participants' knowledge of India's history and achievements. The celebrations were a true testament to the collective enthusiasm and talent of the institute's community, reinforcing the values of democracy and unity that the Republic Day represents. The event was witnessed by Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research), IARI New Delhi, all the scientists, technical, administrative staff of IARI Assam with their families along with other dignitaries.



Development of Research Farm

The Research farm of IARI-Assam of about 25.20 Acre area have been developed for Research, demonstration and students' practical activities.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

A cleanliness program was organized on 10th January 2025 at ICAR-IARI, Assam, under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to promote hygiene and environmental awareness. All staff members actively participated in the initiative, contributing to the cleaning and beautification of the campus. The program emphasized the importance

of maintaining a clean and hygienic environment and reinforced the institute's commitment to the national mission of Swachh Bharat.



RESEARCH

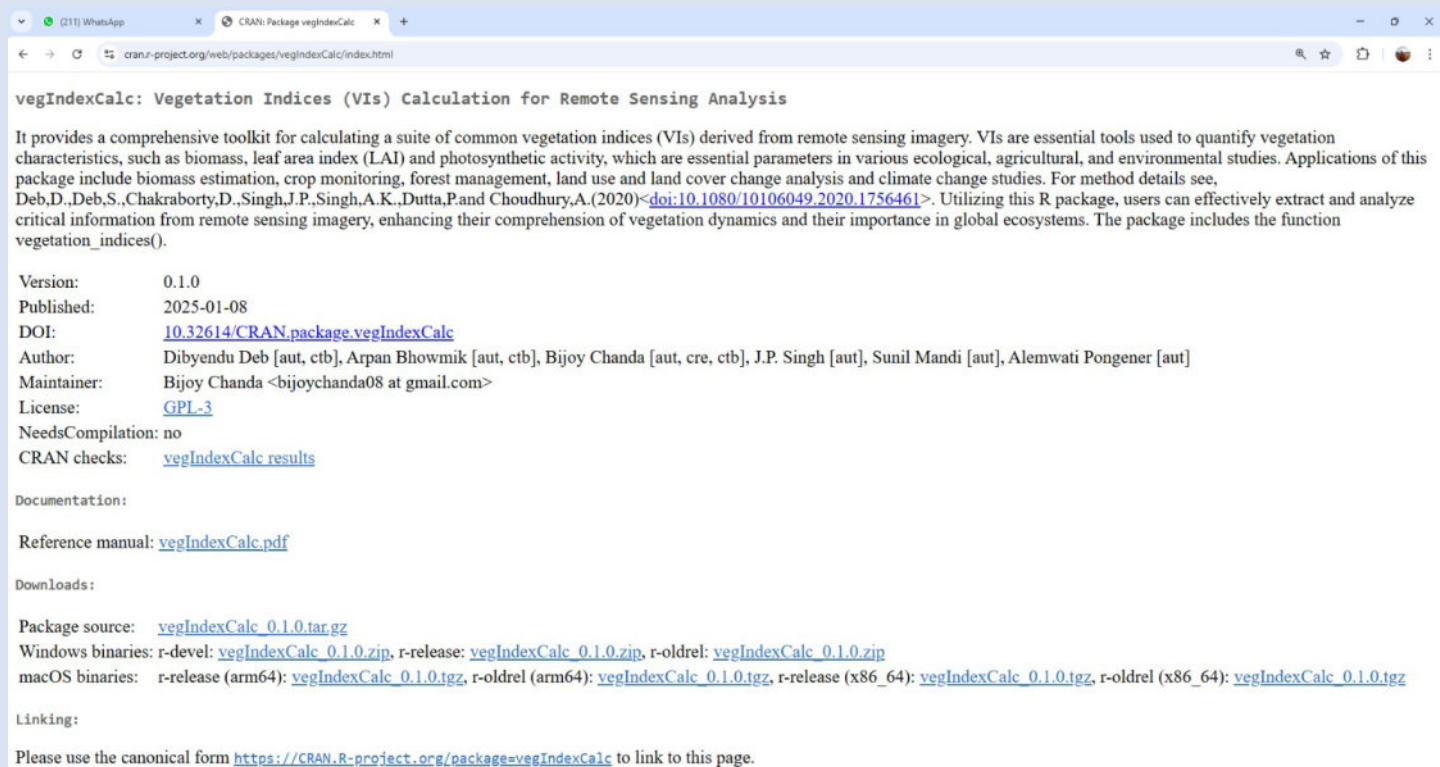
Product/Technology Developed

R Software Package vegIndexCalc: Vegetation Indices (VIs) Calculation for Remote Sensing Analysis

It provides a comprehensive toolkit for calculating a suite of common vegetation indices (VIs) derived from remote sensing imagery. VIs are essential tools used to quantify vegetation characteristics, such as biomass, leaf area index (LAI) and photosynthetic activity, which are essential parameters in various ecological, agricultural, and environmental studies. Applications of this package

include biomass estimation, crop monitoring, forest management, land use and land cover change analysis and climate change studies. Utilizing this R package, users can effectively extract and analyze critical information from remote sensing imagery, enhancing their comprehension of vegetation dynamics and their importance in global ecosystems. The software package is available in <https://cran.r-project.org/package=vegIndexCalc>

Dibyendu Deb, Arpan Bhowmik, Bijoy Chanda, J.P. Singh, Sunil Mandi, Alemwati Pongener



vegIndexCalc: Vegetation Indices (VIs) Calculation for Remote Sensing Analysis

It provides a comprehensive toolkit for calculating a suite of common vegetation indices (VIs) derived from remote sensing imagery. VIs are essential tools used to quantify vegetation characteristics, such as biomass, leaf area index (LAI) and photosynthetic activity, which are essential parameters in various ecological, agricultural, and environmental studies. Applications of this package include biomass estimation, crop monitoring, forest management, land use and land cover change analysis and climate change studies. For method details see, Deb,D.,Deb,S.,Chakraborty,D.,Singh,J.P.,Singh,A.K.,Dutta,P.and Choudhury,A.(2020)<[doi:10.1080/10106049.2020.1756461](https://doi.org/10.1080/10106049.2020.1756461)>. Utilizing this R package, users can effectively extract and analyze critical information from remote sensing imagery, enhancing their comprehension of vegetation dynamics and their importance in global ecosystems. The package includes the function `vegetation_indices()`.

Version: 0.1.0
 Published: 2025-01-08
 DOI: [10.32614/CRAN.package.vegIndexCalc](https://doi.org/10.32614/CRAN.package.vegIndexCalc)
 Author: Dibyendu Deb [aut, ctb], Arpan Bhowmik [aut, ctb], Bijoy Chanda [aut, cre, ctb], J.P. Singh [aut], Sunil Mandi [aut], Alemwati Pongener [aut]
 Maintainer: Bijoy Chanda <bijoychanda08 at gmail.com>
 License: [GPL-3](https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.html)
 NeedsCompilation: no
 CRAN checks: [vegIndexCalc results](#)

Documentation:

Reference manual: [vegIndexCalc.pdf](#)

Downloads:

Package source: [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.tar.gz](#)
 Windows binaries: r-devel: [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.zip](#), r-release: [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.zip](#), r-oldrel: [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.zip](#)
 macOS binaries: r-release (arm64): [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.tgz](#), r-oldrel (arm64): [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.tgz](#), r-release (x86_64): [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.tgz](#), r-oldrel (x86_64): [vegIndexCalc_0.1.0.tgz](#)

Linking:

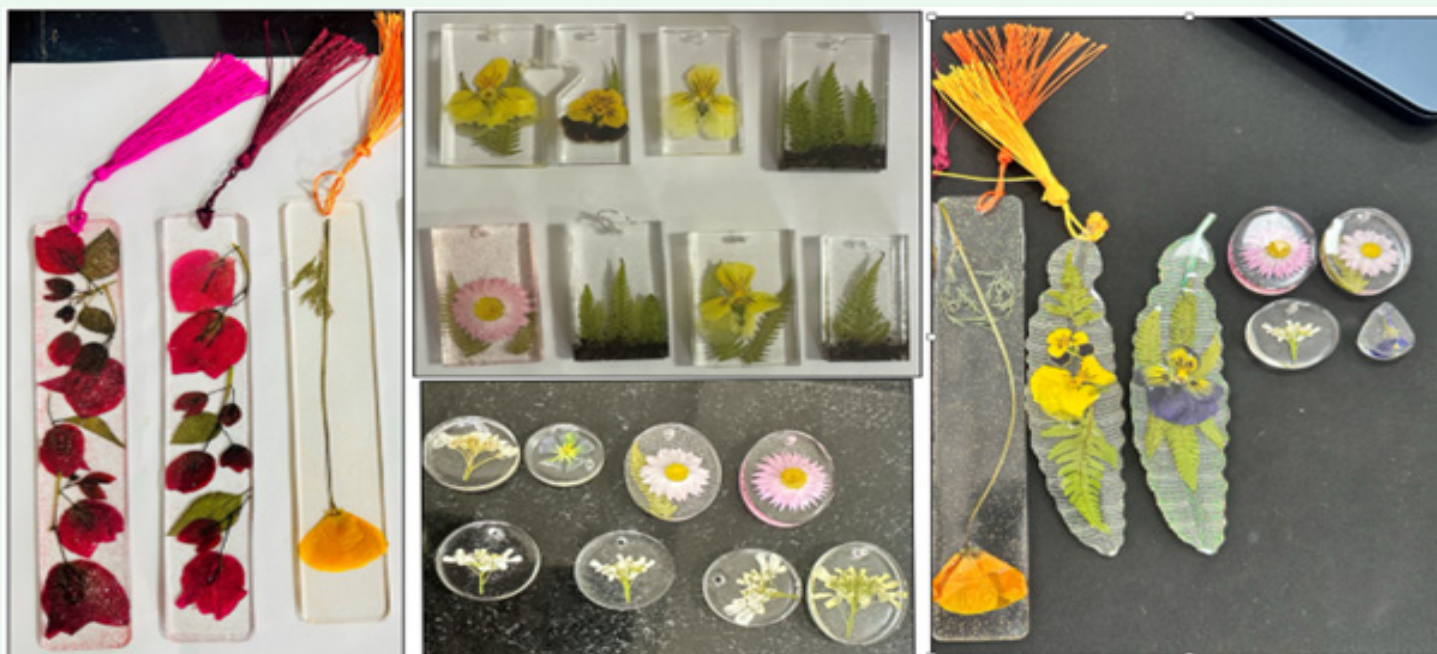
Please use the canonical form <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=vegIndexCalc> to link to this page.

