ARIAS Society
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services Society

KRISHI RUPANTAR

APART E-NEWSLETTER

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TRANSFORMATIVE MAIZE PRACTICES DRIVE REMARKABLE SUCCESS FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN ASSAM

- OPIU-AGRICULTURE

OVERVIEW

Assam, located in Northeast India, is known for its fertile land and favorable climate for agriculture. Maize, which is a crucial crop next to paddy cultivation in Assam, is used for food, livestock feed, starch, and various industrial purposes. Currently, Assam produces only 150,000 to 200,000 tonnes of maize, while the demand exceeds 1,000,000 tonnes for feed and bioethanol production. Therefore, increasing maize cultivation in Assam is vital for enhancing food security, nutritional needs, and economic growth in both Assam and the North-Eastern Himalayan (NEH) region.

To address this, the Government of Assam (GoA) through Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART), who in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR) based in Ludhiana, Punjab, implemented the initiative across twelve districts of Assam. The initiative aims to enhance maize production for sustainable livelihoods, with a focus on boosting farm productivity to support livestock feed and agribusiness development.

IMPLEMENTATION STORIES

Story of Jajmohan Prasad

Sri Jagmohan Prasad, a smallholder farmer from Domile village in the Bokalia area of Karbi Anglong district, Assam **(Picture 1),** faced significant challenges in his maize farming before receiving assistance **(refer to Table 1).** His maize yields were consistently low, barely sufficient to meet his family's needs. Determined to improve his situation, Jagmohan sought guidance from the Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR) team. By following their recommended production technologies, he achieved substantial improvements in both yield and profitability through the project intervention **(Table 1).**

PICTURE 1: DEMONSTRATION TRIAL OF MAIZE CROP IN DOMILE VILLAGE OF BOKALIA, KARBI ANGLONG

TABLE 1: ACHIEVEMENTS AND INTERVENTION BEFORE AND AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FARMER

Before intervention	During intervention	Achievements
Limited knowledge of innovative practices.	Introduced to innovative farming practices, such as optimal spacing, precise fertilizer application etc.	Regular training sessions and technical guidance from IIMR experts, He achieved 45% higher yield (11.5 quintals per hectare) than previous harvests
Excessive use of chemicals or pesticides *i.e.* Chlorantraniliprole 18.5% w/w (Coragen) (6-7 applications), and maximum irrigations on short interval period (minimum: 05).	Use of high-quality seeds (ADV-756)	He improved farm income with a net profit of INR 78,000-80,000 per hectare (189% higher than previous).
Applied poor quality of seeds and weedicides.	Reduced the applications of pesticides (only 1-2) and irrigations (3-4) in maize farming.	Enhanced his knowledge and skills in sustainable farming practices.
Lower profit due to higher cost of cultivation.		Better profits

Impact

Jagmohan's success had a profound impact not only on his own farm but also inspired fellow farmers in Domile village to adopt similar innovative practices. His accomplishments included a significant increase in maize yield and a maximum net profit, while also achieving a remarkable reduction in pesticide usage by 70-83%. Pesticide applications decreased from 6-7 to just 1-2, and irrigation frequency dropped by 20-40%, going from a minimum of 5 times to only 3-4 times during the rabi season **(Figure 1)**. These reductions notably decreased the production costs of his maize fields, ultimately leading to an increase in net returns.

