



# KVK WEST KHASI HILLS NEWSLETTER

NONGSHILLONG, P.O. NONGSTOIN, MEGHALAYA- 793119



VOL: 1

NO.11

JULY-DECEMBER 2015

## FORWORD



It is a great pleasure to open in some thought on the publication of this newsletter of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Khasi Hills.

It is heartening to note that Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Khasi Hills has been consistent in publishing its bi-annual Newsletter. As in the previous years this present newsletter of July-December 2015 also reflects the myriad activities undertaken by the office.

Through these activities, viz; On Farm Trials (OFT), Front Line Demonstrations (FLD), Trainings of Practising Farmers, Farm Women and Rural Youth etc the farming community could be made aware and is being exposed to the new technologies available.

I congratulate the office of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Khasi Hills and the team of dedicated officers who are instrumental in bringing out this publication.

N.S. Nongbri  
Jt. Director (R&T) &  
State Nodal Officer  
KVK, Meghalaya

## CONTENTS

- HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KVK ACTIVITIES
- IMPORTANT EVENTS
- ON FARM TRIALS
- FRONTLINE DEMONSTRATIONS
- TRAINING CONDUCTED
- OTHERS

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KVK ACTIVITIES (July-December, 2015)

| Activities                      | No. | Beneficiaries |
|---------------------------------|-----|---------------|
| On Farm Trial(OFT)              | 10  | 30            |
| Front line Demonstration(FLD)   | 7   | 46            |
| Training for Practicing Farmers | 35  | 1059          |
| Training for Farm Women         | 8   | 120           |
| Training for Rural Youth        | 12  | 370           |
| Other Extension Activities      |     |               |



## IMPORTANT EVENTS

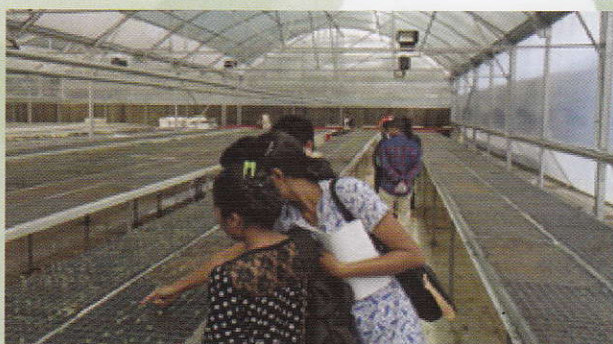
1. Exposure visit for trainees from RSETI-MRB, Nongstoin The exposure visit for trainees from RSETI-MRB Nongstoin was organised by Managing Director, Meghalaya Rural Bank, Nongstoin in collaboration with KVK, West Khasi Hills on the 18<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2015. The trainees were exposed to farmer's field to get an idea on the various activities (OFTs & FLDs) conducted by KVK, WKH. Demonstration was done in farmer's pond management on liming, manuring and feeding. Demonstration on liming which is essential in fish pond is very important as the farmers are reluctant to follow thinking that the fish will die. But with calculated dose and the type of lime (lime powder or Agricultural lime), it is very safe to use which give a better water quality in the fish pond.



Exposure visit for trainees from RSETI-MRB Nongstoin in collaboration with KVK, West Khasi Hills.

### 2. Exposure visit for the Rural youth

The office of Project Director, ATMA, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin in collaboration with KVK, West Khasi Hills jointly organised the exposure visit to Jorhat, Assam for trainees from Nongstoin Block under TREYSEFA scheme for three days wef 14-16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015. The trainees visited Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat and were exposed to Horticulture farm and field experiments exploring hi-tech polyhouse cultivation of different crops. The rural youths were benefitted on seeing the feasible technology of tissue culture, compost making, livestock based enterprise and how different farm based activities could be set up for income generation.



Exposure visit to Jorhat, Assam for trainees under TREYSEFA scheme



2. **World Food Day Celebration** The KVK celebrated the World Food Day (16th Oct, 2015) at Pyrda Secondary School, PyrdaThymmai village. Awareness on World Food Day with special reference on the theme, “Social protection and Agriculture” was highlighted by the Programme Co-ordinator in the presence of local heads, teachers and students from Pyrda Secondary School and also from nearby schools. Quiz competition for the school students was also organised and there was active participation from the students.