Value Added Products

Under the project “Development of Cultivation Practices, Commercialization, and Eco-Printing Techniques for Annual Flower Crops in Assam” at IARI Assam, a significant outcome has been the standardization of techniques for making resin flower jewellery using winter annual flowers. The project successfully identified suitable flower species, optimized methods for drying to retain colour and shape, and developed detailed procedures for embedding flowers in resin to create aesthetically appealing jewellery products. A range of products such as bookmarks, pendants, keychains, and earrings were developed as

part of this initiative. These standardized techniques pave the way for the production of high-quality flower resin jewellery, offering a new avenue for value addition and income generation. This initiative holds strong potential for improving the livelihoods of rural women and small-scale entrepreneurs by enabling them to create and market eco-friendly, handcrafted floral products. The product development was led by Dr. Sumalatha, Principal Investigator of the project.

Besides, several ready to eat fish products such as: Fish Pickle, Fish Sticks, Fish Bhujia and Fish Chutney were developed by the school of Animal, Poultry and Fishery Sciences, IARI-Assam.



Resin flower jewellery developed using winter annual flowers



Ready to eat fish products

IPR: Licenses/Copyrights

No.	Title	Names of the developer	Country and Number	Year
1.	R Package: vegIndexCalc Version 0.1.0 (License)	Dibyendu Deb, Arpan Bhowmik, Bijoy Chanda, J.P. Singh, Sunil Mandi, Alemwati Pongener	License: GPL-3 [expanded from: GPL (≥ 2)]	2025
2.	Copyright for MARIPEP-a fish peptone-based marine bacteriological medium.	ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai. Dr. Sanath Kumar H, Dr. Binaya Bhusan Nayak, Dr. Amjad K. Balange, Dr. Manjusha L, Ms. Sousruti Kar	Registration No. L-161850/2025w	2025

EDUCATION

Educational Visit to Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Sciences and KVK, Lakhimpur

On 20th December 2024, the 2nd year B.Sc. Agriculture students of ICAR-IARI, Assam embarked on an educational visit to Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Science and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Lakhimpur. This visit aimed to enhance their practical knowledge and provide insights into livestock and poultry Management.

Visit to Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Assam:

The students were warmly welcomed by the Associate Dean, Dr. Uma Tamuli, who provided an overview of the various departments, livestock farms and activities carried out at the college. The visit began with an introduction to the different Departments where students were exposed to a range of advanced farm equipment and their applications in livestock management.

The students had the opportunity to explore and learn about different fodder cultivation practices, including the production of annual and perennial fodder grasses. This session offered hands-on experience in understanding the importance of fodder in livestock nutrition. The highlight of the visit was a tour of the animal farms, where students were shown crossbred cattle farms, goat units, and poultry units. They observed modern animal housing systems, farm management techniques, and practices to ensure animal welfare. The students also explored the fodder unit and were introduced to innovative fodder cultivation methods.

Visit to KVK, Lakhimpur

At KVK Lakhimpur, the students learned about azolla cultivation, an important source of protein-rich feed for livestock. The demonstration on vermicomposting emphasized waste management and organic manure production, encouraging sustainable farming.



The students were particularly fascinated by the integrated farming system unit, which showcased the harmonious integration of crops, livestock, fishery, and poultry for maximizing productivity and sustainability.



The visit was coordinated by scientists Dr. Manish Pandey, Dr. Azhaguraja. M. and Dr. Bornalee Handique, who guided the students throughout the day, providing detailed explanations and answering their queries. The trip was arranged under the guidance of Dr. Manivannan, UG Coordinator, ICAR-IARI, Assam, ensuring a well-structured and impactful learning experience. The educational visit proved to be an enriching experience for the students, providing them with valuable hands-on exposure and practical insights into livestock and poultry management. It fostered a deeper understanding of the crucial role of modern techniques and sustainable approaches in enhancing productivity and improving rural livelihoods. This initiative highlighted the importance of experiential learning in bridging the gap between theory and practice, preparing students for future challenges in agriculture and allied sectors.

Students' Tour to Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

A students' tour was organized to at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat during 9-10th January, 2025. During this visit the students were exposed to laboratories in different divisions (Soil Science, Plant pathology, Entomology, Biotechnology, Agricultural Engineering, etc.) and Mushroom unit, Biopesticides and biofertilizer unit, Biocontrol laboratory, honey

bees and pollinators laboratory, tissue culture & plant biotechnology laboratory, azolla production unit, Agricultural Technology & Information Centre, agricultural engineering workshops, etc. The tour was co-ordinated by Dr. A. Sumalatha, Dr. Ansheef Ali TP, Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo and Mr. Akshay Kumar HM under the guidance of Dr. S. Manivannan (UG Coordinator).



Arts and Literary Club Activities

On the eve of Republic Day, the Arts and Literary Club of ICAR-IARI Assam organized a series of vibrant activities, coordinated by Dr. Sumalatha A. Reddy and Dr. Dibyendu Deb. Students participated enthusiastically in various events, showcasing their creativity and patriotic spirit. The winners were honored with certificates by the Director of IARI, adding to the festive atmosphere. The celebrations not only highlighted the students' talents but also fostered a sense of unity and national pride among the participants.



NSS Activities

Campus cleaning activities were conducted by the students under their NSS course curriculum on 8th February 2025, coordinated by Dr. S Manivannan and Dr. Ch. Jamkhakai Mate.



Students' Exposure to Drone Spraying

On 12th February 2025 B.Sc. Agriculture 3rd Year students were exposed to the concept of Spraying Drones at IARI Assam. The facility has been achieved under the Agriculture Drone Project of IARI Assam lead by Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Senior Scientist. Students were exposed about the theoretical aspects of Drone technology. Soon an attempt will be made to organize one practical demonstration related to drone. Dr. Sunny Arya, Scientist highlighted the key features of Spraying Drones. Mr. Chandan Majhi, Technician, IARI Assam was also present during the session.



Skill Enhancement Activities for Students

Under the Skill enhancement course, the 1st Year students of B.Sc. (Ag.) learned the science and art of fruit beverages and the art of making flower jewellery with resins.



Students of IARI-Assam Celebrated Saraswati Pooja



Students of IARI-Assam Celebrated Holi



Students' Achievements

IARI Assam family proudly congratulates B.Sc. (Agriculture) 2nd year student Md. Safvan for becoming 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.



EXTENSION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Farmer-Scientist Interaction cum Input Distribution Programme

On 27th January, 2025 a farmer-scientist interaction cum input distribution programme was organized by ICAR-IARI, Assam under the NEH component ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana. Hon'able Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI graced the programme as chief guest. Hon'able Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research) and Dr. Ananmika Gogoi, Circle Officer, Gogamukh were the guests of honour. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI suggested scientists of IARI-Assam to prepare a training calendar for the entire year for farmers and other stakeholders including line departments. He also motivated the farmers to encourage their children to have carrier in agricultural research. He also emphasised that quality seed and planting material should be provided to farmers in collaboration with central and state government department. He also assured that IARI Assam will carry out priority-based research in the area of animal and fishery science and soon facilities will be developed in terms of animal shed in our research farm. He highlighted the requirements of soil health cards, aggregated farming for better market linkages. Dr. Rao also emphasized that IARI Assam will carry out works on entrepreneurship development in different areas including mushroom cultivation, apiculture, quality seed production, etc. in near future.

Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research), IARI, New Delhi highlighted that



improved technologies developed by IARI specially on maize and other crops will be provided to the farmers for their benefit. He also suggested that IARI Assam

should initiate activities in local language on the line of Pusa Samachar. Circle officer Dr. Anamika Gogoi highlighted that IARI Assam should provide inputs like seed which IARI have developed instead of seeds from local market. She also emphasized that farmers should focussed on increasing productivity. Besides, she also highlighted that piggery and fishery activities needs to be strengthened in this region. A brochure on Rice-Based Integrated Farming System in Assam both in English and Assamese was also released during the event. At the beginning, Dr. L. K. Baishya welcome the dignitaries and briefed the gathering about the programme and the role of integrated farming system for sustainable livelihood. A total **110 farmers** (including 36 female farmers) majorly from Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts of Assam got

benefited from the programme. Input kits in the 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 farmers.

