

WORKSHOP WING

Workshop wing dealing with agricultural farm implements are the major aspect of the institute for providing technical support to the farms and farmers of the area. The wing is being run by the technically qualified personnel and having equipments like tractors with trolley, power tillers, pump sets, manual transplanter, drum seeders, power reapers etc. Services like tillage at farm and farmers' field, trolley services in the farmers' field, demonstration of different farm implements during training etc. are available in this wing. Popularisation of farm mechanisation and implementation of mechanized services are the major objectives of this wing. The major services rendered by this wing are:

- i) Imparting training
- ii) Tillage by tractors by farmers' field
- iii) Tillage by power tiller by farmers' field
- iv) Trolley service at farmers' field
- v) Demonstration, trial, improvisation of new agricultural implements and mechanises for better adoption in farmers' field.

One of the major tasks of this wing is to impart training for the farmers' sons to make them skilled with the running and maintenance of agricultural machinery like tractor, power tiller, pump set etc. Two 5-days residential training on i) operation & maintenance of pump set and ii) operation & maintenance of farm implements for the farm labours and rural youths from Aug 16-21, 10 and Aug 23-27, 10 respectively covering 32 trainees were conducted. Besides five 1 day training on 'Use of Farm Machinery' for the KPS trainees was also supported.

Services of agricultural implements like tractor, power tiller and trolley are extended to the farming community of adjacent Narendrapur community to increase the agricultural production of the area and to disseminate the mechanized farm practices. A status of the service provided during last one is given below.

Sl.No.	Services	Hours	No. of farmers availed the facility
01	Tillage by tractor	17½ hrs. 30 mts.	65
02	Tillage by power tiller	511 hrs. 30 mts.	236
03	Trolley service	18½ hrs. 30 mts.	033
04	No. of training supported	2 types	50 No. of trainees
05	Farm implements / machinery demonstrated	Power reaper, manual transplanter, drum seeder	271

“The Man who works for others, without any selfish motive, really does good to himself.”

—Sri Ramakrishna Dev

EXPERIMENT - TRIAL - DEMONSTRATION

The Ashrama, under supervision of the institutes, possessed agricultural farms for demonstrations, trial etc. Three of them are inside the campus where as the other is in Arapanah area (about 10 km from the institute campus). In one hand all these farms are used as a training plots for practical work experience of the trainees. on the other hand, the farms are also used for different purpose like different trial and demonstrations, quality seeds production technology preservation of traditional and improved varieties of rice, practical of different trainings like bio-intensive farming, use of modern farm implements, protective agriculture, horticultural practices etc. Experiences gained from the demonstration farm are continuously used in different training and fields of the farmers. The major activities of the wing are:

- i) Practical work for different training
- ii) Different experiment, trial and demonstration
- iii) Quality seed production technology
- iv) Maintenance of rice germplasm

- The farm is extensively used for the practical purpose of different training like raising of quality seedbed for transplanted rice, raising of special seedbed for SRI, transplanting through manual transplanter, rouging of weeds and off varieties in quality seed production, sweeping of net for sampling and survey of pest population. Line sowing of pulses using seed drill, weeding with the help of wheel hoe, use of power reaper, and its cost effectiveness, land preparation methodology for SRI and drumseeder, marking land for SRI, sowing germinated seed in drumseeder etc.
- Different types of demonstration/trial etc. are conducted in the farm with the purpose of making different technologies popular, building confidence among the farmers about the process of implementation and searching options of some possible technologies in the present climato-ecological condition.
- Demonstration of SRI was done in kharif season in about one acre of land, while demonstration of drum seeder was done in pre-kharif season in about two bighas of land. with the varieties WGI-20471, and HET-4/86 respectively encouraging results were found in both the cases. The SRI showed 4.0 ton/hae, while drum seeder produced 4.7 ton/hae in comparison to 4.2 ton/hae and 4 ton/hae respectively by traditionally transplanting method.



“I tell you one thing - if you want peace of mind, don not fault with others.”

— Sarada Devi

- The white sesamum (variety Gujrati til-II) is comparatively a new crop in this area and is now used for diversification of crops. The productivity is found higher (1.123 ton/ha) than brown/black one (0.75 ton/ha) and market price is considerably higher. The crop was in demonstration in about two acre of land during summer season.
- Line sowing of moong was demonstrated in about 2.5 acre of land. The seed rate is considerably lower, plant population is good. It significantly facilitates the cultural operation, particularly pest population.
- Rice, mustard, moong are in trial to observe the effect of use of bio – ingredien. like 'Panchagavya', 'Sashyagavya', 'Amrit pani' etc. which are actually referred in 'Vrikshyurveda'. After two years the yields are found almost equal with fertilized one.
- A trial cum demonstration on cultivation of winter vegetables, particularly new and non-traditional types of vegetables was done on a land of 2 acres. Nineteen different winter vegetables including broccoli, pakchoi, lettuce, celery, red cabbage, china cabbage, zucchini, beans besides cabbage, cauliflower, beet, carrot, coriander, etc. traditional winter vegetable were successfully grown. The new vegetables created lot of interest among the farmers.
- To meet the scarcity of quality seed in West Bengal, production of quality seed of crops, particularly the food grain was taken in the farm land, of the Ashrama, in collaboration with the West Bengal State Seed Certifying Agency. Quality seed (foundation, certified and certified II) of rice, moong, mustard, sesamum, lathyrus, etc. were produced for the farmers in about 20 acres of land.
- Traditional varieties are becoming very important to the scientist, development worker and so to the farmers day by day, as many of them are on the way of extinction. After the natural disaster 'Aila', the importance of local varieties felt tremendously. The institute, at present maintaining the rice germplasm of the varieties Subhasita, Nonakathi, Jhuli, Kalonuria, Tulsi mukul, Narayan Kamini, Kuturo Gaor, Dudheshwar, Dudhe mirelhi, Birpana, Nangolmora, Gitanjali, Kabirajsai, Narkelchop, Kalojira, Kapur (ant), Banya Rani, Manipur Binni-1, Manipur Binni-2, Kerala Sundari, Komol, Gopal Bhog.



“You can't cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water.”

— Rabindranath Tagore

SOIL TESTING LABORATORY

For better production, testing of soil is nowadays is not unknown to the progressive farmers. Testing of soil provides an opportunity to the farmer to have a clear idea about the fertility level of the tested land and the status of plant nutrient elements. The institute has a modern soil testing laboratory, providing service to the farming community to know their soil quality. Testing of soil covers – pH of soil, electrical conductivity, organic carbon, available phosphorus and potassium. This laboratory has been functioning well under the guidance of soil scientist of the institute. More than 15000 soil samples have been tested in the last two decades. Besides testing of soil quality and recommendation of soil health management for crop production, continuous efforts are being made to make the farmers aware about the importance of soil testing. The institute has built up partnership with other sectors like, SREI, –SAHAJ, Tata-chemicals, ITCO etc. During reporting period 196 soil samples have been tested and recommended.

An innovative approach has been taken up to decentralize the soil testing services among the farmers with the support of Dept. of Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal. Five NGOs have been selected from the district of Purba Medinipur, South 24 Parganas and Paschim Medinipur, who have some sorts of facility of water testing etc. These NGOs are being provided with additional supports in terms of equipments, skill etc. which may fulfill the purpose of a field soil testing laboratory. One selected persons are being trained on basics of chemistry, knowledge and practices on different equipments related to soil testing, process of soil testing etc. The project is in its initial stage now.



“The brain and muscles must develop simultaneously. Iron nerves with an intelligent brain — and the whole world is at your feet.”

— Swami Vivekananda

ANIMAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Animal husbandry is one of the prime sources of livelihood from the beginning of human civilization. Presently, Indian livestock sector contributes to 8 percent of GDP. It is the source of income generation for many rural people including farmers, small entrepreneurs, unemployed youth, SHGs etc. Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narandrapur under the banner of 'Gram Sevak Training Centre', currently known as 'Agricultural Training Centre' has been serving the rural communities since last five decades.

The animal husbandry unit with the appropriate and efficient technical support of the Agricultural Training Centre is maintaining a dairy and poultry unit for fruitful training, demonstration etc. for different levels of clients, like farmers, extension workers, managers etc. The Dairy unit includes about 140 animals of four different breed including pure breed of Gir. The poultry unit maintains 500 birds.

Different activities performed by the unit are:

- Organising training for farmers, rural entrepreneur, women groups for income generation activities
- Organising training for the extension workers of both Government and others for the knowledge, skill and attitude development towards better services.
- Demonstration on management of dairy farm, poultry farm etc.
- Demonstration on quality fodder cultivation
- Distribution of fodder cuttings, seeds etc. among the farmers
- Diagnostic support of animals to the farm families
- Organizing animal immunization camp in rural areas
- Mobilisation of women groups for animal rearing for income generation
- Demonstration on dairy-link technology like bio-gas plant, vermicomposting etc.
- Supporting artificial insemination for breed up-gradation of cows.

Last year the unit organized 7 training courses for the farmers, entrepreneurs, women groups and also 17 training course for the extension functionaries. Totally 1435 clients participated in 8 types (24 numbers) of courses like '3 Days Pranibandhu Refresher training', '15 Days Animal Husbandry training', '3 Days orientation on ARD extension' etc. Internship of the final year students of West Bengal University of Fishery and Animal Sciences mainly on the aspects on management of animal husbandry farm was also a part of activities.



*"The tree laden with fruits always bends low.
If you wish to be great, be lowly and meek"*

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev



The Unit use to organize demonstration of cultivation of fodder in about six acre of land throughout the year. Hybrid Napier is one of the fodders, well accepted by the farmers after successful demonstration by the unit. Last year one acre of land produced about 200 tons of hybrid napier through six cuttings. The protein rich leguminous fodder, barseem, was also demonstrated during winter season in about 2.5 acre of land and resulted very good production (20 tons per acre) with four cuttings. Beside these, other fodders like maize, oat, lucern, cowpea etc. were also demonstrated in small plots. During the

year more than 18,500 sets of hybrid napier, 700 sets of para grass, 20 kgs of barseem seed, 20 kgs of Oat seed and 20 kgs of cowpea seed were distributed among the farmers.

Regular visits of the farmers with their problems in animal rearing or for information for betterment use to happen on routine basis. Most of the problems are related to the different disease of the animals. Based on the experience, some specific diseases for the area are considered and immunization supports are provided to the farmers. During the reporting period about 20,900 animals are immunized details of which are given in the table.

In many cases diagnostic supports are provided by testing cattle blood, cow dung, milk etc. During the period, 1669 such sample were tested for different diagnosis.

At present for better productivity, breed up-gradation is a programme supported by the unit. During the period 1,724 cows are artificially inseminated by the technical experts. About 70 percent success rate was observed.