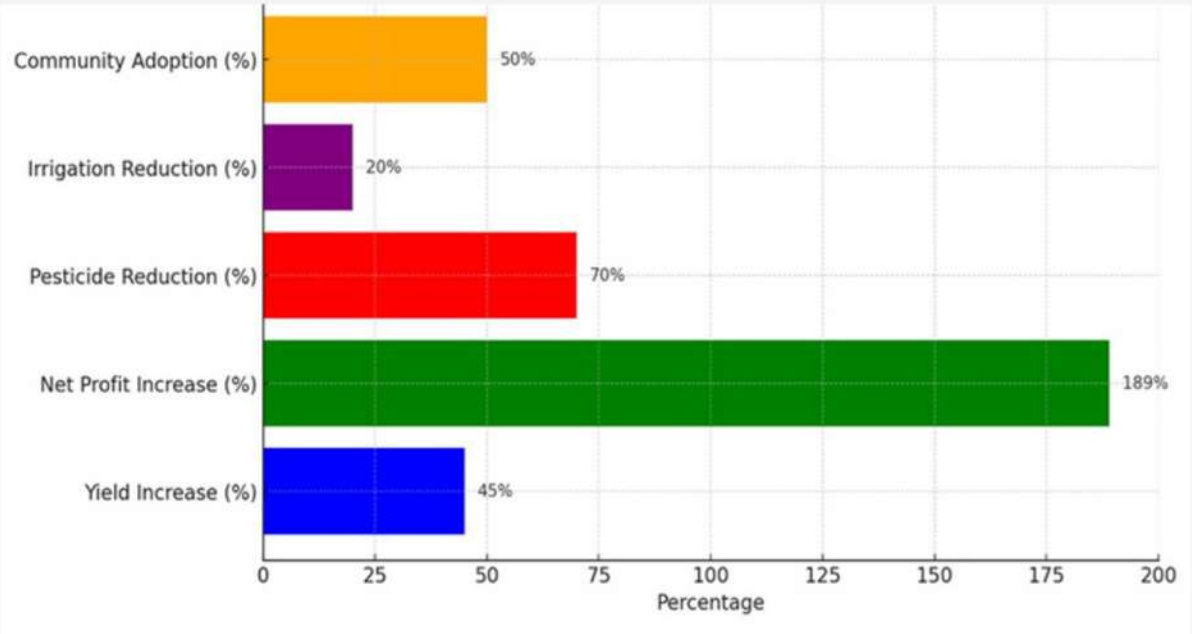


Figure 1: Impact of interventions on maize farming in Domile village

The Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders recognized the effectiveness of these projects, resulting in increased support for similar initiatives. This collective effort has significantly improved livelihoods and economic stability in the region, while promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development.

Overcoming Challenges

By implementing new interventions for maize farming, farmer Jagmohan encountered skepticism from his community regarding the adoption of these innovative methods (see Table 2). Additionally, limited resources and initial difficulties in mastering the techniques presented significant hurdles. However, with the continuous support from IIMR experts and Jagmohan's determination, he was able to overcome these obstacles, as outlined below:

Table 2: Challenges and details faced by Jagmohan and their solutions during the intervention

Challenges	Details	Solutions
Community Skepticism	Initial reluctance from fellow farmers to adopt new farming methods.	Continuous support and demonstration of successful results by IIMR experts.
Limited Resources	Insufficient access to high-quality seeds and modern farming equipment.	Provision of resources and high-quality seeds (ADV-756) by the project.
Mastering New Techniques	Difficulty in understanding and applying innovative farming practices.	Regular training sessions and personalized advice from IIMR experts.
Monitoring and Guidance	Need for ongoing support to ensure proper implementation of new methods.	Regular monitoring and technical guidance to address any issues promptly.

Key lessons learned:

- **Continuous education and hands-on training for farmers are essential for the successful adoption of new farming techniques**
- **High-quality seeds and precise farming methods are crucial for achieving high yields.**
- **Collaboration among farmers, researchers, and institutions significantly enhances the effectiveness of agricultural projects.**
- **Flexibility and responsiveness to farmers' needs are vital in overcoming challenges and ensuring the success of such initiatives.**

Future Opportunities:

The success of Jagmohan Prasad's maize farming project opens up several promising opportunities for further growth and development (Fig.2):