The programme was organized by Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya and was coordinated by a team of scientists consisting of: Dr. Sunil Mandi, Mr. Umakanta Dash, Dr. Ramesh Babu, Mr. Bhagirath Das, Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah, Dr. Alemwati Pongener, Dr. Ravi Bhushan Prasad, Dr Arpan Bhowmik, Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Mr. Akshay Kumar HM, Dr. Bornalee Handique and facilitated by Mr. Kishan Singha Ray and Mr. Jitender Gaite

Winter School on “Optimizing Natural Resources through New Age Technologies for Smart Agriculture”

ICAR-IARI, Assam organized its first ever ICAR-Sponsored Winter School on “Optimizing Natural Resources through New Age Technologies for Smart Agriculture” during on 5-25th February 2025 at the ICAR-IARI, Assam campus. The training aimed at equipping participants with advanced knowledge and skills to address the challenges of modern agriculture. During the inaugural session, Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI conveyed his best wishes to all the participants and staff of IARI Assam for this training programme. The Chief Guest of the inaugural programme, Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), IARI, New Delhi, expressed his appreciation for the successful organization of the Winter School at the ICAR-IARI, Assam campus and underscored the importance of natural resource management in addressing agricultural challenges. The Guest of Honour, Dr. D.K. Jha, Principal of Gogamukh College, spoke about the critical role of agricultural technological innovation in improving the livelihoods of farmers in the North East.

The three-week-long winter school concluded on a high note with the valedictory program held on 25th February 2025 at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Assam. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI chaired the valedictory session and highlighted the significance of the Winter School in promoting soil conservation and sustainable agricultural practices in the high-rainfall region of North East India. He discussed the challenges of soil erosion and riverbed degradation and stressed the need for scientific interventions to conserve soil health. Prof. Narendranath S, Director, North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST)



and the chief guest of the programme underscored the importance of such training programs in uplifting the condition of farmers in the North-East region. Dr. S. Manivannan, Course Director provided a comprehensive report of the Winter School.



A total of 17 participants from multi disciplines across the country from Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Tripura states attended the training. The Programme was coordinated by Dr. S. Manivannan as Course Director, Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. Alemwati Pongener and Dr. Dibyendu Deb as the course coordinators.

Awareness-cum-Input Injection Programme for Livelihood Security of Poor and Marginal Farmers of Northeast Region

An awareness-cum-input injection programme for livelihood security of poor and marginal farmers of northeast region was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research (IIWBR), Karnal, Haryana (NEH Component) on 14th February, 2025, under the able guidance and visionary leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI.

The Chief Guest, Shri Rahul Suresh Javir (District Commissioner, Dhemaji), highlighted key issues such as the promotion of organic farming, the adoption of villages to transform them into model agricultural hubs, and the increased focus on animal husbandry and fishing activities in upper Assam. The event was followed by the distribution of farm inputs such as maize hybrid seeds, summer vegetable seed kits, insecticides, fungicides,

vermicompost, FYM/organic manure, chemical fertilizers (urea, SSP, MOP, and micronutrients), lime for soil reclamation, and advanced fish fingerlings, piglets, and chicks for the promotion of an intensive integrated farming system. The activities of registered farmers will be regularly monitored with required scientific guidance for better production and profit. On this occasion, various leaflets related to scientific farming were also released.

A total of 300 farmers benefitted from this input distribution and Farmer-scientist interaction programme. The programme was organized by Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya and was coordinated by a team of scientists consisting of: Dr. Prabhat Pramanik, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Sunil Mandi, Dr. Ravi Bhusan Prasad, Dr. Bornalee Handique, Dr. A. Sumalatha, Mr. Akshay Kumar HM and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo.



Awareness and Input Injection Program for the Promotion of Scientific Maize Cultivation in Farming System Mode

An awareness and input injection program for the promotion of scientific maize cultivation in farming system mode was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR), Ludhiana, Punjab (NEH Component) on 26th February, 2025, under the guidance and leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI. The primary objective of this program

was to educate farmers about the implementation of advanced technologies and practices for enhancing maize cultivation.

The Chief Guest, Shri Tanay Jyoti Gogoi, District Agriculture Officer, Dhemaji, highlighted the state's role in improving the livelihood of farmers in Assam and the potential of improved maize varieties in enhancing maize production in this region. The Guest of Honor, Dr

Ajoy Patir, Professor, Dhemaji College, and social worker, spoke about maize industrialization, food processing, and the use of advanced technologies in maize farming. Smt Runmi Gogoi, Branch Manager, SBI, Gogamukh, spoke about the various Govt schemes like the PM Kisan Scheme, PM Food Processing Industry Scheme, and other bankable schemes related to the farming community. She also highlighted the importance of processing in the agriculture sector. A total of 390 farmers benefited from this farmer-scientist interaction program, which was followed by the distribution of agricultural inputs including maize hybrid seeds, insecticides, fungicides,

vermi-bed, bio-enriched organic manure, spade, prong, urea, and zinc sulfate. During this event, various informational leaflets pertaining to scientific farming practices were also disseminated.

The input distribution and Farmer-scientist interaction programme was organized by Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya and was coordinated by a team of scientists consisting of: Dr. Sunil Mandi, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Ch. Jamkhakai Mate, Dr. Ravi Bhusan Prasad, Dr. Bornalee Handique, Dr. Ramesh babu, Mr. Akshay Kumar HM, Dr. Sunny Arya and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo.



Awareness and Input Injection Program for Livelihood Improvement of Small and Marginal Farmers in Northeast Region

An awareness and input injection program for "Livelihood Improvement of Small and Marginal Farmers in North East Region" was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Almora, Uttarakhand (NEH Component) on 10th March, 2025, at Dhakuakhana District library, North Lakhimpur, Assam under the guidance and leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI. The program was graced by Shri Ghanshyam Dutta (SDO, Lakhimpur), Shri Bhobojit Doley (District Agriculture Officer, Lakhimpur), Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya (Scientist In-Charge and Head, NRM, IARI-Assam), Hod's, scientists and staff of IARI Assam.

The Chief Guest, Shri Ghanshyam Dutta, elucidated the state's role in enhancing the livelihood of farmers in Assam and outlined various agricultural schemes. The guest of honor, Shri Bhobojit Doley, discussed the importance of integrated farming systems and natural farming practices. Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya emphasized the significance of IARI Assam in strengthening the agrarian scenarios of north east region. He also highlighted the major gaps in scientific farming in this region and the steps needed for boosting



the livelihood of farmers. Dr. Nirmal Kumar Hedau, Head (Crop Improvement), ICAR-VPKAS, Almora also addressed the gathering via online platform and delivered an informative presentation on the technologies developed by the institute, including crop varieties, plant protection technologies, and agricultural tools and implements, which have potential applications for the northeast hill region.

A total of 600 farmers benefited from this input distribution and farmer-scientist interaction program which was followed by the distribution of agricultural inputs including: fish fingerling, vermicompost, organic

manure, insecticides, fungicides, spade, prong, urea and zinc sulfate. During this event, various informational leaflets pertaining to scientific farming practices were also disseminated. Several representatives among the farmers also shared their experience and knowledge motivating their peers and youth to agriculture.

The programme was organized by Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya and was coordinated by a team of scientists consisting of: Dr. Sunil Mandi, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Ravi Bhusan Prasad, Dr. Azhaguraja M, Dr. Bornalee Handique, Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Mr. Akshay Kumar HM and Mr. Umakanata Dash.

Farm Input Distribution and Awareness Programme at IARI-Assam in Collaboration with ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow

ICAR-IARI Assam in collaboration with ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow conducts one-day farm input distribution and awareness programme on 12th March 2025 under TSP and NEH Scheme of ICAR-NBFGR. The programme was organized under the valuable guidance and visionary leadership of Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI.



Mr. Jadav Pegu (ACS) and Principal Secretary (Mising Autonomous Council), Govt. of Assam graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and expressed his satisfaction on such motivational programme for the socio-economic upliftment of the fish farmers. Mr. Lakhinath Lagachu, District Fishery Development Officer, Govt. of Assam spoke as the Guest of Honour on the various developmental schemes and programmes implemented for the benefit of the fish farmers. Dr. Anutosh Paria, Nodal Officer (TSP) and Dr. L. Mog. Chowdhury, Member (NEH)

represented ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow and highlighted different aspects of fish farming potentials in NER. Dr. Lohit Kr. Baishya, Scientist In-charge, ICAR-IARI Assam spoke on the importance of ICAR-IARI in conducting field research and extension-based programmes in NER.



Farm inputs in the form of young ones of improved varieties of carps, high quality fish feeds, lime, prophylactic kits, fish nets, fish carrying containers etc. were provided to 100 fish farmers of the region. Five progressive fish farmers of the region were felicitated on the occasion, followed with release of a technical leaflet. Fish seeds were also released in the training institute of Mising Autonomous Council (MAC). Staff of IARI Assam attended the programme. Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, Assam coordinated the programme.

Farmers-Scientists Interface Meet cum Input Distribution Programme

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Eastern Regional Station, Kolkata, organized a two-day "Farmers-Scientists Interface Meet cum Input Distribution Programme" for pig farmers on the

18th and 19th of March, 2025, under the NEH Scheme of ICAR-IVRI. The programme was conducted under the valuable guidance and visionary leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI. The Chief Guest, Dr. Anil Pegu, Senior Veterinary Officer and former OSD

(Mising Autonomous Council), Government of Assam, emphasized that following epidemics like African Swine Fever, the initiative taken by the two organizations would motivate pig farmers to resume pig farming

inputs in the form of three piglets (2 Female and 1 Male), 150 kg pig feed, 3 kg mineral supplements, dewormer and training manual on scientific pig management etc. were distributed to each farmer.



with renewed confidence. Dr. Syamal Naskar Principal Scientist (ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata) and Dr. Dayamoy Mondal, Principal Scientist (ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata) served as overall programme coordinators. They emphasized that scientific management of pig farming is crucial for disease prevention and achieving higher profitability. Farm

A total of 30 pig farmers were benefited from this programme. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Amjad Balange, HoD (APF), ICAR-IARI, as the organizing secretary while Dr. Manish Pandey, Dr. M.B. Chaudhary, Dr. Azhaguraja, Dr. Bornalee Handique and Mr. Da U Ruhi Pde acted as coordinators.