The farmers and other visitors to the animal husbandry unit are now attracted to the demonstration of vermicomposting. One demonstration unit with different model is in practice to support the farmers to receive the idea and to take decision about the model within their access.

Immunisation Particular	Number of animals
Pigeon Pox	800
Foot and Mouth Disease of Cow	300
Anthrax = cow	150
BLACK Quarter = cow	400
IBR (Ranikhet Disease) to Poultry	1100
R2B (Ranikhet Disease) to Poultry	7600
Duck Plague = Duck	100
Hemorrhagic septicemia = Cow	450
TOTAL	20,900

Particular of Diagnosis	Number of Animals
Mastitis test = Cow milk	575
Cattle blood Examination	284
Cow dung Examination	510
Milk Test for Fat & SNF	150
Tuberculin Test	70
Jonin Test	70
Total	1659

“Finish the few duties you have at hand, and then you will have peace.”

— Sri Ramakrishna Dev

ANNUAL CELEBRATION-EXHIBITION : 2011

The 44th Annual Celebration of Agricultural Training Centre along with Lokasiksha Parishad of the Ashrama was held during 19-23rd January, 2011. Swami Supramanda, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur inaugurated the Celebration. On that occasion Sri Subhas Naskar, Hon'ble Minister of Irrigation and Water ways, Govt. of West Bengal acted as the Chief Guest of the Seminar on '*Role of voluntary organisation in rural development*'.

The progressive farmers, majority of them had training from the ATC, Narendrapur displayed their vegetables and fruits grown by them. In this vegetable and fruit show, 161 farmers from the neighbouring districts displayed their agricultural produces. The farmers displayed about 36 different types of vegetables and 15 different types of fruits in the show.

Exhibition on "Time appropriate Agricultural Technology"

An exhibition was organized on '*Time-appropriate Agricultural Technology*' through posters, models, live samples and demonstration. In this exhibition the technologies highlighted are-

Rice cultivation technology: Drum seeder and SRI rice technology with key feature of the technologies, comparisons of cost-benefit with traditional practices along with display of drum seeder machine and live demonstration on SRI.

Value addition to the raw agri-horticultural produce to get remunerative price: Information through poster containing the economic benefit of processed product (rice instead of paddy/ mango pickle or jelly instead of green mango etc.); easy method of processing etc.

Protected cultivation with efficient use of water: Mainly the poly house culture with information on efficiency of poly house culture, drip and sprinkler irrigation along with standard size model haying crops.

Mushroom cultivation: Key features along with income and expenditure in the process along with live samples.

Vermicomposting: Process, low cost technology along with standard size vermin-pit demonstration.



"Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind."

— Albert Einstein



Up gradation and diversification of breed in animal resource development sector: Information on artificial information of cow, income expenditure information: rearing of cool bird with economics along with model and live samples (cool birds in rearing cage).

Modern efficient Machineries: Key information like tentative price, efficiency and place of availability along with the machines like: drum seeder, cone paddy weeder, manual paddy transplanter, direct paddy sowing machine in dry condition, power paddy reaper etc.

Besides the exhibition on agriculture, exhibitions by the students of Vivekananda University on bio-technology and rural development aspects: display on Environment and Forest Management; Mother and child development, Sanitation and safe drinking water, Commercial arts etc. were also organized.

More than 70 stalls by different SHG groups was also point of attraction. A good number of stalls were on dealing with scented rice, Nolen Gur, processed honey, processed food products like jam, jelly, pickle, 'bori made of pulse paste' by different agricultural groups.

On 20th January the ex-trainees of the ATC joined their Reunion function. Swami Suparnanandaji Maharaj, Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur, chaired the function. Sri Sarnak Barma, Director of Agriculture addressed the ex-trainees as Chief guest. Sri Sibbrata Ghatak, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal and Swami Sannibuddhanandaji Maharaj, Principal, Santaj Sevak Siksana Mandir, Belur were present as Special guest. At the last of his speech, Swami Suparnanandaji talked on the 'Balance sheet of everybody's life'



“On this basis—being right and doing right—the whole world can unite.”

— Swami Vivekananda

and appealed all to create the attitude for giving and not for taking only.

On the same day at afternoon time from 2.00 clock a Seminar was arranged on *'Problem and prospects of agricultural marketing and export in West Bengal'*.

Dr. Pijush kanti Pramanik, Director of Horticulture acted as Chief guest and kept a presentation on the topic *'West Bengal Horticulture: Scope of marketing and export of horti-produces'*. Sri A.K. Das, Senior Assistant Director, National Horticulture Board, Govt. of India delivered a speech on *'Process of quality-agri-produce marketing and export and the trends in West Bengal'*. The important



aspects of the seminar was presentation of experience of an exporter, Sri Bablu Biswas, who is at present exporting the tube rose to Netherlands.

At late afternoon the farmers, who scored high for their quality produces were encouraged with some prizes. Sri Jayanta Kumar Basu, Additional Director of Agriculture (Administration) and Chief guest of the Prize distribution Ceremony, encouraged the farmers for coming in to advanced agriculture. Dr. Ajoy Kar, Management professional and Sri Asish Lahiri, Deputy Director of Agriculture (Administration), South 24 Parganas were also present as Special guest of the ceremony. Totally 153 different prizes were given to the farmers.

In the Celebrations other discussion like *'Role of voluntary organizations in economic development of rural areas'*, *'Child-friendly education in rural areas'* etc. were organized on different dates. Cultural functions focusing the rural artists and rural culture in everyday evening entertained many people. Approximately 35,000 people including farmers, rural youths, agriculturist, entrepreneurs, school children etc. joined the celebrations.

Men are more valuable than all the wealth' of the world

— Anonymous

EVALUATION

Every organization or institution has its overall goal and so the objectives to fulfill that goal. Towards achieving those objectives the organizations formulate and conduct different activities. The end is not here. It is also the part of the activities to look return and evaluate how much the organization has performed and to what degree those activities have fulfilled the objectives. Evaluation thus is one of the most important parts of activities along with planning and implementation. This evaluation is also helpful in further planning. The reasons of the shortcomings are revealed during evaluation process and measures to cover those shortcomings are considered during further planning.

The SAMBTI/ATC use to conduct number of training programmes, seminars, workshops throughout the year on the basis of the needs of the clients. For such activities, ATC/SAMBTI has identified their clients in three categories, viz. (1) the End-users i.e. farmers etc.; the (2) Grass root Level Extension Workers and the (3) Block or District level Planner, Decision makers, Master trainers etc.

On the basis of the utility of three types of evaluations, viz. Mid-term evaluation, End Evaluation and Impact Evaluation, all are applied to the programmes of ATC/SAMBTI.

MID-TERM EVALUATION

The main objective of the Mid-term evaluation is to find the gap or the scope of betterment or adjustment, so that those can be made up within the rest of the time of the programme.

As the duration of the programmes are short in nature (majority 2 days – 7 days), there is little scope of the Mid-term evaluation. But the purpose of the mid-term evaluation is fulfilled through the regular monitoring process and its follow up. There were few instances of deviations revealed by this process and that was mainly related to turning up of the targeted number of trainees and some time resource person. Generally for both this parts continuous follow up is made well ahead of the programme. In most of the programmes turning up of 80 percent trainees occurred on usual basis. But in about 40 percent cases, turning up of the rest 20 percent trainees is found to be a matter of continuous follow up.

In some cases gaps were found in reading materials support, specially in case of outside resource persons. Some time requests have been made from the trainees group, specially in case of block or district level officers, to provide the presentations of the resource persons in soft forms. All those gaps were identified due to the close monitoring and steps had been taken accordingly.

EVENT-END EVALUATION

In general the objective of the ‘Event-end Evaluation’ are- (1) to have an idea about how far the subject/subjects understood by the clients and also (2) to understand how much confidence the trainees gained to implement the subject while returning to the original place. Besides, some other important aspects like – what are the supports needed for further development etc.

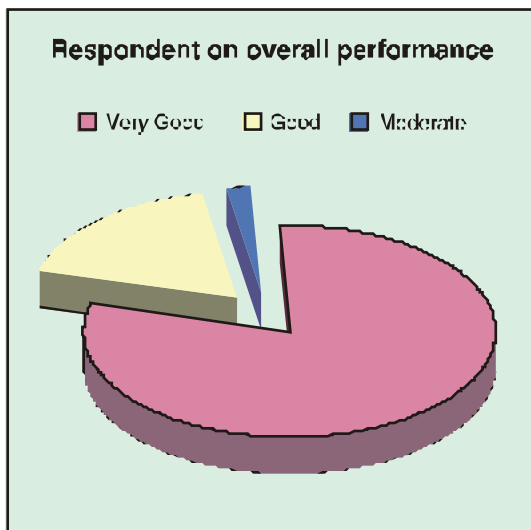
“The brain and muscles must develop simultaneously. Iron nerves with an intelligent brain — and the whole world is at your feet.”

— Swami Vivekananda

The Event-end Evaluation was made in case of the most of the training programmes. Generally these evaluations were made with an exclusive session for evaluation of the training through structured questionnaires or oral reaction. This structured questionnaire varies on the basis of target group and sometime also on the basis of the content of the training. Evaluated sheets of different training courses are drawn on random basis. The answers with usable information are tabulated, analysed and interpreted.

Category: End Users like Farmers etc.

Out of 19 total respondents, 88 percent said that the overall performance of the training courses was very good, while 10 percent said good and two percent opined that it was of moderate standard.



In case of 5-day module Farmers Training, there are 14 different areas covering almost all aspects of integrated farming system approach. The four subjects understood nicely by the farmers are- Composting including vermicomposting (96% farmer), Cultivation of papaya, banana and lime (90%), Homestead animal rearing (80%) and Integrated Pest Management (80%). The minimum score for nicely understanding any subject is 52 percent.

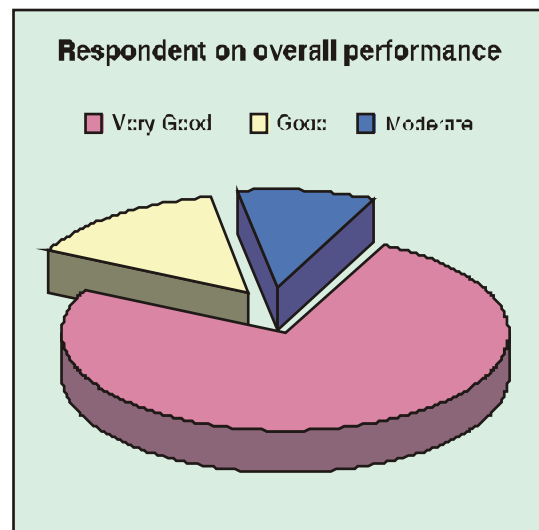
Again when evaluated which subject can be nicely implemented, while returning to their home, the three answers with maximum frequency are- Homestead animal rearing (84% farmer), Composting including vermicomposting (82%) and Cultivation of papaya, banana and lime (80%). The lowest score with very good confidence to implement a subject was 52 percent.