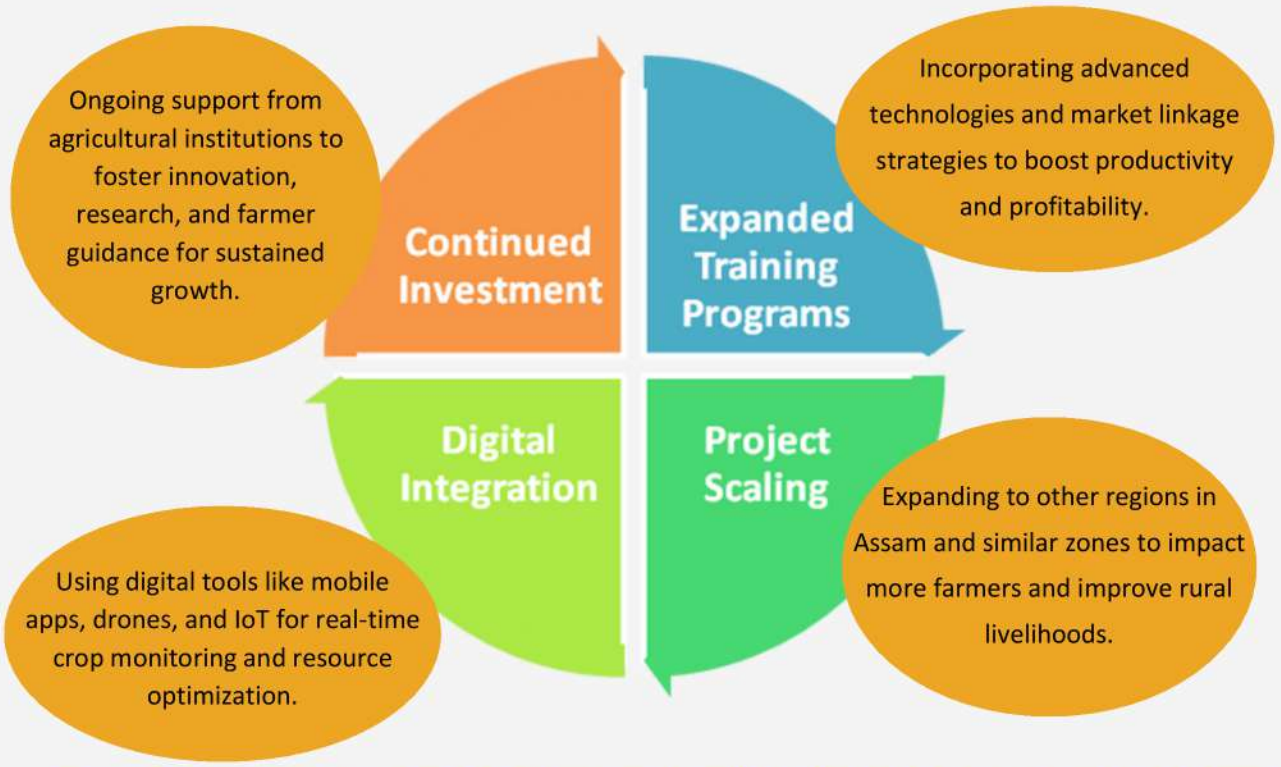


Figure 2. Future opportunities for further growth and development of maize farming in Assam

CONCLUSION

The intervention by ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR) in Ludhiana, Punjab, through the Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART), has significantly improved maize production in Assam. Jagmohan Parsad's adoption of innovative practices, such as optimal plant spacing, use of high-quality seeds, and reduced pesticide and irrigation usage, has resulted in a 45% increase in maize yield and a 189% rise in farm income. The project has facilitated the implementation and scaling up of effective agronomic practices, including the use of high-yielding maize hybrids, better crop establishment through zero tillage, integrated weed management, and intercropping with vegetables, all in collaboration with various stakeholders. By enhancing maize production in line with the region's climatic conditions and market opportunities, this initiative can promote sustainable livelihood security in Assam through a revamped maize value chain.

DANDUA DUGDHA UTPADAK SAMAYBAY SAMITI :
Milking Success through Cooperation

- APART team , OPIU- WAMUL

Mayong, known as the land of the occult, has long instilled fear, even in the Mughals, and continues to send chills down people's spines. Not far from Mayong lies the village of Dandua, which is striving to establish its own identity through sustainable dairy farming. Located near the district headquarters, Dandua enjoys the advantage of easy access to markets. However, the dairy farmers in the village have struggled to manage the regular disposal of their milk, which has hindered their ability to pursue dairying as a full-time occupation.

During the initial phase of the intervention of APART, significant infrastructure development was underway at WAMUL. A few farmers from Dandua learned about Purabi and its operations and approached the field officials of WAMUL to express their interest in partnering with them. On June 21, 2019, fifteen farmers, led by Mr. Dip Kumar Deka, began supplying milk to the newly established Dandua Dugdha Utpadak Samabay Samiti.

APART Intervention

The Dandua society has been very fortunate to receive support from APART since the beginning of its operations. A variety of support services have been provided to the society, facilitating its successful operations and sustainable growth. An Automatic Milk Collection System (AMCS) was implemented, which reduced labor intensity and increased both efficiency and transparency in the system. Farmers are now able to view their fat and solids not fat (SNF) values digitally, as well as on the printed receipts. This has significantly enhanced their trust in the system.

Table 1: Comparison of Before and After APART

Sl. No.	Parameters	2019-2020	2023-2024	2024-2025 (Upto Sep-24)
1	Avg. Milk Quantity / Day	134.86	260.84	257.53
2	No. Of Total Pourer	94	184	185
3	No. Of Active Pourer	93	49	46
4	Avg. Milk Quantity/Farmer	1.45	5.32	5.60
5	Avg. Fat% and SNF%	4.62 & 8.28	4.57 & 8.26	4.57 & 8.28
6	Avg. Milk Price (in Rs/L)	36.19	41.70	41.92
7	Artificial Insemination (AI) %	30%	70%	80%

The farmers gradually began to recognize the significance of improved milk quality and started to adopt better feeding practices. WAMUL has been providing subsidized cattle feed, mineral mixtures, and bypass protein to its farmer members to boost milk production. Additionally, farmers received Napier slips and maize seeds under APART.