Kisan Mela Organized in Collaboration with IIMR, Hyderabad

On 21st March, 2025 ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, Gogamukh organized Kisan Mela for promotion of pearl millet cultivation in collaboration with Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad under North East component. The chief guest of the program was Dr. P. Kamalabai, Director, North East Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Viswanath, Chariali, Assam, who have highlighted different aspects of pearl millet processing for value addition.



health benefits. Dr. S. Manivannan the coordinator of the programme highlighted the purpose of the Kisan Mela and the importance of pearl millet which can have good market value. Dr. L. K. Baishya, SIC, IARI Assam focussed on different types of Millet cultivation for sustainable agriculture. Dr. A. K. Balange, Head (APF) and Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah, Principal Scientist also highlighted important aspects on pearl millet. Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Senior Scientist gave the vote of thanks.

Staff of IARI Assam and around 200 farmers participated in the program. Dignitaries have also visited different stalls in the Kisan Mela. The programme was coordinated by Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr. Akshay Kumar H.M and Dr. Umakanta Dash.



The guest of honours are Dr. S. K. Paul, Head, KVK kokrajhar and Dr. T. P. Saikia, Chief Scientist, RRS, Buralikson. They have highlighted different aspects of pearl millet and other millet products including their

Master Trainer Certification Programme on Millet-Based Value-Added Product Development

During 17-23 March, 2025, A one-week Master Trainer Certification Programme on “Millet-Based Value-Added Product Development for Entrepreneurship Development” under the NEH Component 2024-25



was successfully organized at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad. The training program was attended by 18 women entrepreneurs from Dhemaji and North

Lakhimpur districts of Assam, aiming to enhance their skills in millet-based food processing and business development. Mrs. Mitali Doley (Local entrepreneur), Mr. Porna Sharmah (SMS, Kokrajhar KVK), Mrs. Dipshikha Hazarika (SMS, North Lakhimpur KVK), and Mrs. Pompy Bora (Programme Assistant, Sonitpur KVK) acted as a resource person in the training programme. During the training, participants prepared a variety of millet-based recipes, including laddu, kheer, biscuits, bhujia, cake, nimki, and barfi, refining their culinary skills and exploring value addition opportunities in millets.

The initiative aimed to empower rural women with entrepreneurial skills and promote nutritious, millet-based food products in local markets. Dr. Sunil Mandi was the course director whereas Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Dr. Bhagirath Das were the coordinators.

Kisan Mela on Promotion of Minor Millets Cultivation Organized at IARI-Assam

On 23 March, 2025, IARI Assam organized a Kisan Mela on Promotion of Minor Millets cultivation in Assam in collaboration with Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad under NEH component. The chief guest of the program was Dr. D. K. Jha, Principal, Gogamukh College. The guest of honour was Mr. Saikat Sarkar, Director, Shroddha FPC, Dinhata, West Bengal. The other dignitaries are Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. Amjad Balange Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Sunil Mandi and



Mr. Jitender Gaite. The dignitaries highlighted different aspects of Millet cultivation, its health benefit, value addition of Millet products etc. Different Millet based products were displayed in the Mela.

Around 400 farmers from Lakhimpur, Dhemaji District have participated in the Mela. Dr. Sunil Mandi, Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Mr. Bhagirath Das coordinated the program.



One-week training Programme on Millet Cultivation and Processing

A one-week training program on “Millet Cultivation and its Processing for Millet Farmers in Assam” under the NEH Component 2024-25 was successfully conducted at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad. Held

from March 20-26, 2025, the training saw participation from 30 farmers from Dhemaji and North Lakhimpur districts. Farmers were introduced to various millet varieties suitable for Assam, along with best practices for nutrient management, pest, and disease control. On the concluding day, a field demonstration was conducted

at the institute's research farm to showcase millet cultivation under local conditions. To further support adoption, farmers received essential inputs, including seeds, insecticides, sprayers, and micronutrient fertilizers. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Mandi (Course Director), Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya, Mr. Bhagirath Das, Mr. Umakanta Dash, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Rachit Saxena and Dr. Ch. Jamkhokai Mate.



Field Day-cum-Demonstration on Biofertilizer Application and Organic Farming

On 24 March, 2025 a Field Day along with Demonstration on organic vegetable cultivation and minor millet production cum application of bio fertilizer was organized by IARI Assam Under the programme "Empowering farmers and rural youth of Lakhimpur



and Dhemaji districts of Assam on biofertilizer application and organic farming" (NEH Component) at IARI Assam Research Farm, Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji. In Collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Mau, Uttar Pradesh. During the field day Dr. Arpan Bhowmik highlighted the importance of organic farming. Dr. Ramnath Ramesh Babu demonstrated the application of biofertilizer as a seed treatment w.r.t. Brinjal Seed. He also demonstrated the tree tomato plantation. Mr. Kishore

Chandra Sahoo demonstrated the organic methods insect pest management and method of preparation of Neem seed kernel extract. Mr. Saikat Sarkar, Director, Shroddha FPC, Dinhata, West Bengal who was present during the field day as a special invited guest shared his experience regarding Millet cultivation. He highlighted different aspects of Millet including its benefit, marketing potentials etc. He encouraged the farmers about organic millet farming. Around 60 farmers participated in the field day cum demonstration.

The team of coordinators from IARI Assam are Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Sunil Mandi, Dr. Ramesh Babu, Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Dr. Abhijith K P, Dr. Bhagirath Das and Dr. L.K. Baishya. From NBAIM, Dr. Hillol Chakdar and Dr. Kumar N. were the coordinators. The technicians Mr. Chandan Maji, Mr. Kisan Singha Ray, Mr. Dipanjan Panda, Mr. Sanjay Kumar and Mr. Sushant Kumar also provided their assistance during the program.



Demonstration-cum-Training Programme on Eri Spinning Machine

A "Demonstration-cum-Training Programme on Eri Spinning Machine" was collaboratively organized by the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam, and the ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component) on 24.03.2025. The objective of the programme was to promote sericulture as a significant secondary agricultural activity among the

farmers in the northeastern region, associated within the broader framework of the Integrated Farming System. The program was successfully conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao (Director, IARI-Assam).

Esteemed guests, Madam Jinu Khanikar (Handloom and Textile Inspector, Dibrugarh) and Mr. Ranjan Gogoi (Sericulture Field Demonstrator, Dibrugarh), provided demonstrations on the operational



principles of the Eri spinning machine, followed by hands-on training. Both guests emphasized the benefits of this innovation made by Satish Choudhury for Eri farmers across Assam and other parts of Northeast India.

Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya remarked on the historical significance of sericulture in Assam's cultural heritage and highlighted the potential of such innovations to enhance the livelihoods of small



and marginal farmers, particularly women in drudgery reduction against the labor-intensive nature of Eri farming. A total of 30 women farmers benefited from the program and expressed their satisfaction and anticipated that the machine will help them with great reduction of manual labour. Thirty Eri spinning machines were distributed among the progressive Eri farmers. The program was organized by Dr. L.K. Baishya, and coordinated by Dr. Sunil Mandi and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo.

Input Distribution Programme in Collaboration with ICAR-NBAIM, Mau, Uttar Pradesh

During 25-26 March, 2025, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam organized Awareness cum input distribution programme Under "Empowering farmers and rural youth of Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts of Assam on biofertilizer application and organic farming" in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganism, Mau, Uttar Pradesh under NEH component.

The chief guest of the programme was Mr. Rajen Saikia, Project officer, DRR&CCA, North East Affected Area Development Society (NEADS). The dignitaries who were present during the programme include Dr. L. K. Baishya, Dr. A. K. Balange, Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Sunil Mandi, and Mr. Jitender Singh Gaite. Dr. Hillol Chakdar and Dr. Kumar N. from ICAR- ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganism joined virtually. The dignitaries highlighted the importance of bio fertilizer and organic farming for sustainable agriculture, benefits of organic farming etc. The inaugural session was followed by the technical session where scientists and farmers actively participated in the discussion w.r.t. bio fertilizer application and promotion of organic farming in north east region. Around 200 farmers from Dhemaji,



North Lakhimpur and Majuli districts have participated in the programme. Farmers were given small farm equipment including sprayers, irrigation pipes. Besides, input in the form of Trichoderma, Pseudomonas, organic manure

were given to the beneficiaries. From IARI Assam The programme was coordinated by Dr, Arpan Bhowmik, Dr.

Sunil Mandi, Dr. Ramesh Babu, Dr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Dr. Abhijith K P, Dr. Bhagirath Das, Dr. S. Manivannan, Dr.

Farmer Scientist Interaction Program on Promotion of Secondary Agriculture in Assam

A farmer scientist interaction program on “Promotion of Secondary Agriculture in Assam for Enhancing Farm Income and Livelihood Security” was collaboratively organized by the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji,



Assam, and the ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component) on March, 2025 at Ghilamara, Lakhimpur. The program aimed to promote secondary agricultural activities among farmers in the northeastern region,

within the broader framework of the Integrated Farming System. The program was successfully conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice Chancellor, IARI-Assam.