When the group was asked about what the other subjects need to be incorporated for their support, the most prominent four suggestions came- Fishery (32%), Apiary (22%), Jam, jelly, pickle preparation (18%) and Mushroom (15%).

Grass root level Extension Worker

Among 51 randomly drawn evaluation sheet tabulated, the interpretation came- 75 percent of the respondents think that the overall performance of the training was 'Very Good', while 15 percent scored as 'Good' and rest 10 percent as 'Moderate'.

In case of the training of 'Jeebika Sevak', the grass root level extension worker of the Dept. of Panchayat and Rural Development, about 80 percent opined that they are now well aware about the schemes and activities related to Agriculture,



“Do not let worldly thoughts and anxieties disturb your mind.”

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

Animal husbandry and Planning about livelihood development of rural people. In continuation of above expression, 82 percent desired to have more practical on vermicomposting and have some skill about computer related communications.

The block and district level extension functionaries of Agriculture and allied sectors gave suggestions at the end of training. About 26 percent of the total trainees felt that there is further scope of improvement in food and lodging facilities, while 15 percent suggested that TV is required at hostel.

IMPACT EVALUATION

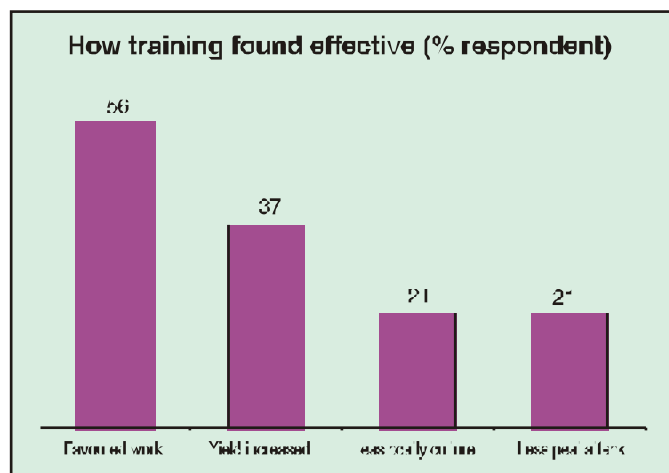
In case of Impact Evaluation, the trainees are contacted through telephonic conversation, letter or direct contact after at least one year of their training with some structured questionnaire with the main objective to understand whether the training found effective in any way, how far it is effective and in which way. Some other important aspects in this regard like- what are the bottlenecks in the process of implementation and what are the suggestions to overcome.

End-Users

For impact evaluation of the End users, 97 cases have been contacted. About 85 percent of them opined that the training effectively support them in application of technology.

Out of the total trainees evaluated, 77 percent told the training increased their knowledge.

About 56 percent said that the training favoured their present work. About 37 percent respondent said that their yield increased out of the learning from the training, while 21 percent said that they could make the cultivation process less costly. About 21 percent trainees said that the pest and disease attack in crop was also less as an impact of the training.



About 75 percent of the trainees said that net income increased due to the good effect of the training, which is one of the most important aspects of impacts.

While seeking the dissemination impact of the technology etc. through the trained persons, it has been revealed that neighbor-farmers are receiving supports from 70 percent of the trained farmers.

The farmers expressed the support for future betterment of their present activities. About 65 percent farmers expressed higher or upgraded or specific item-wise training for their betterment. About 28 percent expressed need for monetary support, while 41 percent opined for exposure visit and 36 percent are in need of continuous advice at their present activity.

“Be as devoid of vanity as the cast away leaf carried by the high wind.”

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

Grass root level Extension workers

The Krishi Prayukti Sahayak, the Jeebika Sevak, the Horticultural Field Consultant, the Krishak Mitra, the Prani Bandhu etc. are in this category.

Cent percent of the sampled respondents opined that the training was effective for them. Among them 53 percent said very effective and 47 percent said moderately effective.

Among the respondents, about 59 percent think that the training importantly supported them in better advocacy to the farmers, 41 percent said it supported their departmental work, 14 percent said that the training increased their confidence about technology and another 41 percent thinks that the training has increased their knowledge.

While expressing about support for further betterment of their present activities, 82 percent desired for upgraded training, 27 percent for exposure visit and about 9 percent are in need of continuous advice from respective authority.

As a part of the impact evaluation, the main constraints of different level of trainees are also expected as one of the outcome.

The three main constraints/difficulties towards betterment expressed by the farmers and other end-users are—lack of financial support/subsidies/easy loan etc. (55%); Lack of quality seed and supply of seed in time (40%) and Lack of irrigation water (25%). Other frequent issues for betterment are: non-availability of inputs like (mushroom spawn, quality earthworm), lack of local advice and non-productivity of soil.

The Grass root level extension workers marked their constraints towards applying their trained conditions are—time scarcity (40%), engagement in other than main technical work or field work (30%), improper quality of inputs supply (e.g. bio-pesticide, seeds) and lack of self-motivation of farmers (40%).

The three main constraints of block or district level extension workers in doing betterment through application of training-induced knowledge are — lack of manpower (40%), lack of proper infrastructure (35%), lack of clear support of Govt. policy (e.g. marketing) (30%). The other major issues are lack of proper awareness among the officer about the burning issues (e.g. PPP), lack of motivated and skilled manpower etc.

Special Evaluation on the course ‘3-months training of Farmers Sons on operation, running, and maintenance of agricultural implements’

The institute has been conducting a regular course for the sons of the farmers on ‘Operation, Running and Maintenance of Agricultural Implements’ for many years. The main intension of the Govt. towards running this 3-month course are—

1. To engage the unemployed youths of the farm families effectively and productively in agricultural activities.
2. To meet the scarcity of technical person related to operation and maintenance of agricultural implements and machineries in rural areas.
3. To create employment within the village along with services based on agricultural implements and machineries.
4. To promote Farm mechanization.

“Do not afraid; the Master is behind you, and I am, too, as your Mother”

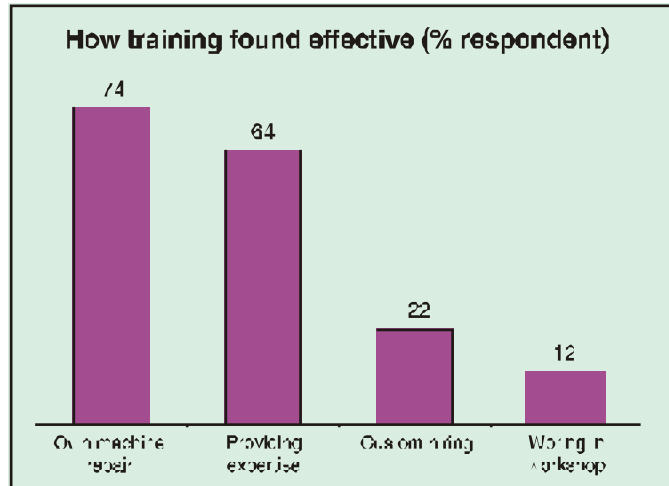
— Sarada Devi

The overall objective of the training on behalf of the training centre is –

—To equip the youths of the farm families with the knowledge and skill of operation, running and maintenance of different agricultural implements, machineries etc.

A special effort was made to evaluate the effectivity of the course during 2010-11 for the batches of last 2 years. A questionnaire was prepared and sent by post to all the 143 trained persons. Out of them, 63 responded by sending their answers. After tabulation and analysis, the following interpretations have been made.

1. Cent percent of them opined that the training has fruitful implication on them.
2. About 90 percent of the trained youth make themselves engaged with the use of agricultural implements.
3. About 76 percent of them dealing with pump sets, 54 percent with power tiller while 14 percent with tractor, 14 percent with thresher and 26 percent with the use of sprayer.
4. Among the trained persons, the majority is engaged with repairing of machines of their own and other farm families of their village. Most interestingly 22 percent developed small entrepreneurship in custom hiring mode.



5. For further development of their present condition, the trained persons focused the areas like- Financial assistance, advanced training, electric connection in the villages, support with advanced agricultural implements etc.

***“If you must be mad, be it not for the things of the world.
Be mad with the love of God.”***

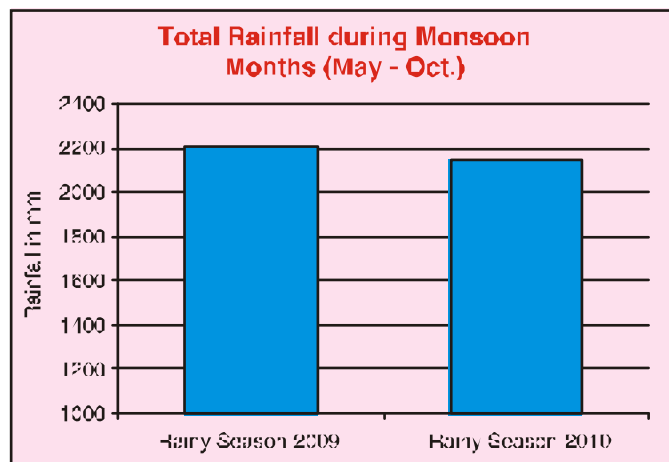
— Sri. Ramkrishna Dev

METEOROLOGICAL STUDY

Climate is an integral and essential part of agriculture system. For the purpose of conducting meaningful trial, demonstration, experimentation, and extension work etc. record of meteorological parameters are very important. For essential and basic meteorological data like Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature, Relative Humidity (RH) of the air and daily rainfall; a meteorological unit has been established and data are recorded on regular basis. Some of the important findings of the year are discussed.

The most significant climatic factor of the year 2010 in West Bengal in relation to agriculture was the drought situation in 11 districts due to low rainfall. But the contrasting fact in case of rainfall in Narendrapur area is that it is only 2.75 percent lower in comparison to the previous year. Rainfall distribution was also in similar pattern. As a result there was no negative impact of weather was found in case of kharif crop yield.

The **hottest day** of this year was 11th and 12th April, 2010 with 41 degree Celsius in comparison to last years on 20th April, 2009 with maximum temperature 41 degree Celsius.