Farmers lined up for pouring milk at Dandua DUSS

These support services have been well-received by the farmers, as they helped reduce costs while increasing milk production.

The area under Dandua village is a low-lying area and during the rainy season, farmers face an acute shortage of green fodder. WAMUL, staying true to its commitment to improve farmers' well-being, stepped in and provided training under APART to the members on silage-making. A chaff cutter was also supplied at the community level, besides silage bags were supplied to the farmers interested in preparing their own silage. As a result, farmers were able to create and store silage for use during dry seasons, leading to a remarkable improvement in their ability to manage fodder shortages.

The appointment of veterinary executives and the implementation of MAITS, along with the provision of Artificial Insemination (AI) services under APART, have significantly improved animal breeding and nutrition in the village. Farmers have become aware of the high-yielding cattle breeds such as Holstein Friesian, Gir, Red Sindhi, and Jersey, etc. By utilizing AI services, they have been able to increase their herd size with these improved breeds, greatly enhancing the viability of dairying.

In contrast to the local breed, Lakhimi, which produces only 1-2 liters of milk per day, crossbred cows can yield between 12-15 liters per day. Additionally, veterinary executives have provided valuable consultation services to farmers, offering guidance on ration balancing, ethno-veterinary medicine, and animal diseases.

After joining WAMUL, members of the Dandua Society participated in several capacity-building training programs, such as the Farmers Induction Program (FIP), Clean Milk Production (CMP), training on Green Fodder, training on Animal Nutrition, and training for Management Committee Members, all under the APART. The farmers believe these training programs have significantly aided their day-to-day operations on the dairy farms as well as within the society.

Clean milk production is a key priority for WAMUL. To promote clean milk production practices, stainless steel milk cans with capacities of 5 liters and 10 liters were provided to the member farmers as part of the APART initiative. Additionally, Mrs. Junuma Mali received a milking machine from WAMUL to help alleviate the physical strain of milking. Farmers in Assam have traditionally relied on age-old practices in dairying, and adopting new methods requires time. Efforts are ongoing to encourage more farmers to embrace modern dairying practices.

The collective efforts of the farmer members of the Dandua Society have resulted in a total of Rs. 5,65,907 being returned to them as additional payment for their milk since the intervention of APART. The farmers have made significant progress, which is clearly evident from the year-on-year increases in the additional payments they have received for their milk.

Table 2: Year-wise Additional Milk Price paid to the Farmer Members

Financial Year	NO OF PRODUCER	ADDITIONAL MILK PRICE PAID
2019-2020	28	38613
2020-2021	32	1,10,517
2021-2022	40	1,90,849
2022-2023	34	22,057
2023-2024	44	2,03,871
Total		5,65,907

Mrs. Junuma Mali: An Entrepreneur's Journey

Mrs. Junuma Mali is an exemplary farmer, beginning her dairying journey with just two local breed cattle, which only produced 4-5 liters of milk per day. This challenge was compounded by her difficulty in selling even that small quantity. To overcome these market uncertainties, she joined the Dandua Society, benefiting from more than just a guaranteed fair market.

With the assistance of AI services provided by WAMUL under APART, Mrs. Junuma increased her herd size to 14 cattle in just seven years. Currently, she has nine cows that are milking, while the remaining five are dry. On average, she produces 75-80 liters of milk per day, thanks to improved cattle breeds and her larger herd size. Her milk prices range from Rs. 40 to 42/- per liter over a 10-day cycle.

Mrs. Junuma is active and enthusiastic, as demonstrated by her participation in various training programs. She engages proactively, applying what she learns to her daily operations. Utilizing maize seeds and Napier slips provided by WAMUL under the APART intervention, she prepares silage for lean periods. Additionally, she has diversified her business by entering into related activities like nursery and vermin-composting. Her journey illustrates the immense potential of dairying to enhance the overall well-being of a household.

EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF PANGASIUS CULTURE IN ASSAM

- Kashyap Bora, Technical Officer, WorldFish

Introduction

Assam, with its abundant water resources and favourable climatic conditions, holds significant potential for the adoption of Pangasius culture. The striped catfish, Pangasianodon hypophthalmus, widely cultured in Indian states like West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, has demonstrated promising results in terms of economic viability and rapid growth. By learning from the successes of these states, Assam can develop its own strategies for seed production, culture practices, and feed management, ultimately contributing to the growth of its freshwater aquaculture sector of the state.

