

## Farmers Training Programme on ‘Integrated Farming System for Income enhancement; organised at ICAR Tripura Centre

A capacity building programme on **Integrated Farming System for Income Enhancement** was organized under SCSP project for the farmers of South Tripura at ICAR, Tripura centre, NEH Region, Lembucherra, on 24 Sep 2021. Total of 33 farmers from 5 villages attended the training programme. At the outset an interaction was held between participating farmers and resource persons to understand about farmers’ problems, cropping and farming systems, resources available with them and opportunities for income enhancement. It was learned that most farmers are small and marginal with 3-4 kani cultivated lands and 0.25 to 0.5 kani pond area. Rice is the common crop during rainy season and potato is popular during winter. With support from ICAR most farmers started growing a summer crop like sesame or cowpea after potato following conservation/no-till practice which enhanced their income substantially. Most farmers earn about 40,000 to 50000 per annum from farming and those adopting animal specially dairying, piggery, fishery etc earn much more. Like Mr. Maran Sarkar from Julaibari, South Tripura earns about 2 lakh per annum from his 2 kani farm land and 0.5 kani farm pond used for integrated fish farming. He maintains local cow, duck and backyard poultry as well. Mr. Joydeep Das is having about 2 kani farm land and maintains cow, goat, poultry and rice-vegetable system. His income is about 1.5 lakh. Farmers during interaction programs ask for machineries, water harvesting and conveyance facilities, poultry chicks, piglets, vegetable seeds to improve their income and livelihood. Dr. Biswajit Das, Principal Scientist, Horticulture interacted with farmers on improved vegetable and fruit cultivation for income enhancement and better nutrition. Dr. Chandan Debnath, Scientist, Fishery Resource Management interacted with farmers on composite fish farming under IFS and also provided some idea on biofloc technology. Dr. Vinay Singh, Scientist, poultry Science discussed about backyard poultry farming and pig husbandry as component of IFS for income and employment. Dr. Anup Das, Principal Scientist, Agronomy gave an account of principle and practices of IFS for efficient resource recycling, productivity, income and employment enhancement. A hands on session on mushroom farming was also provided to farmers for improved nutrition and income. At the end of the training various inputs like vegetable seeds, mushroom spawn, poultry chicks, feeds, water pump etc. were distributed among trainees. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Anup Das, Dr. Lopamudra Sahoo, Dr. Chandan Debnath and Dr. Vinay Singh.





**Glimpses of activities under the training programme on IFS for farmers**