The **coldest day** in terms of minimum temperature were three consecutive days- 12th, 13th and 14th January, 2011 with 8 degree Celsius. In 2009-10 it was on three consecutive days 28th, 29th and 31st December, 2009 with the minimum temperature of 8 degree Celsius. In terms of lowest maximum temperature, the coldest days



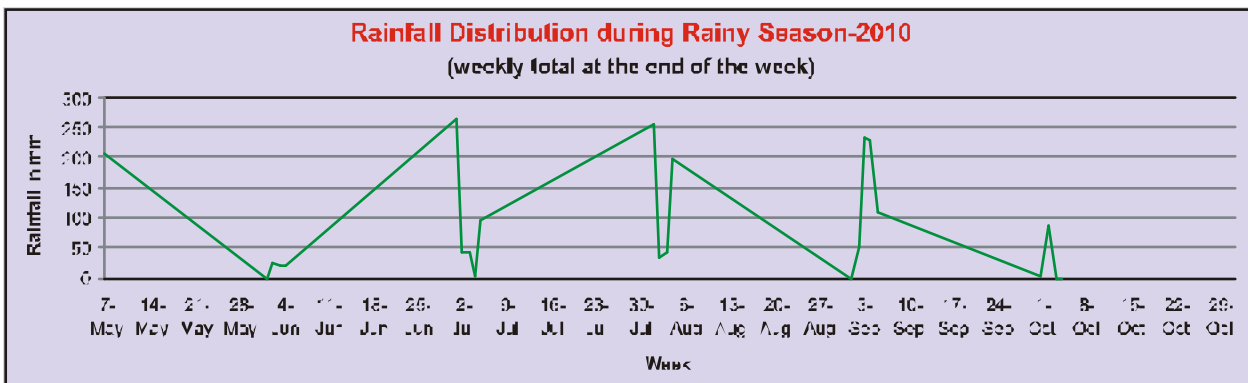
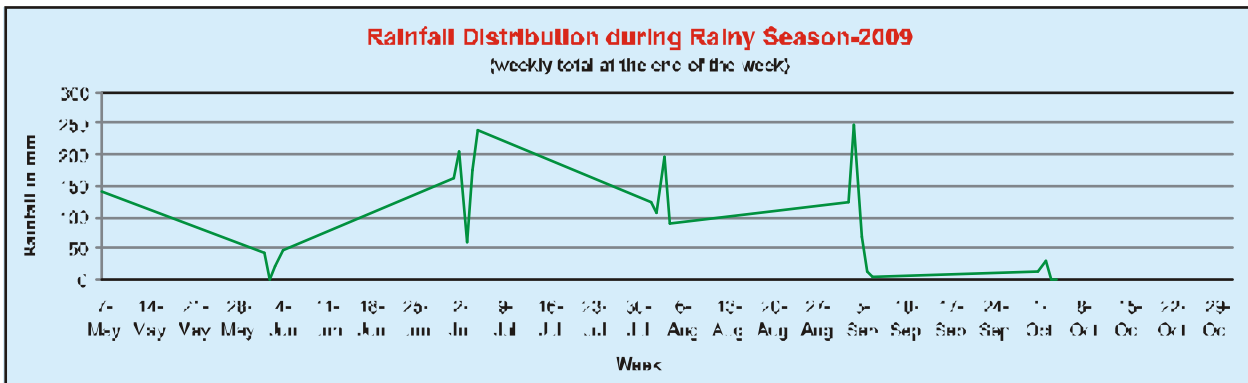
“Purify the spectacles of your mind, and you will see that the world is God”

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

5- *Reflection 2010-11*

were same (12th, 13th and 14th January, 2011) with 20–21 degree Celsius temperature.

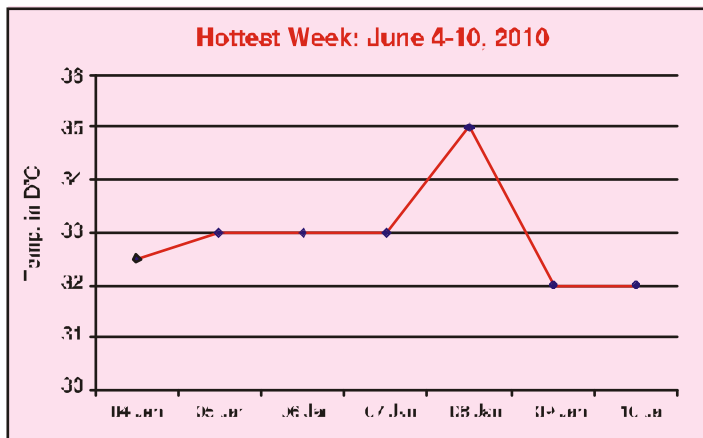
The **maximum rainfall day** was 23rd May, 2010 with day-total rainfall of 220 mm. in comparison to the previous years 132.5 mm on 1st July.



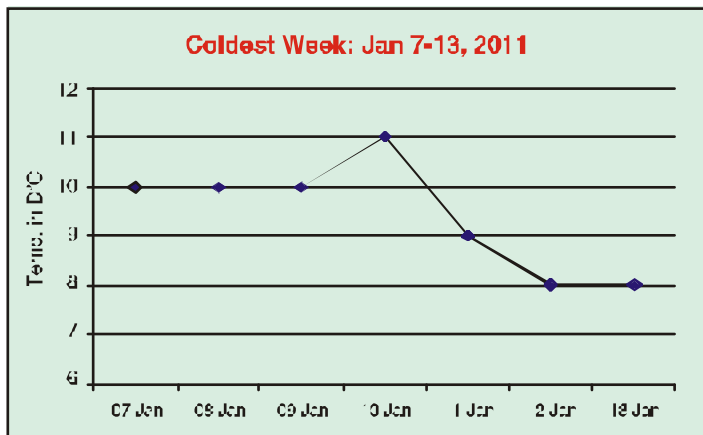
“As long as I live, so long do I learn.”

—Sri Ramakrishna Dev

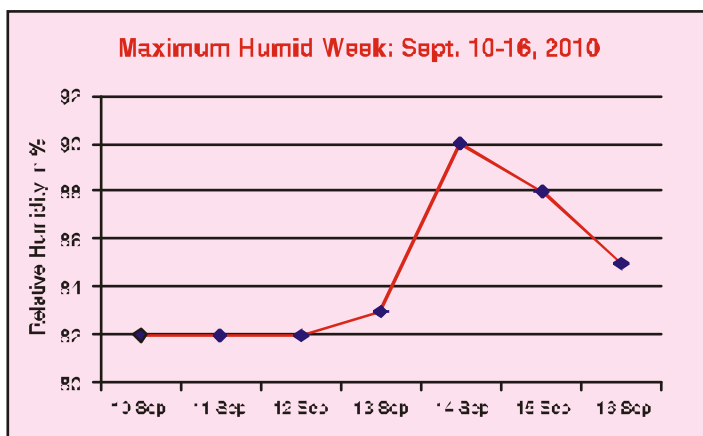
1. The **Hottest Week** of the year at Narendrapur was during 4th - 10th June, 2010. In comparison, last year it was on during 23rd-30th April, 2009. The average temperature of the week was 32.9 degree Celsius. The average weekly temperature of the preceding and succeeding weeks was 32.21 and 30.16 degree Celsius respectively. The weekly average maximum temperature and average minimum temperature were 37.51 and 28.27 degree Celsius respectively. During this week the average relative humidity was 72.92 with average maximum and average minimum relative humidity 85.28 and 60.57 respectively. There was 26 mm rainfall during that week and 22 mm in consecutive but no rainfall in preceding 2 weeks.



2. The **Coldest Week** of the year at Narendrapur was the 2nd week of January, 2011, i.e. during 7th - 13th of January, 2011. The average temperature of the week was 15.92 degree Celsius. The average weekly temperature of the preceding and succeeding weeks were 16.85 and 16.71 degree Celsius respectively. The weekly average maximum temperature and average minimum temperature of the week were 22.42 and 9.42 degree Celsius respectively. During this week the average relative humidity was 69.50 with maximum and minimum relative humidity 98.35 and 43.14 respectively. There was no rainfall during that week or preceding consecutive five weeks.



3. The **Most Humid week** at Narendrapur was during 10-16th of September, 2010 in comparison to last year status during 16th - 22nd July, 2009. The weekly average RH of the week was 87.57. The weekly average RH of the preceding and succeeding weeks was

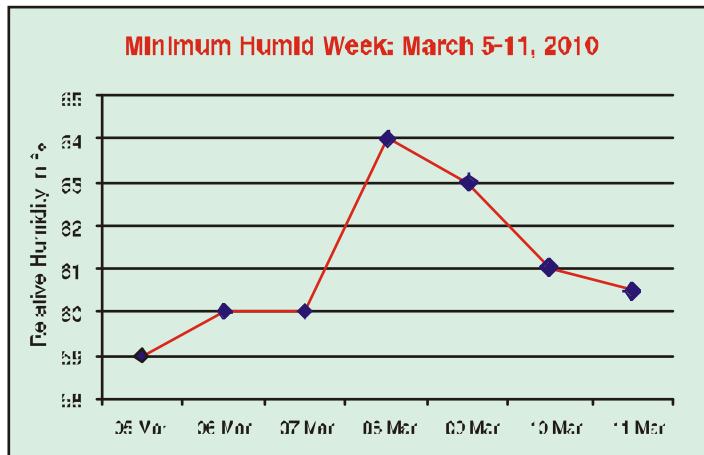


*"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service.
I acted and behold, service was joy."*

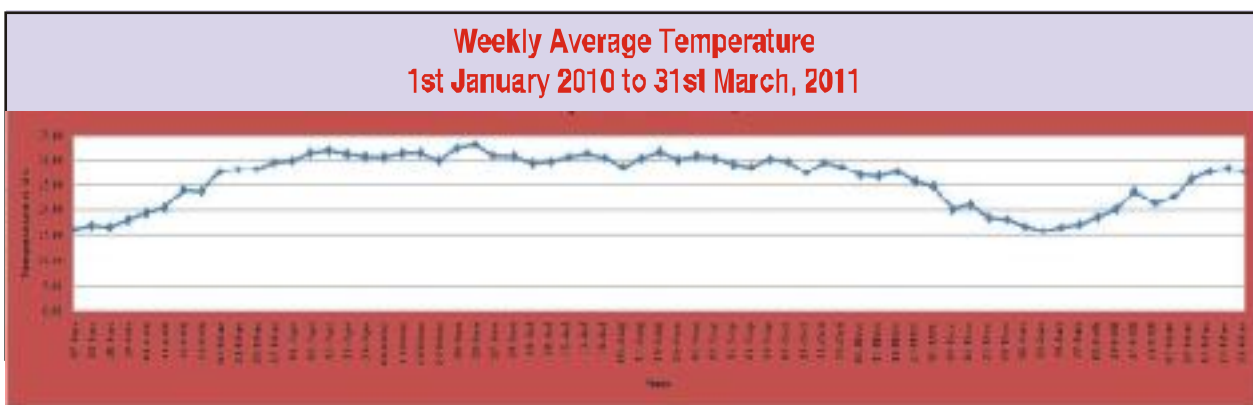
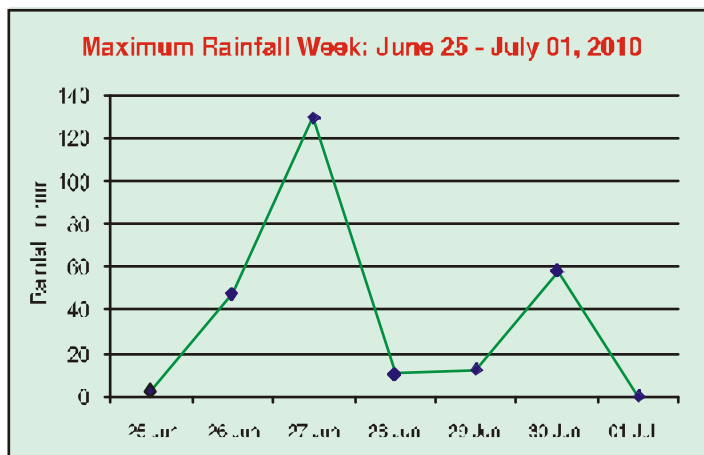
—Rabindranath Tagore

80.85 and 80.57 respectively. During the week the average temperature was 29.21 with average maximum and minimum temperature 33.14 and 25.28 respectively. The rainfall was 234 mm during the week.