Culture Practices in India

In Andhra Pradesh farmers typically cultivate Pangasius in ponds ranging from 4 to 10 hectares. While Pangasius is often cultivated under both monoculture and polyculture systems, monoculture has proven to be more profitable. In polyculture systems, Pangasius and Rohu can be stocked in a 95:5 ratio at densities of 25,000 and 1,250 per hectare, respectively. However, higher stocking of Rohu has been found to hinder its growth due to limited feed availability. Despite some successful experiments with polyculture involving Pangasius, Rohu, Catla, and freshwater prawn, most farmers prefer monoculture. Although the compatibility of Pangasius polyculture with white-leg shrimp (Litopenaeus vannamei) was successfully demonstrated by some farmers, operational difficulties and challenges in managing overhead costs have limited its widespread adoption. (Bandla et al,2021).

Feeding Practices

Pangasius is typically cultured using feeds with a protein content ranging from 28% to 32%, primarily composed of cereals. Soybean meal, with a digestibility of 94.4%, is a key protein source in Pangasius feeds. While most farmers in Andhra Pradesh (88%) use commercially prepared feeds, a small percentage (12%) rely on farm-made feeds.The use of effective combinations of commercially prepared and farm-made feeds can optimize feed utilization and reduce production costs. Low-input diets made from locally available ingredients offer the advantage of reduced feed costs and eco-friendly production. However, the high cost of feed, which accounts for 80-85% of total production costs, remains a significant challenge for small and marginal farmers. Some farmers prepare their own feed with customized formulas, reducing production costs by 6-8%. (Bandla et al,2021).

The Potential of Pangasius in Assam

Pangasius has emerged as a popular choice for aquaculture due to its rapid growth rate, environmental resilience, flesh quality (fatty with less spines), and strong market demand. In states like West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, Pangasius has become a staple of the aquaculture industry, and Assam can similarly benefit from its introduction. The state's climate and water bodies are well-suited for Pangasius culture, providing an opportunity for both small and large-scale farmers to engage in this profitable venture.

Key Factors Contributing to Success

1. **Rapid Growth and Cost Efficiency:** Pangasius is known for its rapid growth, reaching a weight of 1.5 kg within just six months. This quick turnover, combined with relatively low production costs, makes it an attractive option for farmers in Assam. The fish's growth rate ensures a steady income stream, making it accessible for farmers with varying levels of experience and resources.
2. **Tolerance to Environmental Stress:** One of the key advantages of Pangasius is its ability to tolerate low dissolved oxygen (DO) levels and other environmental stresses. This resilience is particularly beneficial for Assam, where water conditions can vary. Pangasius's adaptability to different environments can lead to more stable production outcomes, reducing the risk of losses due to unfavorable conditions.
3. **Consumer Preference:** Pangasius has become popular among consumers due to its low intermuscular bone count and rich, fatty flesh, reflecting a high market demand. Assam, known for its strong fish-eating culture, could leverage this preference to introduce Pangasius into the local market, meeting the rising demand for fish. This also makes Pangasius an ideal candidate for various value-added fish products, such as fish fingers, cutlets, pakodas, fillets, and steaks.

4. Seed Production and Supply Chain: West Bengal plays a pivotal role as a major seed producer for Pangasius, facilitating its expansion in states like Andhra Pradesh. Assam can initially leverage this established supply chain for seed procurement while gradually developing its own seed production capabilities. Establishing local hatcheries will not only enhance sustainability but also reduce dependency on external sources. In addition to that Assam can play a crucial role in exporting the fish to its neighbouring North-Eastern states.

5. Culture Practices and Economic Viability: The monoculture practice, which has proven profitable and uncomplicated in Andhra Pradesh, could be similarly adopted in Assam. Although polyculture systems have been explored, monoculture's simplicity and higher profitability might be more attractive for initial adoption. As mentioned earlier the cost structure of Pangasius culture, where feed accounts for 80-85% of production costs and seeds for 6-8%, highlights the importance of developing cost-effective feeding strategies. The promotion of farm-made feeds can further optimize production costs and increase profitability.

Challenges and Strategic Approaches

Despite its potential, Pangasius farming is not without challenges. High feed costs and market price fluctuations pose significant hurdles. To address these challenges, Assam could adopt competitive strategies like those employed in Andhra Pradesh, such as efficient seed stocking, harvesting, and marketing practices. Additionally, enhancing local advisories, capital asset utilization, and methods to achieve higher yields are crucial for sustaining the industry in the long term.

Initiatives taken by Dept of Fisheries, Assam through APART

The APART project with its wide spread objectives facilitated the Department of Fisheries, Assam and the leading fisheries technology partner 'WorldFish' who alongside created awareness through organizing zonal workshops on promoting Pangasius culture in the state of Assam. The workshops motivated a huge gathering of interested aqua-entrepreneurs and fish farmers from different corners of Assam.

Senior government officials while taking active part in the workshop.

