

Report on SCSP Farmers' Training on 'Use of CRIJAF SONA in jute retting for quality fibre production' held during 27-29 September, 2022 at ICAR-CRIJAF, Nilganj, Barrackpore

As per ICAR-CRIJAF Office Order F. No. 20(14)/SCSP/20-21-Part (1)/(e-105598); dated 24.9.2022, a farmers' training on 'Use of CRIJAF SONA in jute retting for quality fibre production' was conducted during 27-29 September, 2022 for the SC farmers at ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Nilganj, Barrackpore under SCSP. The programme was organized by Dr. Gouranga Kar, Dr. M. S. Behera and Dr. Bijan Majumdar (Course Directors) and Dr. R. K. Naik, Dr. M. L. Roy and Dr. Sourav Ghosh (Course Coordinators).

In the training a total of 20 SC farmers from Belle Sankarpur village of Barrackpore-I block of North 24 Parganas District participated.

In the three days training, various topics related to the theme, on jute and allied fibres were taught to the farmers. To name few of the very interesting topics, the list goes like (a) Importance of retting for quality fibre production from jute & mesta, (b) Bast fibre extractor and manual/power operated jute fibre extractor for ribbon extraction from green jute/mesta plants (c) Development of microbial formulation "CRIJAF SONA" and its application for quality fibre production under stagnant water, (d) In-situ retting technology with microbial formulation under drought/water scarcity situation, (e) Evaluation of microbial formulation mediated retting in the farmers' field and economics of improved retting, (f) Important factors affecting the retting process, (g) Practical classes on In-situ retting technology and pond based integrated farming system, (h) Practical classes on Free flowing water retting technology with CRIJAF SONA, (i) Practical classes on jute ribboner, bast fibre extractor and free flowing retting technology. The farmers actively participated in the discussion and interacted with the speakers to clarify their doubts about the technologies taught. Evaluation of the farmers' knowledge level on the relevant subjects was done through standard formats. It was recorded that the farmers' mean knowledge level at pre-training evaluation was 4.25 out of 10, which increased to 8.0 (out of 10) immediately after the training in the post-training evaluation.



Group Photo of the trainees with Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF and Experts



Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF distributing sprayer to the SC farmers of North 24 Parganas



Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF distributing certificates to the SC farmers of North 24 Parganas



Scientists' farmer's interaction during training



Director, ICAR-CRIJAF distributing Single wheel Jute Weeder to the farmers

In the valedictory programme of the three day's farmers' training on 29th September, 2022, Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF, encouraged the farmers to implement their gained knowledge in their concerned fields for getting better crop yield and increased profitability from farming without causing any damage to the environment. He also stressed the farming community to spread the knowledge gained about improved retting with CRIJAF SONA to the neighbouring farmers of their respective villages. At the end of the valedictory part of the training, training completion certificated were distributed among all the participants. All the trainee farmers were given simple mechanical weeding tools such as spade, sickle, khurpi. All the participating farmers were also given a packet of certified vegetable seeds procured from ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore. The farmer groups were also provided one battery operated sprayer, one CRIJAF nail weeder and one CRIJAF single wheel jute weeder and one CRIJAF multi row seed drill for their field operation by Director, ICAR-CRIJAF.