The chief guest, Shri Aswini Kalita, Superintendent of Sericulture, Dhakuakhana, expressed satisfaction with ICAR-IARI, Assam, and anticipated that the institute would contribute to the overall development of the farming community in this region. He also highlighted the evolving scenario of sericulture in the context of climate change. The guest of honor, Smt. Mandira Borborah, ADO, Dhakuakhana, encouraged farmers and rural youth to pursue agriculture as a profitable venture. Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya, Scientist-in-Charge, ICAR-IARI, Assam emphasized the potential of various secondary agricultural activities to enhance the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers in the region.

A total of 60 farmers benefited from the program. Farm inputs such as Eri spinning machines, sprayers, biofortified rice varieties, vermi-beds, turmeric, and som saplings were distributed among the farmers during the program. A book entitled “Scientific Management of IFS and Secondary Agriculture in the Context of Northeast India” was also released during this program. The program was organized by Dr. L. K. Baishya and coordinated by Dr. Sunil Mandi and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo.

Flower Show-cum-Field Day

ICAR-IARI Assam organized a Flower Show-cum-Field Day at the Floriculture plot of the institute on 27th March 2025. The event was based on the theme, ‘Cultivation of Winter Annuals’. Flowers constitute an important part of everyday life, and the flower show aimed at bringing together floral enthusiasts, students,



women groups, children, and local residents for this common cause. Dr. Rachit Saxena, Principal Scientist & Head (Act.), School of CI welcomed all the visitors to the one-day event and thanked the organizers for conducting the first-ever flower show at the institute. Dr. Amjad



Balange, Head, School of APF, appreciated the efforts of the scientists involved in bringing the floriculture plot to its present shape. Thereafter, he declared the Flower

Show open to visitors.

The event drew enthusiastic visitors from nearby localities. The winter annuals in bloom attracted much admiration and generated curiosity and queries from the visitors. One of the big positives of the event was the response by the high school students from the local schools, for whom the flower show opened an altogether new perspective for career and entrepreneurship opportunities. The event included expert guidance, Q & A session, photography, and many more. The Flower Show-cum-Field Day was coordinated by Dr. Sumalatha, Dr. Raghavendra H R, Dr. Ramesh Babu, Dr. Kishore C. Sahoo, Dr. Akshay H M, and Dr. Alemwati Pongener.

Demonstration on Beekeeping and Skill Development Programme

A demonstration program on scientific beekeeping was organized by the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam, in collaboration with the ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component) on 27.03.2025. The objective of the program was to promote apiculture as a significant secondary agricultural activity among farmers in the northeastern region, within the broader framework of the Integrated Farming System. The program was successfully conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao (Director, IARI-Assam). Dr. Lohit Kumar

Baishya emphasized the importance of pollinators in agro-ecosystems and encouraged farmers to engage in beekeeping.

A total of seven farmers benefited from the program. The demonstration program was followed by the distribution of 15 bee hives along with nucleus colonies of the Indian honey bee (*Apis cerana*) and accessories such as hive stands, smokers, bee veils, bee brushes, and decapping knives. The program was organized by Dr. L.K. Baishya and coordinated by Dr. Sunil Mandi, and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo.



Training on IARI Assam Website Content Management

One day online training programme on 'IARI Assam Website content Management' was organized by IARI AKMU and PME cell on 6th January, 2025 in collaboration with KRISHI Project team of IASRI. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Dr. Dibyendu Deb. The website of IARI Assam is being developed by KRISHI project team of IASRI and website development team of IARI Assam and made available in <https://iariassam.icar.gov.in/iariassam/>



Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Exhibition

From January 10th to 12th, 2025, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, actively participated in the Atmanirbhar Dhemaji Exhibition, a vibrant platform aimed at empowering Dhemaji's entrepreneurs and bridging the gap between technology and community needs. Our stall showcased innovative research and technologies in key areas like millets, piggery, recreational fishery, pesticide residue management, poultry, and dairy farming, all aligned towards achieving self-reliance and sustainable development. The interactive displays and informative posters attracted visitors of all kinds: farmers, students, and community members. We also highlighted value-added products such as Rosella candy, Ginger candy, Fish pickle, and flower seeds (Gomphrena, Cosmos, and Gylardia) to promote local entrepreneurship and encourage gardening. The enthusiastic response from visitors affirmed the relevance of these technologies to the region's needs.

Over three days, our team actively engaged with visitors, answering questions and discussing practical applications of our technologies. Special thanks to our representatives: Day 1 (Jan 10): Dr. Raghvendra HR & Dr. Bhagirath Das; Day 2 (Jan 11): Dr. Ramesh Babu & Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah; Day 3 (Jan 12): Dr. Jhamkakai Mate, Sushant Kumar, Chandan Maji & Kishan Singha Ray.

A highlight of the event was the technical session on "Enhancement of profitability in the fishery sector of



the district – way forward,” where Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah, Principal Scientist (Aquaculture), delivered an insightful talk on “Recent advances in fisheries management”. The exhibition provided us with a valuable opportunity to gain feedback from the community, address their concerns, and refine our work to better serve the region.

Brainstorming Session with NABARD for Promotion of Agriculture and Allied Sector

IARI Assam in collaboration with NABARD organized an "Interphase meeting cum Brainstorming Session for Promotion of Agriculture and Allied Sector" on 20th January, 2025 at IARI Assam Conference Hall. The interphase meeting involved triparty delegations from IARI Assam, NABARD and Mising Autonomous Council (MAC). At the beginning, Dr. L. K. Baishya, SIC, IARI Assam welcomed the distinguished dignitaries: Shri Loken Das, CGM, NABARD, Shri Paramananda Chayengia, Chief Executive Member, MAC, Shri Sunil Pegu, Chairman, MAC, Shri Debabrata Das, Shri Evan Mungsong, Shri Sankar Das, DGM, NABARD, Shri Amlan Tamuli, DDM, NABARD Lakhimpur and Dhemaji. Two presentations were delivered by Dr. L. K. Baishya and Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah which highlighted the activities and possible opportunities where NABARD can collaborate with IARI Assam specially in the area of natural resource management and Fishery sector. Mr. Loken Das, CGM,



NABARD highlighted different aspects and emphasized that NABARD can collaborate with IARI Assam in the areas of value addition, entrepreneurship development, protection of indigenous fish, animal and crops, rural mart establishment etc. Mr. Paramananda Chayengia highlighted different activities which are being carried out for promotion of agri-based livelihood in MAC areas and some researchable issues like dehydrated

horticultural products for value addition. Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Principal Scientists later suggested possible collaboration in terms of quality planting material specially for citrus crops in north east region. Mr. Amlan Tamuli, DDM, NABARD, Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts ensured possible collaboration with IARI Assam. The

meeting was attended by Different DDMs, ADMs and other officials of NABARD, Executive members of MAC and Scientists, technical and administrative staff of IARI Assam. The meeting was coordinated by Mr. Amlan Tamuli from NABARD, Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, Dr. Amjad Balange and Dr. Abhijith K. P. from IARI Assam.

Field Visits

On 20th February 2025, a team of scientists consisting of Dr. Ramavath Ramesh babu, Mr. Akshay Kumar HM and Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo, visited the



field of Mr. Baba Milli, a farmer of village Nahor bari, Gogamukh block, cultivating cucurbits. The scientists advised the farmer on management of the insect pests and disease with a demonstration on the use of yellow sticky trap for managing sucking pests.

On 25th February 2025 a team of scientists of IARI Assam consisting of Dr. Arunjyoti Baruah, Dr. Da U Ruhi Pde and Dr. Arpan Bhowmik visited Boramthoni Village of Bordoloni Block of Dhemaji District to collect diseased fish sample. The team given suggestions to improve the water quality which leads to the disease in the fish. Besides they have also visited some plots where brinjals are affected by mice. A solution by consulting vegetable scientists has been given.



On 27th January 2025, Hon'able director and Vice Chancellor, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, visited the research farm of IARI Assam to review the progress of farm development activities, during his visit to IARI-Assam on 25-29th January 2025, along with Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research), IARI, New Delhi,



Interstate Exposure Visit of Farmers

On 13th March, 2025 ICAR-IARI Assam coordinated the interstate exposure tour of farmers in collaboration with College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh under the able guidance and visionary leadership of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI. The exposure tour was sponsored by Indian Institute of Pulses Research under NEH component. The purpose of the programme is to motivate the farmers for sustainable income generation through value addition. Total 13 tribal women farmers participated in the programme along with two guides from CAU. Farmers were given exposure to the entire IARI Assam campus, laboratories, research farm



etc. Farmers were motivated to enhance their income through value addition of agricultural and horticultural produce. Farmers were also guided w.r.t. good feed quality to increase the health and body weight of pigs which they are rearing. During the farm visit farmers

were given exposure to different crops specially pulse crops. A detail guidance was given to them regarding cultivation and management practices of lentil in these regions. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Arpan

Bhowmik, Dr. Bornalee Handique, Dr. Bhagirath Das, Dr. Abhijith K. P., Dr. Sumalatha Reddy, Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo and Mr. Akshay Kumar H.M.