4. The **Least Humid week** at Narendrapur was during 5th - 11th March, 2011. Last year it was during 12th - 18th February, 2009. The weekly average RH of the week was 61.21. The average weekly RH of the preceding and succeeding weeks was 70.57 and 61.5 respectively. During the week the average temperature was 26.57 with average maximum and minimum temperature 33.25 and 19.28 respectively. There was no rainfall either on that week or preceding -succeeding weeks.

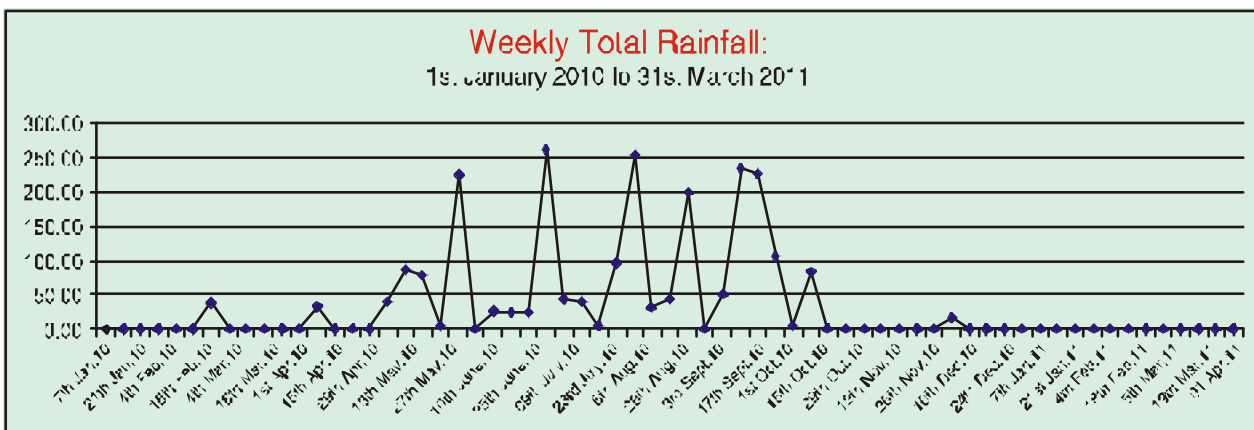
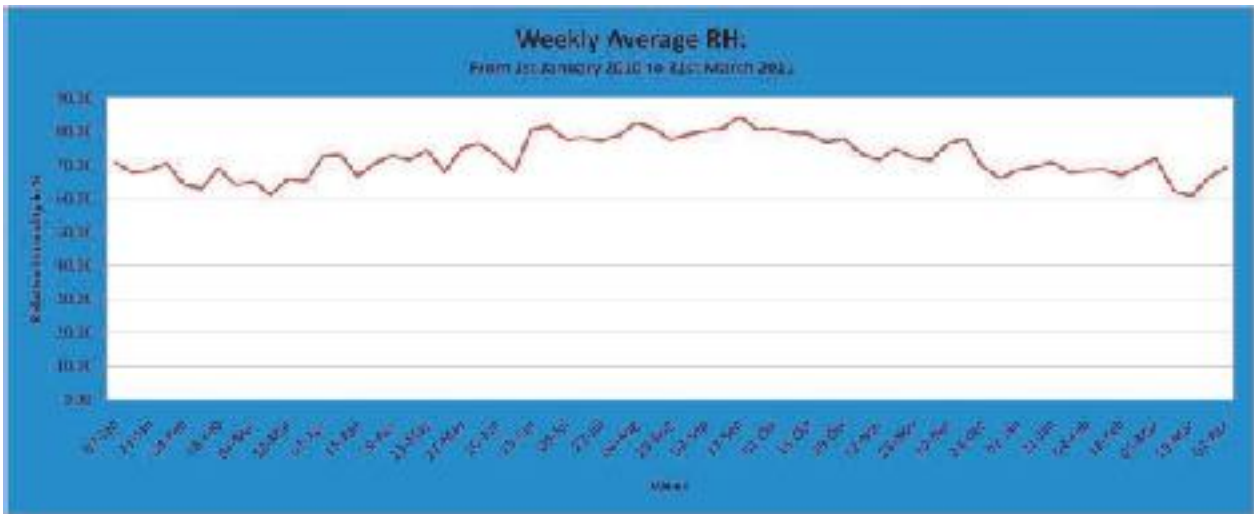


5. The **Most Rainy week** of Narendrapur was during 25th June - 1st July, 2010 with weekly total rainfall of 262 mm. Last year it was during 3rd-9th September, 2009 with 249 mm. The weekly rainfalls of the preceding and succeeding weeks were 23 mm and 43 mm respectively. During the week the average temperature and average RH was 29.42 degree Celsius and 81.71 respectively. The weekly average maximum and minimum temperature were 32.14 and 26.71 respectively. The weekly average maximum and minimum relative humidity were 92.28 and 71.14 respectively.



“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

—Mahatma Gandhi



*“The Man who works for others, without any selfish motive,
really does good to himself.”*

—Sri Ramakrishna Dev

EXTENSION PROGRAMMES

A. POVERTY ALLEVIATION THROUGH RICE INNOVATION SYSTEM (PARIS)

West Bengal is the highest rice producing and consuming state in the country. However, yield has been stabilized at levels much below the potential productivity of existing rice. In coastal areas of the State, farmers face many problems that include declining productivity, labour availability, cultivation costs, climate related problems such as delayed monsoon, flood, hailstorms, poor rainfall distribution etc. Farmers in coastal regions are mainly dependent on monsoon rainfall for cropping. Late arrival of monsoon, which is a common feature for the last 3-4 years, transplanting is delayed and opportunities for subsequent crops are reduced. In the cool dry (Rabi) and summer seasons the farmers pump ground water for raising summer paddy (Boro) and winter vegetables. This is causing the groundwater table to recede and is seriously depleting underground water reserves. Again due to steep climb of global fuel prices, the cost of irrigation is gradually increasing. Besides, economic pressures are leading to male farmers migrating to the urban and industrial sectors to find the work causing labour shortages in the rural areas. In such situation, direct seeding of rice either by broadcasting or using a drum seeder provides an alternative to transplanting that can reduce the demands for labour and water shortages.

With such considerations the project – Poverty alleviation through rice innovation system (PARIS)”, in collaboration with DFID (Department for International Development, UK) was undertaken in 2008-09. There were eight partners (three International Organizations, two Indian Agricultural Universities, three NGOs/ Govt. sponsored Institution) of this project. Our training centre is one of the partners. Other partners were: International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Liverpool University, UK, Natural Resources Institute (NRI), UK, GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Uttarakhand, Narendra Deva Agricultural University and Technology, UP, PRADAN, Purulia and NEFORD, UP.

The prime objectives of the project, as framed for our project sites were:

- To meet up the labour shortage during transplanting of summer rice,
- To reduce the costs of cultivation of rice,
- To increase the production, productivity and,
- To improve the livelihood of the resource poor farmers of coastal saline zone of West Bengal.

South 21 Parganas and Purba Medinipur districts of West Bengal were selected as being the representative of a wider area facing similar constraints. Demonstrations were conducted using a drum seeder manufactured in West Bengal and dry seeding, as well as farmers’ training, field days, focus group discussions and workshops. A farm and household survey was undertaken through personal interviews and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques were used to implement the project.

Nine, y three demonstrations were conducted in the farmers’ fields in the summer season of 2009-10. The data were taken from them and encouraging results were obtained. The farmers provided some important suggestions also to popularize the technology as under:

- Slight modification required- diameter of alternate holes of the drum seeder to be increased particularly for long and coarse grain,

“I tell you one thing - if you want peace of mind, don not fault with others.”

— Sarada Devi

- Searching for cold tolerant short duration HYV as sometimes during growth period the temperature falls below 10°C in winter.
- Use of sufficient quantity of organic matter in soil and application of ash after sowing. Such practice helps to retain the soil temperature and protect the crop from cold injury.
- Weeding at 20 DAS is the must, if pre emergence herbicide is not used.
- Need of effective post emergence herbicide.
- Testing of soil and water before cultivation and water before irrigation.
- Land should be properly leveled and puddled. This is very much needed for proper water management.
- Shifting to salt tolerant crops like sunflower, Khesarri etc. other than boro paddy, especially where there is serious scarcity of irrigation water.

From the outcome of the project activities it may be concluded that:

- Direct seeding leads to reduce labour.
- It leads to early harvest of Autumn and Winter paddy providing new opportunities for improved rabi cropping, new timings, new cultivars, new crops.

State: West Bengal



District: South 24 Parganas



District: Purba Medinipur



Fig. 1 Location of Project activities

“You can’t cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water.”