Celebration of World Food Day at Pyrda Secondary School, PyrdaThymmai village on 16th Oct, 2015

### 3. **Vegetable show cum seminar programme**

Vegetable show cum seminar programme with the theme “Vegetable cultivation: A major enterprise to diversify the livelihood opportunities” sponsored “Under mission for integrated development of horticulture-2014-15” was jointly organized by O/o District Horticulture Officer and KVK, West Khasi Hills on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at O/o Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Mairang where 153 farmers took part from 25 villages. The show was inaugurated by Shri. P Kharkongor, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya i/c of Agriculture Department who is also the Chief Guest in the presence of Shri M. Diengdoh, EAC, Mairang Civil sub-division and officers from Agriculture Department and other line Departments.

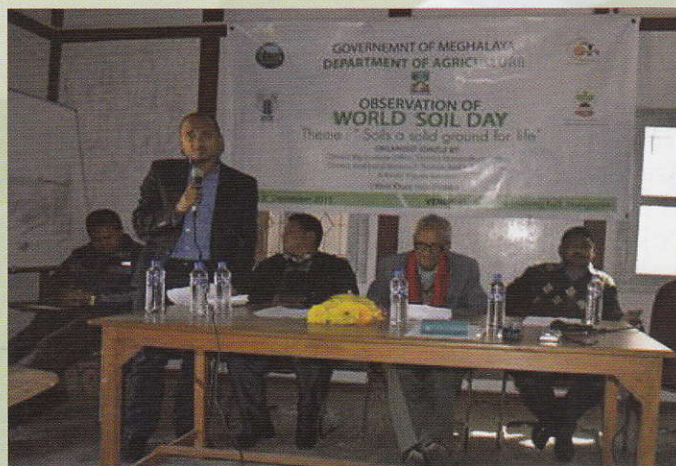




Vegetable show cum seminar programme jointly organized by O/o District Horticulture Officer and KVK, West Khasi Hills on 3rd and 4th November, 2015 at O/o Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Mairang.

#### 4. Celebration of World Soil Day, DHO, Nongstoin

The KVK in collaboration with the District Agriculture Office and District horticulture Office celebrated the World Soil Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 at the Office of District Horticulture Officer, Nongstoin. The theme of the programme was 'Soils a solid ground for life'. About 250 numbers of soil health cards were distributed on this auspicious day.





## ON FARM TRIALS (OFTs)

**Twelve OFTs were completed during this period which benefited 36 farmers**

These OFTs are : Construction of Jalkund, Cultivation of Soybean, INM in Khasi mandarin, Nutritional gardening, Rejuvenation of Citrus Orchard, Management of Rhizome rot of ginger by using GF1 (April –December), IPM in cabbage, Rural poultry farming with improved breed of backyard chicken, Introduction of Hybrid Napier grass (CO-2 & CO-3) as fodder crops, Evaluating the performance of Amur common carp and local common carp in Composite fish culture, Feeding carps with balanced diets, Study on the marketing efficiency of agricultural produce through different marketing channels in West Khasi Hills District

### **Use of GF1 for Management of Rhizome Rot of Ginger**

The District of West Khasi Hills is endowed with a range of climatic conditions ranging from temperate to sub-tropical. Some region of the district favours the growth and development of both the host and the pathogen, thereby causing havoc to agricultural crops. Farmers could not get expected production when such conditions prevail. Even if they get some production the quality is reduced and they cannot fetch desirable prices. Soft rot of ginger caused by *Pythium aphanidermatum* is a serious problem in ginger growing belt in the district. The problem is even more serious when the infection is coupled with ginger stem borer infection. GFI is a botanical formulation extracted in Division of Agroforestry, ICAR, NEH, Umiam. This botanical extract is incorporated in IPM strategy as a component in order to control rhizome rot as it not only controls rhizome rot but also boost immune system of the host to withstand several infections and infestations. Farmers in their feedbacks reported faster germination and development of yellowish colour after the treatment with GF1. Average yield of rhizome /hill was 660g in treated plots whereas in farmers practice the average yield per hill was only 380g. Percent Disease Incidence was found to be 35% in treated plots whereas it was 78% in farmer's practice.





