

REPORT ON FARMERS' AWARENESS PROGRAMME ORGANIZED BY AMFU, DIPHU

A Farmers' Awareness Programme was organized by AMFU, Diphu under the auspice of GraminKrishiMausamSewa (GKMS), India Meteorological Department, on 9th December, 2014. The objective of the programme was to create awareness among farmers about weather specific crop management practices as well as the role of GKMS in this aspect. The programme was conducted at the Conference Hall of Regional Agricultural Research Station, Diphu and it was attended by 64 nos. of farmers including 16 woman farmers from different corners of KarbiAnglong District. The local wing of a state level farmers' organization namely KrishakAdhikarSurakshaSamity (KAAS) also took initiative in organizing the programme successfully. Programme coordinator of KVK KarbiAnglong and the Chief Scientist, RARS, Diphu also attended the programme and imparted valuable suggestions to the farmers. The programme was conducted as per following schedule:



9.00am - 9.30 am : Registration
9.30 am – 10.30 am : Inaugural session
10.30 – 11.00 am : Tea
11.00 am -- 12.00: : Invited lecture on climate change and it's impact on agriculture (Resource person : Dr. A. K. Deka, PC, KVK KarbiAnglong)
12.00 -- 1.00 pm : Discussion :
'GraminKrishiMausamSewa' at the Service of farmers (Resource person : Dr. U. Borthakur, Pr. Scientist and NO, AMFU Diphu and H. Haque, RA, AMFU Diphu)

1.00 – 2.00 pm : Discussion on modern cultivation practices of few important crops with specialreference to weather forecast. (Resource person : Dr. A. Roy, CS, RARS Diphu& Dr. P. Kakati, Sr. Scientist, RARS Diphu)

2.00- 3.00 : pm : Lunch

3.00 pm –4.30 pm : Farmers -Scientist interaction and field visit at RARS, Diphu Campus



In the evening session a farmers scientist interaction programme was organized in which various field problems of the farmers were addressed by the scientists of RARS and KVK, KarbiAnglong. A visit to the experimental fields of the Research Station was also conducted as a part of the programme.

Farmers feedback:

- Most of the farmers attending the programme were newly introduced to the project. They invariably felt that the farm advisories based on weather forecast will definitely be helpful in reducing the loss of both input as well as the crop and improve crop yield.
- The farmers who were already aware of the project opined that since the use of internet among farmers of the district is very limited and the local news papers also do not reach the farmers of remote villages, the newly introduced mobile SMS service will instantly reach a large section of farmers.
- A gradual decline in crop yield has been recorded by the farmers which they attribute mostly to change in climate and trying to negate it with use of high yielding varieties and intensive cropping.