Conclusion

The culture of Pangasius mostly the striped catfish (Pangasianodon hypophthalmus) presents a viable opportunity for the expansion of aquaculture in Assam. By drawing insights from the successful practices of other Indian states, Assam can strategically integrate Pangasius culture into its aquaculture sector. With proper planning, seed production, and feed management, Pangasius farming can contribute to the economic growth and food security of the region, ultimately positioning Assam as a key player in India's aquaculture industry.

DIPTI GOGOI

Empowering and Inspiring women in Muga Farming

- OPIU-Sericulture

Smt. Dipti Gogoi
Vill: Dhyan Gaon, P.O. Palengi, Sivasagar

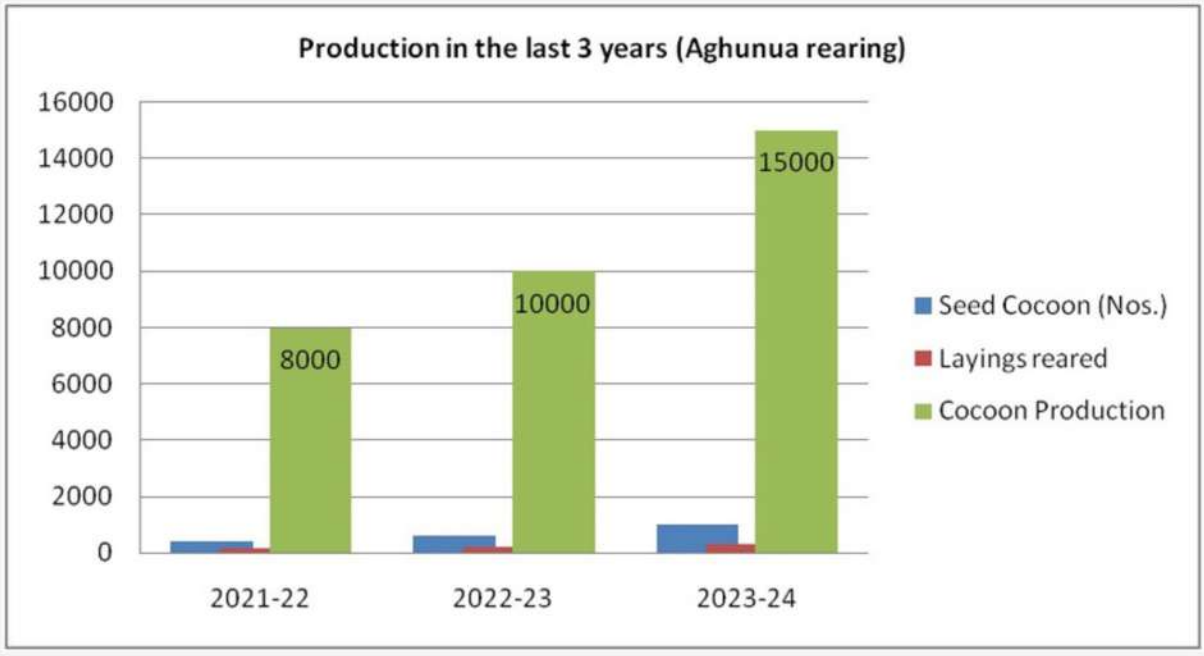
Smt. Dipti Gogoi was selected as beneficiary in the year 2019-2020 under World bank Funded APART for raising or 1 (one) acre of Som plantation.

Before APART intervention

Dipti Gogoi has been actively involved in sericulture activities since last 14+ years; she rears three types of silkworms: Eri, Muga, and Mulberry. Before the intervention of the Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) she had a small plantation with around 30 Som plants and primarily conducted small-scale rearing on Government farms.

APART intervention & support

The APART Project assisted her in expanding her plantation by providing the necessary inputs, allowing her to conduct two rearings in a year.



Dipti's cocoon production has steadily increased, allowing her to earn a decent income from Muga rearing. This has enabled her to support her children's education and contribute to the family finances. Additionally, she is involved in Muga reeling and engages her neighbors, creating employment opportunities for others. Her journey into Muga rearing has become an inspiration for the women in her community.