— Rabindranath Tagore

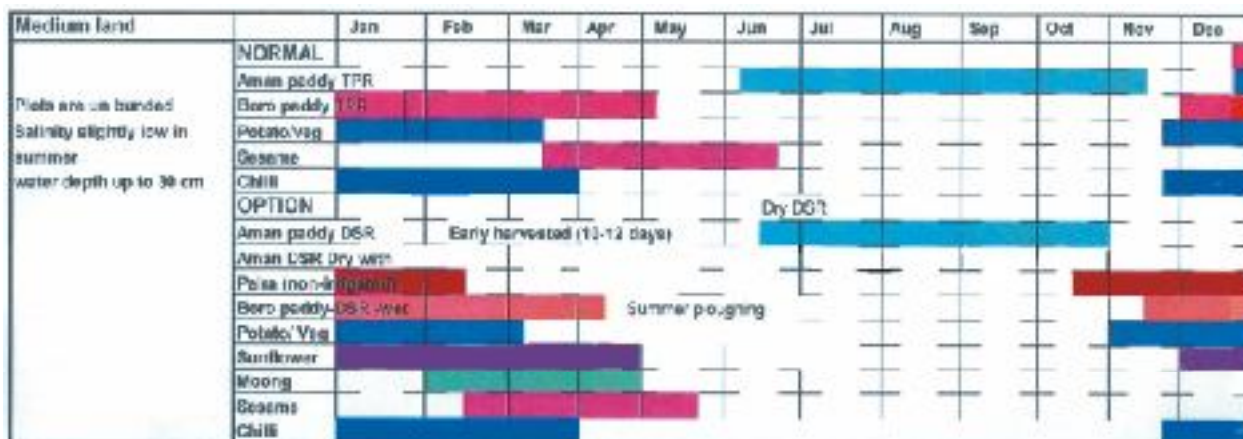


Fig 2: Crop calendars in medium land situation, with scope and benefit of introducing direct seeding technologies.

- Early winter paddy harvest leads to earlier potato planting, less fungicide usage, less drought risk, larger crop, more cash.
- It leads to earlier potato harvest, leads to opportunity to plant moong and diversify farm cropping.
- It also leads to less risk of sesame crop after potato/winter vegetables falling with onset of monsoon and hailstorm damage.
- Direct seeding of rice does provide opportunity to reduce the input costs, it does not require seedbed and thereby the costs for uprooting and transplanting of seedlings can be avoided. So, the overall the costs of cultivation can be reduced by 15-20 per cent.
- Further, yields can be increased by 10 per cent or more, and the crop matures 7-12 days earlier than the conventional transplanting.
- Importantly, direct seeding enables the farmers to go for multiple cropping providing opportunities for improving production, productivity not only saline coastal areas but also other areas of our State.



“The brain and muscles must develop simultaneously. Iron nerves with an intelligent brain — and the whole world is at your feet.”

— Swami Vivekananda

B. INTEGRATED SCHEME ON OILSEEDS, PULSES, OIL-PALM AND MAIZE (ISOPOM)

It is estimated that the population of our state has already been crossed 9.0 crores for which we require more than 25 lakh tonnes of pulses and oilseeds every year. In order to meet up deficit of 50 per cent in oilseeds and 85 per cent in pulses the state government has taken steps to increase the area and productivity of such crops and accordingly a programme entitled "Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil-palm and Maize" has been launched and this programme has been implemented at this Training centre of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur.

The basic objectives of this programme are to promote the farmers to diversify their cropping systems with crops like oilseeds and maize in order to reduce the deficits of oilseeds and cereals.

Specific strategies adopted for expansion of area under oilseed and maize to increase production, productivity of crops in the state are:

- Promoting the farmers to diversify their cropping systems with oilseeds and maize crops in order to reduce the deficits of oilseeds in our state.
- Organizing regular farmers meeting and training for imparting improved skill and technologies to increase the production and productivity.
- Conducting demonstrations in the farmers' field to motivate the farmers about enhanced production and productivity through 'seeing is believing'.
- Supplying quality seed, partial inputs towards fertilizers along with plant protection equipments, plant protection chemicals to harvest good crops as well as to protect the crops from pests infestation.
- Supporting efficient irrigation through distribution of irrigation pipes.
- Introducing IPM in oilseed crops for sustainability of production system and to aware the farmers about the need based use of pesticides.
- Correction of soils by soil amendments like lime and phosphogypsum.
- Application of micronutrients specially boron in rape and mustard and zinc in maize crops.
- Extensive cultivation of Sunflower crop in coastal saline areas during winter season.
- Popularization of suitable hybrid varieties of Maize etc.
- Boosting seed preservation in seed bin by providing appropriate seed bins to the farmer.
- Supporting quality post harvest operations through supply of paddle threshers, power threshers etc.

The efforts have been taken to implement such programme through youth organizations scattered in 7 districts of the State, mainly associated with this Ashrama as well as with non-associated individual organizations.



Name of the crop	Seeds distributed (Kg)	Physical allocation (Hectare)	Farmers benefited (Family no)
Rape & Mustard	375	50	562
Groundnut	4470	50	563
Sesame	1000	133	1500
Sunflower	1000	133	1665
Maize	2250	100	1125
Total	9095	466	5415

"Finish the few duties you have at hand, and then you will have peace."

— Sri Ramakrishna Dev

In 2010-11 pulse programmes have been shifted to National Food Security Mission (NFSM). So, the quality oilseeds and maize seeds were given to the farmers for conducting demonstration. The coverage of various crops under this programme during this year in this training centre is as under.

Besides, 5722 kgs irrigation pipes, 558 nos. of metallic seed bins, 19 nos. of knapsack sprayers and 6 nos. of power threshers have been distributed among the farmers by which more than one thousand farmers have been benefited.

C. SEED VILLAGE PROGRAMME

Seed is the basic and most crucial material for agriculture, particularly when more production per unit area is a continuous demand in the country. Govt. of West Bengal has given emphasis on production and productivity of rice for the food security and also on higher production of pulses, oilseeds etc. to keep the same flow along with other states of the country towards a second Green Revolution. The Agricultural Training Centre, Narendrapur has been taking steps for many years for production of quality seeds of the food grains and oilseeds. At present it is extended to the farmers' field through the 'Seed Village' programme, where a group of farmers agree to grow the crop at stretch for the purpose of producing quality seed under guidance of appropriate authority. The seed village programme was conducted in four different villages of South 24 Parganas, where ATC had been conducting agricultural extension work. Production of quality seeds of paddy varieties viz. NC-492, MTU-7029 and IET-4786 was organized by 13 farmers group on a total area of about 71 acres and produced about 89 tons of quality seeds (Foundation and Certified). The Samrat variety of Green gram was taken up by 4 farmers group on an area of 23 acres and produced seven tons Foundation to Certified seed. Besides the seed village programme, quality seed production has also been extended to individual farms and farmers field.

Seed production has also been carried out in different farms including the farms of the Ashrama under the technical supervision of the ATC to meet up the demand of the quality seeds of the farmers. Mainly the Breeder to Foundation seed of the locally demanded rice varieties (NC-492, MTU-7029, MTU-1001, Ranjit, Pankaj, Lurishree, IET-5656, IET-4786, IET-1094, Lalat, Masuri, Gotra Bidhan-2) were grown. Seeds of other crops like Mustard (B-9), Green gram (Samrat), Sesame (Gujarat T1-II) etc. were also grown for the farmers.

The State Seed Certification Agency under Directorate of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal has collaborated in all the above cases through their technical and administrative support.

Village detail	Crop detail	Stage of seed	No. of farmers involved	Total area (Acre)	Total Production (in tons)
1 Gholi, Baruipur, South 24 Parganas	Kharif Paddy, Variety=NC-492	Breeder to Foundation	45	22	21.5
2 Sibsanagar, Kakdwip, South 24 Parganas	Kharif Paddy, Variety=MTU-7029	Certified to Certified-II	49	25	34.5
3 Dakshin Shibganj, Pathar Pratima Kakdwip, South 24 Parganas	Boro Paddy, Variety=IET-4786	Foundation to Certified	50	24	33
4 Madhusudanpur, Kakdwip, South 24 Parganas	Green gram, Variety= Samrat	Foundation to Certified	41	23	7

“He alone is the true teacher who is illumined by the light of true knowledge.”

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

LEARNING FROM SUCCESS

SUCCESS STORY-I

Farm School: An effort to spread innovative Poultry Technology

Sk. Nizamuddin, S/O- Sk Nurulal of Vill - Nababpur, P.O - Krishnapur, P.S- Barasat is known as 'chick-man' in his area for his innovative efforts for survival of day-old chicks. In spite of poverty since his childhood he completed his graduation. As part of his livelihood he practised Animal Husbandry always in meaningful way. After execution of Extension Reforms Programme in the district he was selected as head master to organize a farm school in his locality on Poultry Management for his updated knowledge on latest technologies on poultry. He trained 25 (twenty-five) nos. of Women Farmers on poultry management with assistance of Block Livestock Development Officer, Barasat-II. He acquired the techniques of hardening the day old chicks using brooder unit and sold them to the villagers who are not capable of rearing the day old chicks due to high mortality rate. The young entrepreneur purchased the day old chicks from the Govt. Poultry Farm and hardened them for 15 days and then sold to the villagers. Thus not only he gains profit from it but also the neighbouring farmers preferably women folks are being benefited out of it by way of getting 15 days old chicks, the mortality rate of which is very low at a very affordable price at their doorstep. Besides he advises to the farmers on immunization of chicks and recommends veterinary medicines for poultry.

SUCCESS STORY-II

Advance Rice Cultivation Technology

Sl.	Name of the farmer	Sri Shyamapada Das S/O- Sri Sripati Das
1.	Address	Village-Dakshin Shibgong P.O. Patharpratima Block-Patharpratima, South 24 Parganas.
2.	Details of farm	Small farm holder-3 bigha land (partially irrigated from tank)
3.	Status: Membership of Self-Help Groups (SHG)/Youth organization	Progressive and innovative farmer, active member of local youth organization named Dakshin Shibgong Patharpratima Lokasiksha and Rural Development Society
4.	Contact details	+91 9617367948
5.	Technologies/Good agricultural practices/Facilities/Benefits obtained with details	Cultivation of Boro rice/summer rice using Drum seeder

"One should desire of God desirelessness. Desire is the obstacle to liberation."

— Sri Sarada Devi

6.	<p>Details of results obtained due to adoption of technologies (crops grown, techniques adopted, results achieved etc.)</p> <p>i) Production</p> <p>ii) Production from earlier practice</p> <p>iii) Production increase than earlier practice</p> <p>iv) Benefit in net income</p> <p>v) Resources saved</p>	<p>Improved package and practices regarding direct seeding technology in Boro/summer rice, weed control etc.</p> <p>1040 kg from 33 cent of land (7.8 ton/ha)</p> <p>800 kg from 33 cent of land adopting conventional method of transplanting (6.0 ton/ha).</p> <p>240 kg from 33 cent of land (30% yield increase)</p> <p>Rs.4000/- per bigha (approx.)</p> <p>Saves seed, irrigation, labour, pesticides, infestation less and matures 12 days earlier in the plot using drum seeder.</p>
7.	Marketing strategy-Access to market (through private, co-operative, contract farming etc.)	Paddy sold through private trader
8.	Factors contributing to success	Technical guidance, training and skill provided by the Technical personnel of Agricultural Training Centre (ATC)/ SAMEETI, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur; Financial support from PARIS project implemented by ATC and the stated local Organization.
9.	Impact	The farmer is very much motivated, enthusiastic and decided to continue boro cultivation using Drum seeder instead of conventional transplanting. He is now advising other farmers to adopt the technology and more than hundred surrounding farmers have become eager to adopt the technology in the coming year and it is hoped that the technology will be disseminated shortly covering more area.