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

Sl. No	Title of the Event	Date	Venue	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Winter School on "Optimizing Natural Resources through New Age Technologies for Smart Agriculture.	5-25 th February 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	17
2	Training on IARI Assam Website content Management in collaboration with KRISHI Project team of IASRI.	6 th January, 2025	Online	4
4	Farmer-scientist interaction cum input distribution programme under the NEH component of ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal.	27 th January, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	110
5	Awareness-cum-input injection programme for livelihood security of poor and marginal farmers of northeast region (in collaboration with ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, Haryana (NEH Component))	14 th February, 2025,	ICAR-IARI, Assam	300
6	Awareness and input injection program for the promotion of scientific maize cultivation in farming system mode in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR), Ludhiana, Punjab (NEH Component)	26 th February, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	390
7	Awareness and input injection program for Livelihood Improvement of Small and Marginal Farmers in North East Region in collaboration with ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Almora, Uttarakhand (NEH Component)	10 th March, 2025	Dhakuakhana District library, North Lakhimpur	600
8	Farm input distribution and awareness programme Assam in collaboration with ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow under TSP and NEH Scheme.	12 th March 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	100
9	Farmers-Scientists Interface Meet cum Input Distribution Programme for pig farmers on the under the NEH Scheme of ICAR-IVRI	18-19 th March, 2025,	ICAR-IARI, Assam	30
10	Kisan Mela organized in collaboration with Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad	21 st March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	200
11	Master Trainer Certification Programme on Millet-Based Value-Added Product Development collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad.	17-23 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	18
12	Kisan Mela on Promotion of Minor Millets cultivation in Assam with IIMR, Hyderabad under NEH.	23 th March, 2025,	ICAR-IARI, Assam	400

13	One-week training programme on Millet cultivation and processing organized at ICAR-IARI, Assam in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad NEH	20-26 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	30
14	Field Day-cum-Demonstration on biofertilizer application and organic farming in Collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Microorganisms, Mau, Uttar Pradesh	24 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam (Farm Area)	60
15	Demonstration-cum-Training Programme on Eri Spinning Machine ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component).	24 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	30
16	Awareness cum input distribution programme in collaboration with ICAR-NBAIM, Mau, Uttar Pradesh.	25-26 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	200
17	Farmer scientist interaction program on Promotion of Secondary Agriculture in Assam ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component)	26 th March, 2025	Ghilamara, Lakhimpur.	60
18	Flower Show-cum-Field Day	27 th March 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	-
19	Demonstration on beekeeping and input distribution programme organized at IARI-Assam in collaboration with the ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, Haryana (under the NEH Component)	2 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	7
20	Field visits of a farmer in village Nahor bari, Gogamukh block, cultivating cucurbits.	20 th February 2025	Nahor bari, Gogamukh	1
21	Interstate exposure visit of farmers in collaboration with College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh	13 th March, 2025	ICAR-IARI, Assam	13

AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS, VISITS, OTHER EVENTS

Awards, Honours and Recognitions

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI for received the prestigious N.S. Randhawa Award of



National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS). The award have been conferred during the XVII Agricultural Science Congress-2025 held at Pantnagar.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI selected as Covener, Agricultural section, NASI, Prayagraj, U.P.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI selected as member of National Adaptation Committee, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change, Government of India.

Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research) IARI received the prestigious NAAS recognition award. The award have been conferred during the XVII Agricultural Science Congress-2025 held at Pantnagar.



Two Scientists from IARI Assam Dr. Arpan Bhowmik and Dr. Sunil Mandi Successfully completed the DGCA Approved "Remote Pilot Certificate" course CAT-I(VLOS) Pilot Training under Rotocraft category at



Amtron Drone School Guwahati during 4-8 March, 2025. The training was conducted by M/S Assam Electronics Development Corporation Limited (approved by DGCA). The training was sponsored by Agri Drone Project of IARI Assam which is funded by RKVY through ATARI, Guwahati.

Dr. Rachit Saxena, Keynote speaker in the National Conference on "Nutri-Cereals and Smart-Foods for Transforming Resources, Innovations, and Technology for Optimal Nutritional Security" (NUTRITION 2025). The programme was held at Agriculture University Jodhpur during March 18th–19th, 2025.

Best oral presentation award presented to Dr. Ansheef Ali T.P. for the paper entitled "Targeted Metabolite and Enzyme-eased Rancidity in Pearl Millet Flour: Nutritional Evaluation" at the National Conference on Millets and Forgotten Foods during 21-22 March 2025 at College of Agriculture, CAU, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh.

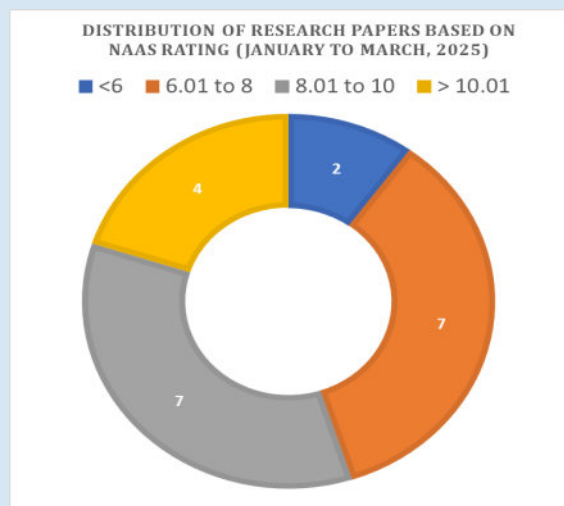
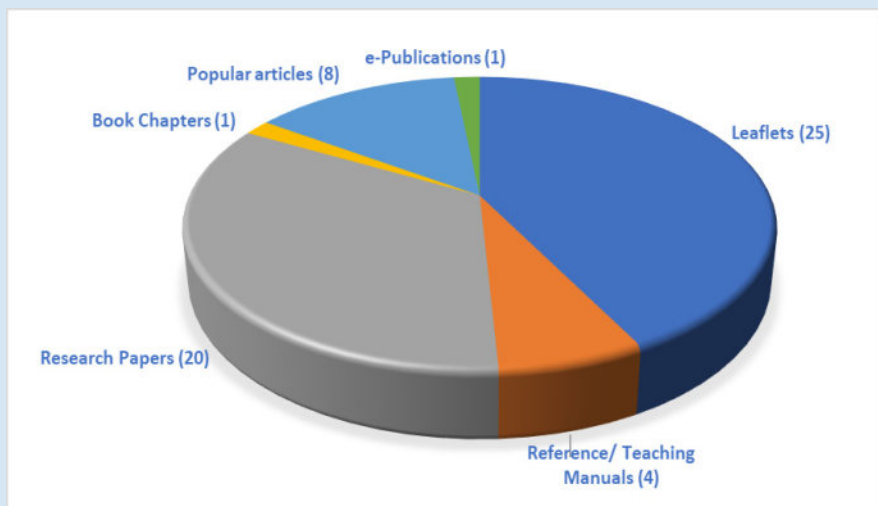
Best oral presentation award presented to P. R. Shashank, Santhosh Naik, Karthik M. Reddy, V. S. Ashiq Poon and Kishore Chandra Sahoo, for the paper entitled "Exploring the Taxonomy of Indian Tortricidae: Past, Present and Future" at the Second International Conference on Biological Control: Biocontrol contributions to one health, organized by Society for Biocontrol Advancement and ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, during 25-28 February 2025 in Bengaluru, India.

Dr. Alemwati Pongener acted as the Chairman of a Technical session during the National Seminar on "Recent Advances and Development in Local Health, Tradition and Biodiversity Research: Challenges and Prospects" organized by North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda and Folk Medicine Research, Pasighat.

Publications with NAAS Rating >10.0

- Shi, X., Wen, M., Dong, Z., Zhang, J., Srivastava, A. K., Moussa, M. G., & Zhang, Y. (2025). Periodicity of Fruit Cracking in Orange Fruit and Integrated Management Intervention. *Plants*, 14(3), 389. (NAAS 2025: 10.0)
- Chaplot, V., Baveye, P., Guenon, R., Le Guyader, E., Minasny, B., & Srivastava, A. K. (2025). Biochars improve agricultural production: The evidence base is limited. *Pedosphere*, 35(1), 295-298. (NAAS 2025: 11.20)
- Sharma, S., Oulkar, D., Pongener, A., Singh, S. K., Pandey, S. D., Nath, V., ... & Banerjee, K. (2025). Determination of α -methylenecyclopropylglycine in Shahi and China litchi cultivars at three different maturity stages: A quantitative study using liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry. *Food Chemistry*, 462, 140971. (NAAS 2025: 14.5)
- Harini, G., Pathak, M. S., Munilkumar, S., Sukhdhane, K. S., Chanu, T. I., Balange, A. K., & Jeena, K. (2025). Unlocking synergies: Enhancing bioremediation, growth, and physiological responses of *Penaeus vannamei* co-cultured with seaweed. *Algal Research*, 85, 103816. (NAAS 2025: 10.6)

Summary of Publications



Meetings and Visits

Visit of Director, IARI

Hon'able director and Vice Chancellor, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao made his maiden visit to IARI-Assam during 25-29th January 2025, along with Dr. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, Joint Director (Research), IARI, New Delhi, Sh. Avesh Yadav, Comptroller, IARI, New Delhi, Dr. D. K. Singh, Chairman Works Committee, IARI, Assam, Dr. Anil Sirohi, Member, Works Committee, Mr. Amit Mittal, Member, Works Committee.

Interaction with the scientists

On the first day of the visit (25th Jan 2025), Hon'able Director interacted with all the scientists and reviewed the progress of different activities including research work. The meeting was also attended by Hon'able Joint Director (Research). Later, the whole team visited the Administrative cum academic building including server room, committee room, library, laboratories, conference room, classrooms, etc. The meeting and the visit was attended by all the scientific, Administration and technical staff of IARI Assam. On

27th January 2025, Hon'ble Director visited the research farm of IARI Assam.

Visit of Ex-DDG (NRM), ICAR

On 13/2/25 Hon'ble Ex-DDG (NRM), ICAR Dr. A. K. Singh interacted with all the staff of IARI Assam during his maiden visit at IARI Assam campus. He highlighted different aspects specially w.r.t North East Region where IARI Assam can play an important role. Dr. A. K. Singh was from the first ARS batch of Scientists.



