

North-East Farm Innovator's Meet organised at Gangtok

In order to strengthen the farmers of North East region of India, a program on *Listen to Farmers: North-East Farmer Innovator's Meet* was organised by ICAR-ATARI, Zone-VI, Guwahati, Assam and ICAR-ATARI, Zone-VII, Umiam, Meghalaya in collaboration with ICAR-NOFRI, Gangtok during April 20-21, 2018 at Conference Hall of ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong, Gangtok. About 40 Farm Innovators from all the North Eastern States participated in the program addressed by Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (AE), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. Prabhu Kumar, Ex. Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone-I& Zone-VIII, Bengaluru; Dr. Bidyut C. Deka, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Umiam; Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Guwahati; Dr. Ratan Saha, Director Extension Education, CAU, Imphal. In the first day, i.e, April 20, 2018, 18 farmers made their presentations on various innovations based on their practical experiences with demonstration.

Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (AE), ICAR, New Delhi in his address highlighted the importance of Farm Innovation. While addressing the gathering he urged upon the farmers to adopt the latest technologies developed by ICAR Institutes and SAUs/ CAUs so as to double the farm income by 2022. He also highlighted about different Flagship programs of ICAR viz. ARYA, Farmers FIRST, NARI, VATICA etc. Dr. Singh in his address appreciated the ATARI, Zone-VI & Zone-VII and ICAR-NOFRI for their sincere efforts in organizing the Farm Innovators' Meet.



Dr. Prabhu Kumar, Ex. Director, ICAR-ATARI', while addressing the gathering appreciated the efforts of the farmers for their innovations and called upon the farmers to utilize their farm resources for doubling their income. He stressed upon the role of PPV&FRA for registration of the farmer's varieties.

Dr. Bidyut C. Deka, Director, ATARI- VII, Umiam, Meghalaya in his address highlighted the objective of the Farm Innovators meet. He appraised that the activities being undertaken by the individual Krishi Vigyan Kendra for the promotion of newer techniques for doubling the farmers' income. Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Guwahati highlighted about the latest technologies developed/ popularised by different KVKs of the region and appreciated the farmers for enhancing the production of pulses and oilseeds in the region. Dr. R.Saha, Director Extension Education, CAU, Imphal also addressed the gathering.



10 progressive farmers of the region for their farm innovations were given away awards by Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (AE). Dr. R. Bordoloi, Principal Scientist, ATARI-VII, Umiam, Meghalaya coordinated the programme. Dr. Raghavendra Singh, Sr. Scientist & Head (I/c), KVK-East Sikkim proposed the vote of thanks in the validictory function of the programme.

(Sources: ICAR-ATARI, Umiam, ICAR-ATARI, Guwahati and ICAR-NOFRI, Gangtok)