

# ACTIVITIES-EXTENSION REFORMS (LOW COST POLYHOUSE FOR OFF-SEASON VEGETABLES)



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## ACTIVITIES-EXTENSION REFORMS

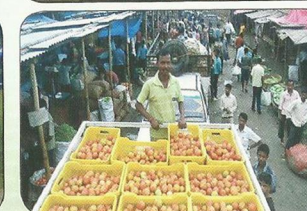
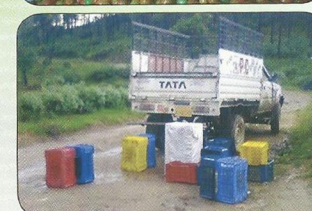
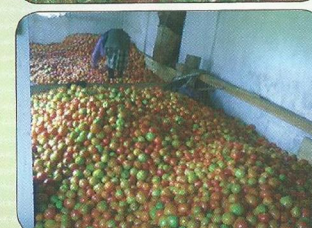
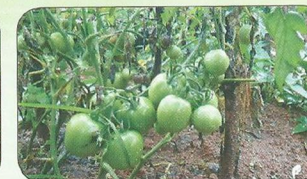
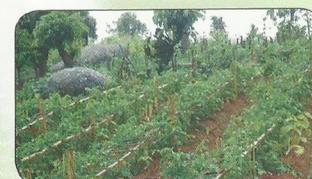
The Nongjak Mawthohbeh Massar cluster level federation was formed in the year 2012. It was originated from "Ialam lynti- I SHG" which was earlier formed in the year 2006. The cluster consists of 12 SHGs of three adjacent villages viz. Nongjak, Mawthohbeh and Massar. Each SHG on an average comprises of 10 members, involved in vegetable cultivation and particularly tomato crop on a large scale area.

It was in the year 2012 that Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Khasi Hills, Nongshillong identified the Nongjak Mawthohbeh Massar cluster level federation of its potentiality for tomato production through the PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) survey conducted in the month of July, 2012. The major findings based on PRA survey for tomato cultivation revealed the following:

1. Seed varieties- Karan, Avinash, Hybrid-17
2. Seed rate: 20 gm / 0.5 ha
3. Disease: Blight & Wilt
4. Insect pest: Fruit borer
5. Production: 8000 kg/0.5 ha
6. Marketing form: Fresh tomato
7. Place of marketing: Nongstoin market, Shillong-Jewduh market, Assam-Fancy Bazar, Khurchok Bazar
8. Means of transport: TATA mobile vehicle, bus and sumo
9. Storage: No cold storage
10. Limitations: Demand-supply of tomato and other vegetables throughout the year
11. Needs: Advanced feasible technology



*Sharing of knowledge with the villagers on different PRA exercises*



*Different stages of operation on tomato right from cultivation to marketing*



Based on the above facts and figures, the KVK, West Khasi Hills together with the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Nongstoin, decided to support the Nongjilak Mawthohbeh Massar cluster level federation by initiating a convergence programme in the form of “**Low cost polyhouse for off-season vegetables**” which will prove to be the best alternative for regulating the above factors as per requirement of the crops in order to realize the maximum potential of the crops and increase the income of the cluster as well. This will also provide advantages for off season production of crops to get higher prices. Tomato, lettuce, french bean, carrot are remunerative crops for polyhouse cultivation in this area. Low cost polyhouse was constructed using locally available bamboos for developing the frame. UV stabilized film of 200  $\mu$  (800 gauge) used for covering the roof and 75 per cent shade net on the side walls. The size of the polyhouse was kept at 6m breadth and 14m length with height of 7 ft. The estimated cost of construction varies between ₹ 25000 to ₹ 30000/Polyhouse.



*Members of SHG who benefitted from the polyhouse*

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