Visit of Ex-Nodal Officer, IARI Assam

On 27th February, 2025 an Interaction meeting



with Dr. Robin Gogoi, Ex-Nodal Officer, IARI Assam was held in the board room of IARI Assam. All the staff participated in the meeting. At the beginning a gamocha and memento was handed over to him by SIC Dr. L. K.

Baishya as a welcome gesture. Dr. Gogoi highlighted the journey of IARI Assam from the beginning and gave a roadmap for the future.

Participation in Training/Workshop/Conference

TRAINING

Sl No	Title	Mode	Organizer/Venue	Date and Duration
1	ICAR Sponsored Winter School on "Recent advances in food processing technologies for agri-horti produce"(National) Participant: Ansheef Ali	Offline	Division of Post-harvest Technology, IARI, New Delhi	Date: 16 January– 05 February, 2025 Duration: 21 days
2	CAFT training programme on "Multifaceted approach to get the maximum profit in poultry breeding in climate changing area" (National) Participant: Azhaguraja M	Offline	Veterinary College & Research Institute, TANUVAS, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu	Date: 22 January - to 11 February, 2025 Duration: 21 day
3	ICAR Sponsored Winter School training programme on "Milk-derived high value bioactive, Compounds: Agro-industrial prospects, challenges and way forward" (National) Participant: M.B.Chaudhary	Offline	ICAR-NDRI, Karnal	Date: 31 January - to 20 February, 2025 Duration: 21 days
4	ICAR-sponsored winter school on titled "Optimizing Natural Resources through New Age Technologies for Smart Agriculture" (National) Participant: Ch. Jamkhokai Mate, R. Ramesh Babu and Raghavendra H. R.	Offline	ICAR-IARI, Assam	Date: 05-25 February, 2025 Duration: 21 days
5	ICAR sponsored 10 days Short Course on "Advances in Extension Research and Evaluation Studies" (National) Participant: Bhagirath Das	Offline	ICAR- NAARM, Hyderabad	29 January - to 07 February, 2025 Duration: 10 days
6	21 days International Online Training Program on "Advanced Nutritional Strategies for Enhancing Farm Efficiency and Eco-Friendly Poultry, Fish and Animal Production"(National) Participant: Da u ruhi Pde and Bornalee Handique	Online	Organized by the Department of Animal Nutrition, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Kishanganj, Bihar	01-26 March, 2025 Duration: 21 days
7	DGCA Approved "Remote Pilot Certificate" course CAT-I(VLOS) Pilot Training under Rotocraft category (National) Participant: Arpan Bhowmik and Sunil Mandi	Offline	Amtron Drone School, Guwahati	4-8 March, 2025 Duration: 5 days

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR/SYMPOSIA

1	14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (14AFAF) , scheduled to be held from (International) Participant: Da U Ruhi Pde	Offline	NASC, New Delhi	12-15 February, 2025 Duration: 4 days
2	National Conference on “Nutri-Cereals and Smart-Foods for Transforming Resources, Innovations, and Technology for Optimal Nutritional Security” (NUTRITION 2025) (National) Participant: Rachit Saxena	Offline	Agriculture University Jodhpur	18-19 March, 2025 Duration: 2 days
3	National Conference on “Millets And Forgotten Foods: Reviving Traditions For Nutritional Security And Ecological Sustainability In Agriculture” (National) Participant: Bhagirath Das and Ansheef Ali	Offline	College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh	21-22 March, 2025 Duration: 2 days

Paper Presented in Conferences/Seminars/Symposium

- Effect of diet type on digestive enzyme activities and intestinal structure of Himalayan snow trout (*Schizothorax richardsonii*) [Da u ruhi Pde, Manchi Rajesh, Rini Joshi, Bhawna Gehlot, Daiairi Kharjana and Biju Sam Kamalam]. Paper presented in 14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (14AFAF), scheduled to be held from February 12–15, 2025, in NASC, New Delhi, India]
- Following papers were presented in the National Conference on Millets and Forgotten Foods: Reviving Traditions for Nutritional Security and Ecological Sustainability in Agriculture” to be held at 21-22 March, 2025 at College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh
 - Targeted Metabolite and Enzyme-Based Rancidity in Pearl Millet Flour: Nutritional Evaluation [Ansheef Ali TP, Suneha Goswami, RR Kumar, Vinutha T, S P Singh, Shelly Praveen]
 - Assessing Urban Consumers’ Knowledge and Perception of Millets as a Nutri-Health Food [Bhagirath Das, Satyapriya and Poulami Ray]
- Enhancing genetic gains through modernization of crop improvement for attaining nutrition food security [Rachit Saxena]. Paper presented in the National Conference on “Nutri-Cereals and Smart-Foods for Transforming Resources, Innovations, and Technology for Optimal Nutritional Security” (NUTRITION 2025). The programme will be held at Agriculture University Jodhpur during March 18th–19th, 2025.
- Oral presentation of the paper entitled “Exploring the Taxonomy of Indian Tortricidae: Past, Present and Future” at the Second International Conference on Biological Control: Biocontrol contributions to one health, organized by Society for Biocontrol Advancement and ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, during 25-28 February 2025 in Bengaluru, India. P.R. Shashank, Santhosh Naik, Karthik M. Reddy, V. S. Ashiq Poon and Kishore Chandra Sahoo.

Advisory Services**Statistical Advisory:**

Dr. Arpan Bhowmik, advised 1) Dr. Hillol Chakdar, Senior Scientist, NBAIM, Mau on use of Fuzzy c means clustering along with PCA for analysis of data pertaining to microbiological study 2) Dr. Debasish Datta, Principal

Scientist, IARI, New Delhi on the use of ANOVA based on IFS data 3) Dr. Bholanath Saha, Associate Professor, BAU, Kishanganj on the use of ANOVA for his data pertaining to soil science experiments.

Insect Identification Service:

Insect identification service was extended by Kishore Chandra Sahoo, Scientist (Entomology), ICAR-IARI, Assam, to All India Network Project on Vertebrate

Pest Management, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, for about 110 field photographs of insects taken from different Districts of Telangana.

Resource Person in Training Programme/Workshops

Scientist	Name of the Institute/ Organization where served as resource person	Name of the Training/ Workshop Programme	Title of the Talk	Date
Dr. Manish Pandey Dr. Azhaguraja M. Dr. Bornalee Handique	Ajon Trust, Gogamukh	One day awareness camp on Modern Techniques and Technologies in Pig farming	No information available	11-01-2025
Dr. Manish Pandey and Dr. Bornalee Handique	North East Affected Area Development Society	Capacity building training program on livestock care and management at village level	No information available	17-02-2025
Dr. Arpan Bhowmik	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari	ICAR short course titled "Recent Trends in Statistical Techniques for Agricultural Research (RTSTAR)"	Response Surface Methodology for Agricultural Research (Online)	09-01-2025
Dr. Arpan Bhowmik	Division of Food Science & Postharvest Technology, IARI New Delhi	ICAR Sponsored winter school on "Recent advances in food processing technologies for agri-horti produce"	Multivariate Statistics: PCA, Discriminant and Cluster Analysis	16-01-2025 to 05-02-2025
Dr. Arpan Bhowmik	Shroddha FPC, Dinhata	Farmers Mobilization Program cum input Distribution Programme	Millet based Livelihood diversification for sustainable income	18-02-2025
Dr. Alemwati Pongener	ICAR-NRC on Litchi Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Processing and Post-Harvest Value Chain Management in Litchi	Innovative preservation methods in litchi	20-02-2025
Dr. Alemwati Pongener	ICAR-CISH, Lucknow (UP)	Processing and Value-addition of fruits and vegetables: Dehydrated and Beverage products	Processing and Value-addition of fruits and vegetables: Dehydrated and Beverage products	27-02-2025
Dr. Amjad K. Balange	ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai	Analytical tools in sea food quality management and risk assessment (CAFT)	Nutritional Profiling of fish and fishery products	22-01-2025
			Identification of bioactive compounds from fish	23-01-2025
Saroj Kumar Singh	CIFA Bhubaneswar	Module – II Training Program for newly recruited DR Assistants	Reservation in Service	21-02-2025
			Implementation of Reservation Rules for SC/ST/OBC/EWS and PwBD	
			Preparation and Maintenance of reservation roster registers for different mode of recruitment	
Saroj Kumar Singh	CAZRI Jodhpur	Module – II Training Program for newly recruited DR Assistants	Hands on Training on GeM	21-02-2025

Press / Media Coverage

Dhansiri Residential Complex at ICAR-IARI, Assam Inaugurated

28th January 2025, Assam

Dr Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), virtually inaugurated the Dhansiri Residential Complex at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in the esteemed presence of Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-IARI.

In his address, Dr Pathak lauded ICAR-IARI Assam for its rapid development of state-of-the-art facilities and emphasized that the institute was established with the vision of becoming a center of excellence in research, teaching, and extension in Northeast India and neighboring countries. He stressed the importance of students and teachers in shaping the institute's future and expressed confidence that ICAR-IARI Assam would emerge as a leading educational institution in the country.



Livelihood Enhancement Skill Development Programme Organized

12th February 2025, Assam

An awareness-cum-input injection programme for livelihood security of poor and marginal farmers of the northeast region organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research (IIWBR), Karnal, Haryana (NEH Component) on 14th February 2025, under the able guidance and visionary leadership of Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI.

The Chief Guest, Shri Rahul Suresh Javir (District Commissioner, Dhemajai), highlighted key issues such as the promotion of organic farming, the adoption of villages to transform them into model agricultural hubs, and the increased focus on animal husbandry and fishing activities in upper Assam.