## FRONTLINE DEMONSTRATIONS

Seven FLDs were conducted during this period which benefitted 46 farmers. The FLDs are Construction of Jalkund, Use of tubular maize sheller for removing grains from dry maize cobs Scientific cultivation of turmeric, Pig-cum-fish farming, Rural Poultry farming With Improved Breed Of Backyard Chicken, Composite fish culture, Participatory videos



Different Front line demonstration conducted in the District

### Rural poultry farming with improved breed of backyard poultry “Vanaraja and Gramapriya”

Front Line demonstration was conducted with improved breeds of backyard chicken (Vanaraja and Gramapriya). The rural people of Meghalaya have been rearing local poultry birds since time immemorial however the performance of local/desi birds are poor in terms of egg and meat production resulting in insufficient production of necessary protein requirements and quantity for the people. Introduction of improved breed of poultry birds i.e. Vanaraja and Gramapriya have brought about positive changes in income generation and production. Observations were recorded and compared with local desi birds which was found that improved breed had added advantages over desi birds.



| Total Expenditure incurred   | Profit gained on selling                     |   |   | Total Profit on selling eggs and birds | Net return | C:B ratio |
|--|--|---|---|--|------------|-----------|
|  | Eggs   | Birds   |   |  |            |           |
|  |  | Adult   | Chicks  |  |            |           |
| Rs. 125000 on feeding of concentrate feeds along with locally available feed and other expenses. | Rs. 120000 (12000 nos. of eggs) @ Rs. 10/egg | Rs. 92000(adult male, 92nos@ rs 1000/bird).<br><br>Rs. 93500 (adult Female, 110 nos@ Rs.850/bird) | Rs. 120000 (1200 nos. of chicks were sold @ Rs 100/ chicks) | Rs. 425500                             | Rs. 300500 | 3.4       |



Front Line demonstration on Rural poultry farming with improved breed of backyard poultry "Vanaraja and Gramapriya"

## TRAININGS CONDUCTED

### 1. Training for Practicing Farmers:

During this period a total of 35 training were conducted in various villages of West Khasi Hills which had benefitted 1059 farmers.

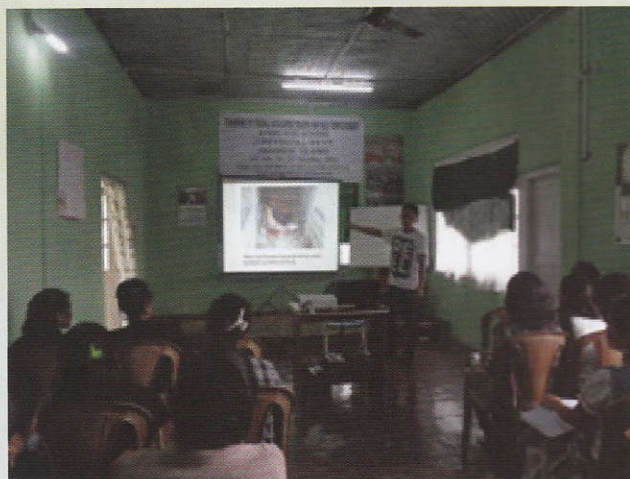
### 2. Training for Farm women:

Rural women play an important role in the day to day farming activities. Eight training programs specific for farm women was conducted in the district during the period which had benefitted 160 farm women.



### 3. Training for Rural youth:

Rural youth are the future of the farming community. They need a strong base so that they can establish themselves well as potential progressive farmers as well as entrepreneurs and bringing about a better living status among the farming community. A total of 12 training was conducted which benefitted 370 youth from across the district.



Different training conducted for the rural youth and farmers in the District

### OTHER EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

#### 1. LINKAGES WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Off campus training programme for extension field workers and technology demonstration in collaboration with Nongstoin Social Service Society, Nongstoin
- ✓ As a resource person for the 3 months off campus training programme organized by Meghalaya Rural Bank - Rural Self employment Training Institute (MRB-RSETI), Nongstoin, West Khiasi Hills, Meghalaya.