SUCCESS STORY - III

SRI Technology, Drum seeder & vermicompost

Sri Asaok Kumar Roy, a progressive farmer of Dhanyakhecur village of Manteswar Block of Burdwan district became aware of the SRI technology of rice 4 years ago. For details information and knowledge about SRI, he contacted with the SAMEETI, Narendrapur. He was given a practice training as well as an exposure to SRI demonstration, conducted by the Agriculture Training Centre, Narendrapur. Primarily he had tried for 10 katha of land. Being continuously motivated and guided by the AIC, Narendrapur, as well as by the Assistant Director

*“The tree laden with fruits always bends low.
If you wish to be great, be lowly and meek”*

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

of Agriculture of Manteswar block, last year he has transplanted nine and half bigha (about 1.2 hectare) of rice in his own land with this developed rice production technology. He got an average yield of 1208 kg of rice per bigha (0.33 acre) which is much higher than the yield (880kg per bigha) of the other local farmers. Average number of tiller was also very high (it was 60 where as in traditional practice the number of tiller was 25). He has harvested 8-10 days before than the traditional practice, which is very important. The amount of seed requirement was also less. According to him the average profit is about Rs.3000.00 per bigha. He has a continuous interaction and feed back with this institute and agriculture department. Besides SRI technology he has introduced drum seeder technology in his own field. Other farmers of his villages got motivated with the success of Sri Rey.



SUCCESS STORY –IV

PGDAEM: An effective course for our service

I am in a district level Techno-Administrative position. In this connection I came to know about the courses of Post Graduate Diploma in Agricultural Extension Management (PGDAEM) launched by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) during the year 2007-08. The mode of learning as my experience was very good. I think that the course will be effective in my service for betterment of the farmers etc. in the field of extension policy framework also envisages that the extension services are to be broad based and holistic in nature, covering the entire spectrum of agri-allied value chain. To realize this policy intent, all the extension service providers need to be roped into, to strengthen the content and its delivery mechanism to benefit the farming community. In my view the course was very much interesting to all the clientele to know about the extension of agri-allied sectors. It will be much better if the interested and successful candidates can be enriched more through International and National Training in India and abroad covering the entire spectrum of agri-allied Sector upgradation. Such initiative would help the extension service providers to be more proactive to serve as knowledge workers and facilitators in the growth of agriculture and allied enterprises.

I am very much interested to join any up gradation courses related with Post Graduate Diploma in Agricultural Extension Management (PGDAEM) to enrich myself as also for the public interest.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Tapas Paria

Assistant Director of Fisheries
Barasat, North 24 Parganas
PGDAEM Batch 2007-08.

“I can't contain myself when one draws near me and calls me Mother”

— Sarada Devi

SUCCESS STORY-V

FARM SCHOOL: A Place of technology dissemination

Sri Prasanta Das, S/O- Sri Haran Chandra Das of Vill- Uttar Kotalia, P.O- Dakshin Kotalia of Basirhat-I block is a resource poor yet innovative marginal farmer having only 13 (thirteen) Cottah of land of his own, where he raised a mango orchard. Since he possessed no land other than the one used fully for Mango orchard, he took land on lease every year for cultivation of other crops to enhance his farm income. He cultivate the land at least thrice with a cropping pattern of Jute- Kh. Paddy- Mustard/Pulses/Vegetables etc. and gain a profit of Rs. 7500 (Rupees seven thousand five hundred only) per year. He was selected as head master for organizing a farm School on System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and trained 25 (twenty five) nos. of farmers of his village on the technology he already adopted and demonstrated. He is very popular in his village for popularizing different improved Agril. technologies like SRI, IPM, INM, Management of Mango Orchard, Line sowing of Jute, Zero tillage in mustard etc. He has participated in more than 25 (Twenty five) nos. of training programme on different agril. Technology organized by the Assistant Director of Agriculture, Basirhat-I block. He has remarkable contribution for the development of agriculture in his locality.

SUCCESS STORY – VI

Animal Husbandry Opens Door to Ultra

Uuara Mandal a house wife of Jarda village near Sonarpur, South 24 parganas. In 1998 she along with 20 other women went through training on poultry keeping and were supported with some chicks. From that day she could realize that she could support her husband struggling to generate income from 2.5 bighas of their land. She, latter on, increased number of poultry birds which supported their family with Rs.10000 per year. In the year 2008, she became interested to have a small unit of dairy and for that purpose went through a 15-day training on maintenance of dairy animal. Later again she joined a 5-days training programme on Artificial Insemination of cow and their maintenance. With the recommendation of Ramkrishna Mission she got loan from UBI and purchased two cows giving milk about 20 kgs per day. At present she is empowered with –



- 1) She knows primary treatment of Livestock and has practical experience on application of Injections, A.I. and use of medicines.
- 2) She does Milking and marketing of milk by her own.
- 3) She continued her daughters' education up to HS level.
- 4) Now her monthly net income is about Rs.2500.00 per month after meeting up the installment of loan in each month.

“Do not let worldly thoughts and anxieties disturb your mind.”

— Sri Ramkrishna Dev

SUCCESS STORY – VII

PGDAEM: A scope to advance learning

The PGDAEM course is very much analytical, descriptive and effective for the field level officer/extension functionaries who are related with the rural development work through agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fishery, Home sc. etc. activity. I am a man of veterinary extension education (i.e. rural farm science) and presently working as Assistant professor (Animal Sc.) in Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, posted in Dakshin Dinajpur KVK, Balurghat, DD, W.B. The course is very much needed for better field level practical implementation of the technology. I have first got the information of PGDAEM course from the District ATMA meeting, as I was the expert member of ATMA committee from the regional station of the UBKV and from there I was interested to participate in the course. The mode of learning was distance education mode with the supplying of printed study material from the MANAGE, Hyderabad along with term end examination, assignment writing and project report submission. The learning system was very much advance, justified and suitable for the field level functionaries as it was in distance mode in spite of regular course which is quite impossible for the govt. Officer. The course is very much practical; interesting enough too much elaborative. It was also very much updated and based on present demand of the region, state as well as nation. In my opinion, the examination system was not so much realistic as, the question setup pattern is very much large and descriptive enough, which is too much laborious for a field level workers. If the question will be short answer type then I think it will be more realistic for the participants. At last, I am confident enough, that if anyone can go through the details of the course then it will really helpful and develop some cognitive and demand driven basement for the participants.

Dr. S. Biswas

Lecturer (Animal Sc.)

Dakshin Dinajpur KVK,

PGDAEM Batch 2008-09.

SUCCESS STORY-VIII

Subject: Cop Diversification

Sl.	Name of the farmer	Habibur Rahman S/O- S ^r . Mohammed Ahia
1.	Address	Village-Uchahar, P.O. Kolagram Block-Keshpur, Paschim Medinipur
2.	Details of farm	Small farm holder, land partially irrigated from tank
3.	Status: Membership of Self-Help Groups/Youth organization	Progressive and innovative farmer, active member of local youth organization named Uchahar Nazrul Smriti Sangha
4.	Contact No.	Mob. 91 9735383024

“On this basis—being right and doing right—the whole world can unite.”

— Swami Vivekananda

5.	Name of the schemes/project utilized by the farmer	Integrated Scheme on Pulse, Oilseed and Maize (ISOPOM)
6.	Technologies/Good agricultural practices/Facilities/Benefits obtained with details	Improved package and practices for cultivation of White Sesamum (Sesamum indicum), Var. Gujrat TL2
7.	Details of results obtained due to adoption of technologies (season wise crops grown, techniques adopted, results achieved etc.)	Improved production technologies
	i) Production	380 kg from 52 cent of land (1827 kg/ha)
	ii) Production from earlier practice	250 kg from 52 cent of land using Tolattama variety (1008 kg/ha)
	iii) Production increase than earlier practice	130 kg from 52 cent of land (52% yield increase)
	iv) Benefit in net income	More than Rs. 4000/- per bigha of 52 Cent
	v) Resources saved	Pesticides, infestation less in white oil
8.	Marketing strategy=Access to market (through private, co-operative, contract farming etc.)	Marketed through private as well as contract farming, sold to at Rs. 30/- per kg 10 per cent more price than existing market price.
9.	Factors contributing to success	Technical guidance, training and skill provided by the Technical personnel of Agricultural Training Centre (ATC)/SAMETI, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur, Financial support from ISOPOM conducted by ATC and the stated local Organization.
10.	Impact	The farmer is very much motivated and decided to continue white sesame cultivation instead of Brown one, Var. Tolattamar. The surrounding 50-60 farmers have become also interested now to adopt the technology from the coming year and it is hoped that it will create a tremendous impact in improving the livelihood of the rural people.

“Be as devoid of vanity as the cast away leaf carried by the high wind.”

— Sri Ramakrishna Dev

SUCCESS STORY – IX

PGDAEM: Towards better management of farming community

After completion of the PGDAEM course we are performing our job in a better way as result we formed SHG in a proper form and also developed leadership in the rural areas for betterment of farming system approaches. We have developed managerial capabilities through which we can properly handle or manage farming community; public and local politics at the same time our office and family also.

After going through different module of the course we can now prepare the training schedule in proper way and the total curriculum is more attractive to the farmers at present.

It becomes easier to implement different schemes like RKVY, NFSM, ATMA, and also preparing plan for different activities.

Subash Chowdhury
Assistant Director of Agriculture,
Barasat - I
PGDAEM Batch 2007-08.

“Do not afraid; the Master is behind you, and I am, too, as your Mother”

— Sri Sarada Devi

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION MANAGEMENT (PGDAEM)

Continuous upgradation of human resources through short-term courses is going in different sectors. But while a critical shift is needed in knowledge and attitude, comprehensive course is more effective. After shading off the shame of food crisis after independence, during last two decades the farming community faced the crisis of market. One of the main reasons is the major thrust on production and indifferent attitude about linking the production to the market. Other major causes are drastic change in World economic system, lack of proper exploration of ICT, inappropriate planning system etc. This symptom has been observed throughout the country. The need to re-orient the agricultural extension system about all those major concerns has been considered by the policy makers as one of the most important inputs towards higher agricultural growth.