Training on Maize Based Farming Systems organised

26th February 2025, Assam

An awareness and input injection programme for the promotion of scientific maize cultivation in farming system mode was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana, Punjab (NEH Component) today, under the guidance and leadership of Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI. The primary objective of this programme was to educate farmers about the implementation of advanced technologies and practices for enhancing maize cultivation.

The Chief Guest, Shri Tanay Jyoti Gogoi, District Agriculture Officer, Dhemajai, highlighted the state's role in improving the livelihood of farmers in Assam and the potential of improved maize varieties in enhancing maize production in this region.



ICAR-Sponsored Winter School Concludes at ICAR-IARI, Assam

25th February 2025, Assam

The first ICAR-sponsored winter school on 'Optimizing Natural Resources through New Age Technologies for Smart Agriculture' concluded on a high note with the valedictory programme organized today at the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam. The event marked the successful completion of the three-week-long training programme, which aimed to equip participants with advanced knowledge and skills to address agricultural challenges through cutting-edge technologies.

The Chief Guest, Prof. Narendranath S. Director, North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), emphasized the importance of such training programmes in uplifting the condition of farmers in the North-East region. He also highlighted the importance of addressing region-specific challenges and climate variability.



Interphase Meeting-cum-Brainstorming Session to Boost Agriculture and Allied Sectors

20th January 2025, Assam

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, in collaboration with NABARD, organized an interphase meeting cum brainstorming session for the promotion of agriculture and the allied sector today at the institute's conference hall. The interphase meeting involved tripartite delegations from ICAR-IARI Assam, NABARD, and the Mishing Autonomous Council (MAC).

Dr L. K. Baishya, SIC, ICAR-IARI Assam, delivered two presentations highlighting the activities and possible opportunities where NABARD can collaborate with ICAR-IARI Assam, especially in the area of natural resource management and the fishery sector. A detailed discussion took place between the delegates.



Farmer-Scientist Interaction and Input Distribution Programme organised

27th January 2025, Assam

A farmer-scientist interaction-cum-input distribution programme was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, under the NEH component ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana, today.

Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, urged IARI-Assam scientists to create an annual training calendar for farmers and stakeholders, including relevant government departments. He encouraged farmers to inspire their children to pursue careers in agricultural research. Dr Rao stressed the importance of providing quality seeds and planting materials in collaboration with both central and state government agencies. He also assured that IARI-Assam would prioritize research in animal and fishery sciences, with plans to develop animal sheds at the research farm. He also highlighted the need for soil health cards, integrated farming for better market linkages, and a focus on entrepreneurship development in areas like mushroom cultivation, apiculture, and seed production.



ICAR-IARI, Assam Organizes Kisan Mela

21st March 2025, Assam

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Assam, Gogomukh, organized Kisan Mela for the promotion of pearl millet cultivation in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad, under the North East component.

The Chief Guest, Dr P. Kamalabai, Director, North East Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Viswanath Chariari, Assam, highlighted different aspects of pearl millet processing for value addition.



ICAR-IARI, Assam Organizes Kisan Mela to promote Small Millet Cultivation in Assam



With theme, March 26, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Gogomukh, Assam, in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad, organized a Kisan Mela for the promotion of Small Millet Cultivation in Assam on March 23, 2025. The event was organized in collaboration with the North East Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Viswanath Chariari, Assam. The event was held in the presence of Dr P. Kamalabai, Director, North East Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Viswanath Chariari, Assam, who highlighted the importance of small millet cultivation in Assam. The event was a great success and was attended by a large number of farmers and officials. The event was held in the presence of Dr P. Kamalabai, Director, North East Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Viswanath Chariari, Assam, who highlighted the importance of small millet cultivation in Assam. The event was a great success and was attended by a large number of farmers and officials.



Staff Position of IARI-Assam



Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
Director
ICARIARI, Assam
director@iari.res.in



Dr. Lohit K. Baishya
Scientist In-Charge and Head
(School of Natural Resources
Management)
lkbicar@gmail.com



Dr. Amjad K. Balange
Head (School of Animal,
Poultry and Fishery Sciences)
balangeamjad@gmail.com



Dr. Anoop K. Srivastava
Principal Scientist
(Soil Science)
aksrivast2007@gmail.com



Dr. S. Manivannan
Principal Scientist
(Land Water Management
Engineering)
smanicar1997@gmail.com



Dr. Deepjyoti Baruah
Principal Scientist
(Aquaculture)
djbaruah11@gmail.com



Dr. Prabhat Pramanik
Principal Scientist
(Soil Science)
prabhat2003@gmail.com



Dr. Rachit K. Saxena
Head (A) (School of Crop
Improvement)
rachit.saxena@icar.gov.in



Dr. Dibyendu Deb
Senior Scientist
(Agricultural Statistics)
debiasi@gmail.com



Dr. Arpan Bhowmik
Senior Scientist
(Agricultural Statistics)
arpan.stat@gmail.com



Dr. Alemwati Pongener
Scientist
(Fruit Science)
alemwati@gmail.com



Dr. Sunil Mandi
Scientist
(Agronomy)
mandi.sunil@gmail.com



Dr. Ch. Jamkhokai Mate
Scientist
(Agricultural Chemicals)
kakajian@gmail.com



Dr. Arunjoyti Baruah
Scientist
(Fish Health)
aruncau2013@gmail.com



Dr. Palmei Gaibimei
Scientist
(Agricultural Structure and
Process Engineering)
gaibimeipalmei@gmail.com



Dr. Azhagurajam M.
Scientist
(Poultry Science)
azhagurajamano@gmail.com



Mr. Bhagirath Das
Scientist
(Agricultural Extension)
bhagirath.ext@gmail.com



Dr. Sumalatha A.
Scientist (Floriculture and
Landscaping)
sumalatha6701@gmail.com



Mr. Umakanta Dash
Scientist
(Agroforestry)
dashumakanta114@gmail.com



Mr. Da U Ruhi Pde
Scientist
(Fish Nutrition)
dauruhipde@gmail.com



Dr. M. B. Chaudhary
Scientist
(Dairy Technology)
madhav.chaudhary5@gmail.com



Dr. Bornalee Handique
Scientist
(Animal Nutrition)
bornalee16@gmail.com



Mr. Machanuru Raviteja
Scientist
(Environmental Science)
RAVICOOL967@gmail.com



Dr. Ravi Bhushan Prasad
Scientist (Seed Science and
Technology)
bhushanravi72@gmail.com



Mr. Raghavendra H.R.
Scientist
(Fruit Science)
raghuhori53@gmail.com



Mr. Sunny Arya
Scientist
(Agricultural Physics)
sunnyaryasingh@gmail.com



Dr. Abhijith K. P.
Scientist
(Genetics and Plant Breeding)
abhijithkpgen@gmail.com



Dr. Manish Pandey
Scientist (Livestock
Production Management)
manish110222@gmail.com



Dr. Ansheef Ali T.P.
Scientist
(Plant Biochemistry)
ansheefali47@gmail.com



Dr. R. Ramesh Babu
Scientist
(Vegetable Science)
raihod.ramesh89@gmail.com



Mr. Akshay Kumar H.M.
Scientist
(Plant Pathology)
akshaykumar1997@gmail.com



Mr. Kishore C. Sahoo
Scientist
(Agricultural Entomology)
kcsahoo1996@gmail.com



Dr. Mythra
Scientist
(Agricultural Microbiology)
mythraj2@gmail.com



Mr. Saroj Kumar Singh
CAO
sk.singh@icar.gov.in



Mr. Prasant Kumar
Comptroller (In-Charge)
prashant.kumar@icar.gov.in



Mr. Jitender Singh Gaithe
AAO
jitendergaithe7@gmail.com



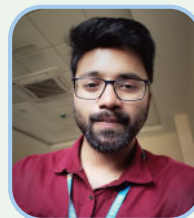
Mr. Sushant Kumar
Technician (T1)
sushantkp73@gmail.com



Mr. Sanjay Kumar
Technician (T1)
snjkr92@gmail.com



Mr. Dipanjan Panda
Technician (T1)
dipanjanpanda1997@gmail.com



Mr. Kishan Singha Ray
Technician (T1)
krk38076@gmail.com



Mr. Chandan Maji
Technician (T1)
majichandan1993@gmail.com

From the Editors

The year 2025 has been a landmark in the journey of ICAR-IARI, Assam, marked by significant strides in infrastructure development, academic excellence and outreach initiatives. The virtual inauguration of the Dhansiri Residential Complex by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) in the gracious presence of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor, IARI, symbolized a new chapter in campus development and institutional growth. From organizing the first ICAR-sponsored Winter School to impactful farmer-scientist interactions, the institute has demonstrated its commitment to advancing agricultural innovation and community empowerment in the Northeast region. We take immense pride in celebrating the achievements of our students, particularly Ms. Sneha Bharadwaj who received the Best M.Sc. Student Award at the 63rd IARI Convocation, and Md. Safvan a winner of the NAAS YUVA infographic competition. As we continue to nurture talent and promote excellence, this newsletter captures the vibrant endeavours and collective spirit that define ICAR-IARI, Assam.

Compiled and Edited By: Dr. Arpan Bhowmik
Mr. Kishore Chandra Sahoo
Dr. Abhijith K. P.
Dr. Azhaguraja M
Dr. Lohit Kumar Baishya
Dr. A. K. Balange

Technical Assistance: Mr. Chandan Maji

Published by: Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Dirpai Chapori, Gogamukh, Dhemaji, Assam-787035