Som plantation of Smt. D. Gogoi


Muga rearing


Muga reeling

SUSHIL DIHINGIA: The Muga Seed Rearer

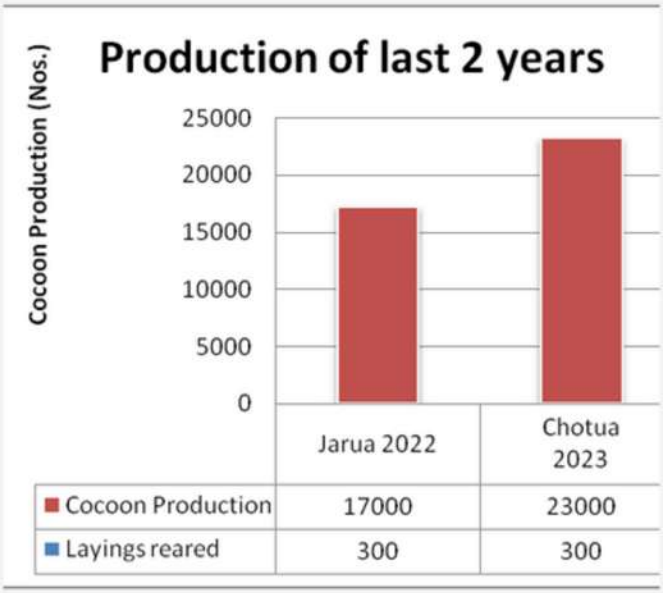
- OPIU-Sericulture

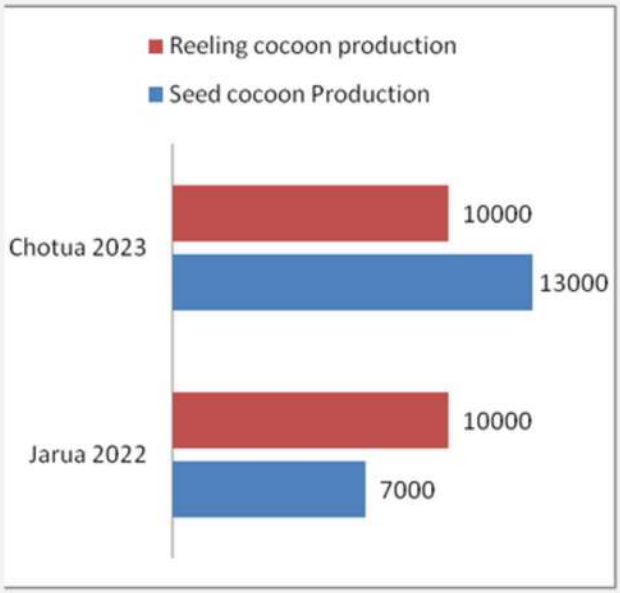
Sushil Dihingia
Dihingia gaon (Sangmaibari)
P.O. Bakhar Bengena, G.P. Bakhar Bengena, Sivasagar

Sushil Dihingia was selected as a beneficiary in the year 2019-2020 as an Adopted Seed Rearer, under APART.

APART Intevention & Support

Sushil is a member of the Bakhar Reshom Farmer Interest Group (FIG) established under APART. Having been a Muga rearer since childhood, he has been able to take up Muga rearing on a large scale after receiving support from APART. Sushil now supplies seed cocoons to other commercial rearers and earns a decent income.





Future Prospects

Muga rearing is a way of life for Sushil, and he insists that he will never give it up. Recently, his main challenges have been obtaining quality seed cocoons and dealing with crop failures due to the raising temperatures and climate change. However, despite these setbacks, he remains dedicated to Muga rearing, serving as a positive example and inspiration to other rearers.

EMPOWERING SILK REARERS AND WEAVERS
Growing as an Farmer Producer Company (FPC)

- Khamseng Bohagi Rajkumari, CEO
Charaideo Silk and Agro Producer Company Ltd.

It was in the year 2020, when officials from Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) the Sericulture Department visited the MugaSumoni Farm in Charaideo and Sivasagar. During their visit to the farm the team introduced the concept of Farmer Producer Company (FPC) to the farmers present and proposed creating a silk-based FPC. Subsequently, SIMFED, the agency engaged by APART for formation of FPCs under the project held meetings with the members, and where it was decided that a Silk FPC would be formed and will also cover handloom and agriculture, as the local population includes silk farmers and weavers, as well as agri-horti farmers.

Charaideo Silk and Agro Producer Company Ltd.

Formation Date:13/11/2020

Total Shareholders:
440 (Male: 259 Female:181)

Focus Crop/Product:
Silk

Present Business:
Handloom Yardage

The main objective of aim of Charaideo Silk & Agro Producer Company Ltd. is to unite the muga and eri farmers and weavers of the region to create a collaborative business ecosystem. This initiative seeks to provide financial sustainability for the members while also conserving the practice and culture of silk rearing and handloom weaving.