- ✓ As a resource person for the training programme TREYSEFA organized by ATMA, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin & ATMA, South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat
- ✓ As a resource person for the training programme organized by MAMETI at IATC, Upper Shillong
- ✓ ICAR (RC) for NEH Region, Umiam for supply of fish fingerlings and mushroom spawn to KVK farmers
- ✓ As a resource person for the training programme organized by Meghalaya State Fisheries Research and Training Institute (MSFRTI) at Mawpun, Meghalaya

### 3. PARTICIPATION BY THE KVK

- Attended the Kisan Mela cum Exhibition at KVK East Khasi Hills (16th July 2015)
- Participated at the 87<sup>th</sup> ICAR Foundation Day & 9<sup>th</sup> National Conference of KVKs- at Patna, Bihar (24<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015)
- Attended Autumn Flower and Floral Arrangement organized by the Nongstoin Agri-Horticultural Society in collaboration with O/o District Horticulture Office, West Khasi Hills at Nongstoin (27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015)
- Attended valedictory function of TREYSEFA organized by Project Director, ATMA, West Khasi Hills at O/o District Agriculture Office, West Khasi Hills (20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015)
- Attended workshop on Soil Health Management at Guwahati, Assam (14<sup>th</sup> October, 2015)

### 4. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Smti. Yvonne Sohtun, SMS (Horticulture) participated in the training programme on “Organic farming” organized by ICAR, Umiam (17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 & on 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015)
- Smti. Itirekha R Marak, SMS (Plant Protection) attended training programme at Hyderabad on Social Media (30<sup>th</sup> November -3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015)
- Dr. Dodo Pasweth, Programme Coordinator, KVK attended the Management Training programme (MDP) for newly recruited Programme Coordinator, KVK
  - 1st phase-15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015-29<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015 at NAARM, Hyderabad
  - 2nd phase-4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016-14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 at KVK Nimpith, West Bengal
  - 3rd phase-18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016-22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2016 at ATARI Zone III, Umiam





1st Phase-NAARM, Hyderabad



2nd Phase-KVK, Nimpith  
MDP attended by Dr. D Pasweth, Programme Coordinator, KVK, West Khasi Hills w.e.f 29th Dec 2015-22nd Jan, 2016

3rd Phase-ATARI Zone III, Umiam, Meghalaya

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

| Activities                             | No. of programmes |
|--|-------------------|
| Diagnostic visits                      | 56                |
| Advisory service                       | 119               |
| Field Day                              | 6                 |
| Film show                              | 4                 |
| Method Demonstrations                  | 16                |
| Scientific visit to farmers field      | 170               |
| Lectures delivered as resource persons | 8                 |
| Newspaper coverage                     | 4                 |
| KMAS                                   | 24                |

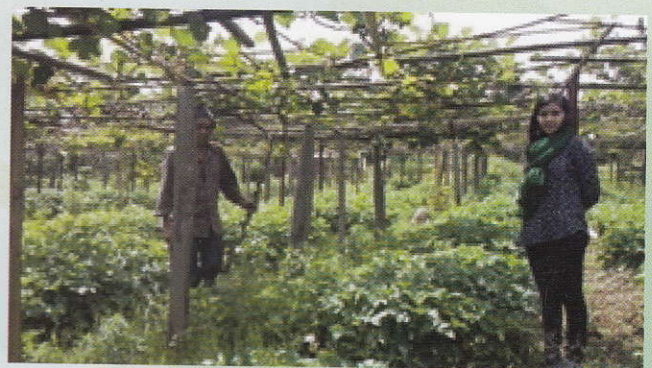
### Technology showcasing on use of trichocards against rice leaf folder and rice stem borer

Rice leaf folder and stem borer are the major constraints affecting rice production in West Khasi Hills. Biocontrol agents are one of the promising measures in this new era of organic agriculture.





In order to create awareness among the farming community the benefits of use of bioagents, showcasing of use of trichocards (*Trichogramma chilonis* and *T.japonicum*) was conducted in Mawkamoit village of West Khasi Hills on 28th September 2015. Showcasing was conducted for a stretch of 10 hectares of land where farmers actively took part in releasing of biocontrol agents in their paddy field.



Field day on Protected cultivation of Megha tomato 3 at PyndengumiongMairang village & Field visit to farmer's field



Published by:-

The Programme Co-ordinator  
KrishiVigyan Kendra West Khasi Hills  
Nongshillong, West Khasi Hills District  
Meghalaya- 793119  
e-mail: kvkwkh@gmail.com



From:-

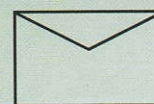
Dr. Dodo Pasweth

Programme Co-ordinator

KrishiVigyan Kendra West Khasi Hills

Nongshillong, West Khasi Hills District

Meghalaya- 793119



BOOK POST

TO

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_