The Govt. of India through National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad has taken a country wide drive to orient the agricultural extension functionaries (technical graduate – officers of Agriculture and allied Department) to properly orient them to such situation – based extension management aspects of agricultural development through a one-year course on ‘Post Graduate Diploma in ‘Agricultural Extension Management’ (PGDAEM). The SAMETI, Narendrapur is conducting this one year model course

***“If you must be mad, be it not for the things of the world.
Be mad with the love of God.”***

— Sri Ramakrishna Dev

for the technical officers of the state since 2007-08 sessions along with the other states of the country. A thorough orientation, conceptualization and to some extent practice in the sectors of Agricultural extension system, Communication, Economic globalization - agricultural trades, Principles of Management, Participatory planning, Market-led extension, Agricultural business and entrepreneurship development, Project management, Use of ICT, Sustainable development approach in agriculture and allied sectors etc. are the main objective of the course. For every module the participants produces an assignment after going through field/ practical work and towards the end of the course a total project is submitted. Enthusiastic and steadily increasing response has been received from the Govt. employees of the sectors of Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Animal husbandry, Agricultural marketing, Banking sectors etc.

	Batch- year	No. admitted	No. completed study	No. qualified
1	2007-08	27	26	26
2	2008-09	41	25	25
3	2009-10	72	Running	Running



*“I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service.
I acted and behold, service was joy.”*

— Rabindranath Tagore

PUBLICATIONS

The Institute has a regularly updated website: www.samatiwb.org of about 20 pages, displaying the programmes and activities of the institute along with other related information. Updated information, programme images, activity schedules are uploaded in the website.

The institute use to publish “The SAMATI- West Bengal”, its regular News Letter” on quarterly basis. It is of four pages colour publication. The newsletter contains the news covering the major programmes performed by the institute, news pegs, coming programmes, about SAMATI West Bengal e.c. The soft copy of the news letter is also displayed in the website in pdf form. Regarding printing of books and leaflets the major are:

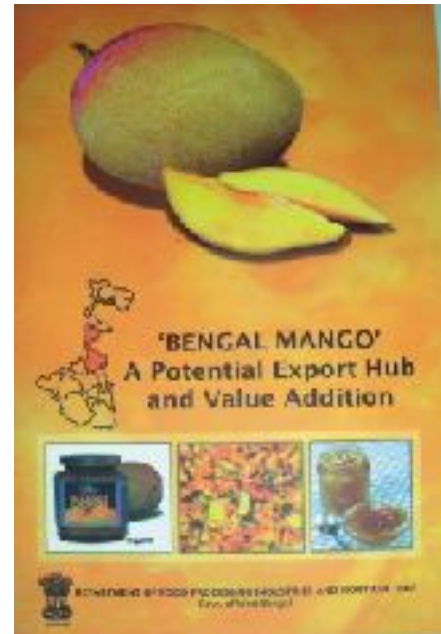
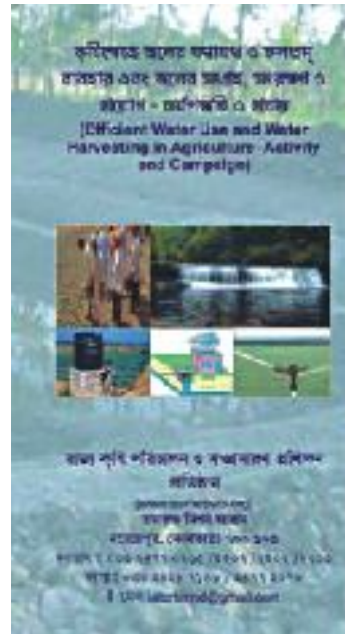
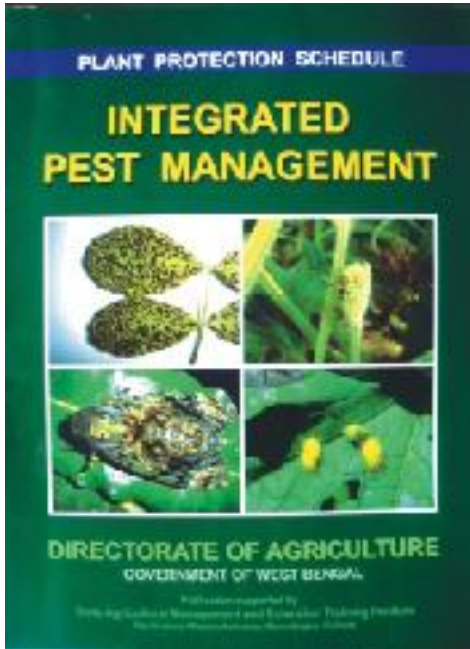
- I. **Plant Protection Schedule: Integrated Pest Management:** This is a 200 pages four colored English publication in collaboration with Directorate of Agriculture, contains 1) Insect management of cereals, pulse, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, sugarcane, fibrecrops, spices, ornamental plants 2) IPM of plant feeding mites 3) IPM of plant parasitic nematodes, 4) Weed management, 5) Disease management of important crops and Safe & judicious use of pesticides.
- II. **Bengal Mango: A Potential Export hub and Value addition;** This is 44 pages four colored English publication in collaboration with Department of Food Processing Industries and Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal. The major contents of the books are i) Pre-harvest Management for quality mango production, ii) crop protection, iii) modern harvesting and post harvest management, iv) mango export, v) agri-export zone – mango in West Bengal, vi) Global Gap, vii) Geographical indicators, viii) value additions etc.
- III. **Reflection – 2010: The Annual Report of the institute covering the programme performed by the institute from January 2009 to December, 2009.** It is fifty pages four colored English publication.
- IV. **Krishikhetre Jalor Jathajatha Byabahaar & Jalor, Sangraha, Samaskhan, O Prayog** (Folder on water harvest and efficient water use in agriculture)
- V. **Dram seeder er Sahajye Dhau Chas** (folder on process of drumseeder rice cultivation technology)
- VI. **Mug Chase Umata Prajukti** (Folder on package & practices of green gram)
- VII. **Dhaner Janite Agachha Niyantram** (Folder on weed management in rice cultivation)
- VIII. **Jalbayer Parbirtan O Krishi** (Folder on awareness generation on effect of climate change on agriculture)
- IX. **Krishi Khamar Vidyalaya (updated)** (Booklet revised publication on ‘Farm School’)
- X. **Updated AI/MA Guideline**



“As long as I live, so long do I learn.”

— Sri Ranakrishna Dev

The folders are published in Bengali to cater the need of the farming community and the grass root level extension worker.



Men are more valuable than all the wealth' of the world

— Anonymous

FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE

The faculty members are the most important assets of the institute. Along with national and international exposures and education, all the members have continuous deep rooted relation and intervention with the rural life and its development.

I. INTERNAL :

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Educational Qualification	Field of Specialisation
1	Dr. Manas Ghosh	Principal Agricultural Training Centre & Director, SAMETI	Ph.D. in Agriculture, Entomology, PGDAEM	Plant Protection, IPM, Rural Development
2	Dr. Gour Gopal Barik	Senior Lecturer	Ph. D. in Soil Science	Soil Science, Vermi composting
3	Sri Prasanta Dasgupta	Senior Lecturer	M.Sc. in Botany- Horticulture	Horticulture, Pomology, Organic Farming
4	Sri Pankajaksha Maity	Senior Lecturer	M.Sc. in Agriculture	Horticulture, Olericulture, Floriculture
5	Dr. Ashutosh Das	Senior Lecturer	Ph.D., M.Sc. in Plant Genetics	Medicinal Plant Management, ISOPOM
6	Dr. Savitri Das	Senior Lecturer	B.V. Sc., PGDAEM	Dairy Management
7	Sri Amiyakumar Raj	Senior Lecturer	M.Sc.(Ag.) in Agricultural Extension	Leadership, Motivation,
8	Sri Dilip Maity	Senior Lecturer	M.Sc. in Agronomy	Farm Management, Seed Technology
9	Dr. S.K. Musiar Ali	Senior Lecturer	Ph. D. in Agricultural Extension	Extension Management, ICI in Agriculture
10	Dr. Kamalakanta Hazra	Senior Lecturer	Ph. D. in Plant Pathology	Plant Protection, IPM, Mushroom Cultivation
11	Dr. Sourendranath Das	Senior Lecturer	Ph.D. in Agriculture, Entomology, PGDAEM	Botanical Pesticides Development, IPM

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Educational Qualification	Field of Specialisation
12	Sri Soumyesh Mandal	Chief Instructor	M.Tech. Agricultural Engineering, PGDAEM	Soil & Water Engineering
13	Sri Subhrasil Basu	Faculty	M. Sc. in Sociology	Social Welfare Administration, Mainstreaming Gender
14	Sri Asit Basu	Faculty	M. Sc. In Anthropology	Entrepreneurship Development, Agricultural Marketing
15	Sri Ranjan Kanti Chatterjee	Faculty	Diploma in Engineering (Mech.)	Rural Engineering
16	Dr. Sarbaswarup Ghosh	Faculty	M.V. Sc., PGDAEM	Veterinary Biochemistry, Poultry Management
17	Sri Debabrata Giri	Faculty	M.Sc. in Economics with Rural Development. PGDAEM	Rural Development, Project Management

II. EXTERNAL :

Sl. No.	Name	Status	Qualification etc.
1	Dr. Dibyendu Sen	Former Director of Extension & Education, BCKV, the State Agricultural University	Ph.D in Agril. Extension
2	Dr. Debabrata Dasgupta	Former Vice Chancellor, BCKV, the State Agricultural University	Ph.D in Agril. Extension
3	Dr. Debabrata Basu	Professor, Agricultural Extension, BCKV	
4	Dr. Shankar Acharya	Professor, Agricultural Extension, BCKV	
5	Dr. Rupak Goswami	Lecturer, Integrated Rural Development & Management Faculty Centre	Ph.D. in Agricultural extension
6	Dr. Nasim Ali	Lecturer, Integrated Rural Development & Management Faculty Centre	Ph.D. in Genetics and Plant Breeding

“The Man who works for others, without any selfish motive, really does good to himself.”

— Sri Ramakrishna Dev

Sl. No.	Name	Status	Qualification etc.
7	Dr. A. K. Pati	Professor, Army Management Institute, Kolkata	Ph.D in Agricultural Marketing
8	Dr. A.K. Roy	Former Principal of Staff Training College, NABARD	
9	Dr. R.B. Mallick	Head of the Dept. Agronomy, Ballygunj Science College, Calcutta University	
10	Mr. Arindam Saha	Vice Principal, MCX and Stock Exchange, Kolkata	
11.	Mr. Sudipta Mukhopadhyay	Divisional Manager, Marketing, Spencer India Ltd.	
12.	Dr. Vivek Roychowdhury	Professor of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade	
13	Mr. S.K. Parshai	Pvt. Entrepreneur	
14	Mr. Kalyan Maity	Pvt. Entrepreneur, Agro India Agri-Clinic	

“I tell you one thing - if you want peace of mind, don not fault with others.”

— Sarada Devi