Key individuals involved in the formation of the FPC were Rajib Rajkonwar, Premeshwar Rajkonwar, Shivo Konwar, Mahendra Rajkonwar, Shibo Deuri, Kaberi Kochari Rajkonwar, Prasun Rajkonwar, and Surempha Gogoi. The initial stages of mobilization were carried out by SIMFED (a Technical support agency under APART) and Surempha Gogoi, who traveled to various Mugasumonis to promote and explain the concept of Farmer Producer Companies (FPC) to farmers and seeking their approval to join. Before the formation of the FPC small groups were organized within the Lakwa Block. SIMFED officials and community organizers and Surempha Gogoi also conducted an awareness camp to introduce the concept of a 20-member Farmer Interested Group and encouraged its creation.

An ad-hoc committee was established, with Kaberi Kochari Rajkonwar as the Chairperson and Rajib Rajkonwar as the advisor of the Company. During a general meeting, the Board of Directors and promoters were appointed. With APART's assistance, the process of land identification and registration began, which included registering DIN numbers, completing KYC, and obtaining land deeds. Most of these tasks were completed by the handholding support of SIMFED officers backed by the facilitation of sector wise APART officials both at State and District level.

OBJECTIVES OF FORMATION, PLANNING AND VISION

- Improve the production and quality of work for silk farmers and rearers by providing assistance and guidance.
- Enhance production, quality, technology, marketing support, capacity building, and product diversification. Attract capital investment, increase competitiveness, and ensure the sustainable development of the cluster.
- Strengthen weavers' capacity by benchmarking best practices in rearing and weaving to boost productivity and quality.
- Improve the living conditions of the community.
- Empower women and uphold the dignity of weavers in society

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS

- Secure investments to generate working capital necessary for operations.
- Write letters to tea garden estates to inform and coordinate efforts aimed at minimizing pesticide usage during the silk rearing season.
- Organize training sessions with support from APART and by inviting experts from related fields

HURDLES AND CHALLENGES

- Low Supply of Muga Silkworm Seeds
- Poor Working Conditions for Farmers
- Pollution from Pesticides from nearby tea gardens use pesticides, leading to pollution affecting Mugasumoni farms
- Insufficient skill development trainings for Weavers
- Lack of Professionalism and Superstitions
- Limited Working Capital and funds to buy necessary raw materials like yarn, design cards etc.
- Need for Sustainable Market Linkages and connections to support both weavers and farmers.
- Excessive middlemen in the supply chain hinder the resource flow and profits

SITUATION AND INITIATIVES BEFORE APART

Before the formation of the FPC, the All Assam Muga Farmers Association was established to promote unity among farmers, and many of the members in the FPC were part of this association. This united muga front worked diligently to ensure access to muga seeds and to increase the production of muga cocoons.

CSC constructed with support from APART

For the region's weavers, the female artisans began their work under Kaberi Kochari Rajkonwar. It was only after this intervention that both weavers and farmers came together under one umbrella, creating a cohesive business model that encompassed the entire process from raw material to finished product.

INTERVENTION / CONTRIBUTION OF APART

On formation of the FPC through the support of APART, the following support has been availed by the members:

1. Training support: Trainings on design, dyeing and weaving has been provided by the Dept of Handloom & Textiles, OPIU under APART .

2. Orientation Support: The Board of Directors (BoDs) of the FPC were oriented on Producer Companies Act& financial managementof FPC, exposure visits etc. Support on financial education and services were provided through the “Krisarthak” initiative of APART.

3. Financial Linkage: Financial Linkage with NeDFi through APART has been provided to te FPC.

4. Common Service Centre: The financial support for construction of the Common Service Centre (CSC) has been provided through APART.

5. Machinery Support: Machinery support for the purchase of Looms and jacquared, drum set, dyeing unit was support through APART.

OFFICE MANAGEMENT/BOOK KEEPING /RECORD MAINTENANCE /COMPLIANCES

After the company was registered the following staffs were supported under APART.

1. Chief Executive Officer (CEO): CEO records all data, information, and production records of the FPC, as well as holding board meetings, documenting and sharing information with the shareholders, etc.

2. Accountant: Accountant is in charge of managing all financial transactions and information, stock book, cash book, etc.

3. Office Assistant: Supports the FPC in managing the official communication, handling bills and vouchers, etc, for the FPC.

Participation in exhibitions & fairs

- 12th Himalayan Trade Fair
- Silk Fab
- NEDFi Haat Rongali Mela
- Kaziranga Expo
- India Mega Trade Show
- Asomi Saras Mela
- Nandinii
- Rongali Mela 2024

Key Targets for future

- Aim to establish a fully functional handloom setup that encompasses yarn cutting, in-house card designing, weaving without external assistance, as well as the washing and calendaring of finished fabrics.
- Plan to create a fully mechanized rice production setup that manages processes from raw ingredients to packaging and marketing.
- Secure a strong presence in the market, particularly in Guwahati.

Compiled & Designed - IEC Team -APART