

Training of Master Trainers and Progressive Farmers on "Enhancement of Rapeseed-Mustard Production in Assam" during 2022-23

In order to maximize the mustard production in Assam, there is a need that extension personnel and ultimately farmers must know what is happening in the research fields at all times.

The OPIU-Agriculture, Directorate of Agriculture, Assam in collaboration with ICAR-Directorate of Rapeseed-Mustard Research, Bharatpur, Rajasthan organized four training programmes of 2 days each (2 Master Trainers Training and 2 Farmers Training programmes) under ICAR-DRMR-APART project of mustard value chain programme. These trainings were Master trainers and farmers were organized simultaneously in two batches, one at Guwahati and other at Jorhat districts for better understanding of farmers with Master Trainers. The training programmes were organized on "**Enhancement of Rapeseed-Mustard Production in Assam**".

First batch of two days Masters Trainers and farmers training programme was organized during 13-14 October, 2022 at Krishi Niwas, DoA, Khanapara, Guwahati and Second batch was organized during 17-18 October, 2022 at Dhansiri Farmers Hostel, AAU, Jorhat.

At the outset of the training programme, Sh. Madhuram Patiri, Nodal Officer-Agri (APART) said that ICAR-DRMR is working with the Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Assam on the mustard value chains for augmenting rapeseed-mustard production of farmers of Assam for sustainable livelihood security. He said that expansion of the mustard crop in rice-fallow areas will help in increase production, because rapeseed-mustard is capable of growing under diverse agro-climatic zones.

Team Leader of ICAR-DRMR and Agri (APART) project & Principal Scientist, ICAR-DRMR, Dr. Ashok Kumar Sharma said that the capacity development of extension functionaries and farmers of Assam in scientific technology of rapeseed-mustard will amplify the rapeseed-mustard technology dissemination process and ultimately will lead to enhancement of area and production of rapeseed-mustard in the state. He said that Govt of Assam is emphasizing for expansion of mustard area in Assam in a big way to make the state self-sufficient in oilseed production. There is a need for better coordination among all agencies working for this mission to make the programme successful.

Dr. G.N. Hazarika, Resident Consultant, ICAR-DRMR-APART project said ICAR-DRMR is supporting to conduct the large scale demonstrations, technical trainings and capacity building of stakeholders to develop the confidence of the farmers so that they can adopt the crop in large area with scientific intervention and increase the productivity of mustard. He said that seeds of suitable varieties of toria and mustard has been sent to all respective districts. Department personnel should ensure for timely distribution of all inputs to the beneficiary farmers. He elaborated the importance of the project and activities to be carried out to motivate the farmers for adoption of new technologies.

Dr. P. K. Mohanta, Agri Advisor, APART said that rapeseed-mustard is important crop for Assam. The vast availability of natural resources and fertile lands offering ample scope to promote oilseed cultivation in Assam. He said that selection of right beneficiary farmers is the most important aspect for success of the crop demonstrations.

The other experts namely Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Pr. Scientist; Dr. Arun Kumar, Pr. Scientist and Dr. Harvir Singh, scientist from ICAR-DRMR, Bharatpur delivered lectures as resource persons. The training programme covered all aspects of technology interventions that contribute for higher production of rapeseed-mustard like improved varieties, agronomic practices of rapeseed-mustard, seed treatment, soil treatment, line sowing, plant geometry, irrigation management, balanced use of fertilizers, identification of pest and diseases and their management, quality oil extraction, seed production techniques, harvesting, threshing and storage management, methodology of conducting demonstrations, importance of weather parameters, etc.

On the occasion, two technical folders on “**Integrated nutrient management of rapeseed-mustard in Assam**” and “**Post-harvest management in rapeseed-mustard cultivation**” were also released by chief guests and other dignitaries.

a total of 50 extension personnel and 60 farmers participated in these training programmes as per details in Table 1 and 2.

Table 1: Summary of Master Training Programme organized by ICAR-DRMR

SN	Activity	Target (No.)	Achieved (No.)	Beneficiaries (No.)	Districts covered (No.)
1	Masters' Trainers Training Programme	02	02	50	15 (Darrang, Dhubri, Barpeta, Nalbari, Kamrup, Bongaigaom, Morigaom, Kokrajhar, Nagoan, Sonitpur, Golaghat, Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Sivasagar and Dhemaji districts of Assam)

Table 2: Summary of farmers training programme organized by ICAR-DRMR

SN	Activity	Target (No.)	Achieved (No.)	Beneficiaries (No.)	Beneficiaries (No.)						Total
					Gender		Social Category				
					Male	Female	Gen	OBC	SC	ST	
1	Progressive farmers training	02	02	60	59	01	23	16	08	13	60

Glimpses of Training programmes of Master Trainers and Farmers organized during 13-14 October, 2022 at Krishi Niwas, DoA, Khanapara, Guwahati



Glimpses of Training programmes of Master Trainers and Farmers organized 17-18 October, 2022 at Dhansiri Farmers Hostel, AAU, Jorhat

