Jute-ICARE (Jute-Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise)

Tag Line of the Project

Enhancing Livelihood of Jute Farmers Through Mass Up-scaling of Improved Jute Production Technologies

Objective

To support the small and marginal jute growers with certified seed, mechanization in sowing and weed control and to accelerate retting by using microbial consortium so that the jute growers can grow good quality jute and receive higher price for their produce.

About the Scheme

The Jute-ICARE project was launched by National Jute Board (NJB) in technical collaboration with ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (ICAR-CRIJAF), Barrackpore, Ministry of Agriculture and Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, Kolkata in the year 2015 with an aim to aware and train the jute farmers for efficient and effective utilization of the improved jute production technologies and increase the fibre productivity as well as quality on a larger scale. The four technologies selected for promotion under the Jute-ICARE project are the technologies developed by ICAR-CRIJAF viz. a) use of certified jute seed (var. JRO 204 & JBO 2003H), b) line sowing of jute using CRIJAF multi-row seed drill, c) mechanical weeding by using CRIJAF nail weeder & CRIJAF single wheel jute weeder, and d) improved retting by using CRIJAF microbial consortium (CRIJAF SONA). The detailed information of area coverage, farmers benefitted and spread of technologies are given in Table 1.

The scientists of ICAR-CRIJAF have actively participated in the Jute-ICARE project to provide technical support to the farming community in terms of training (in house & off campus) and field demonstrations of these CRIJAF technologies in the project area. The quality testing of CRIJAF SONA supplied through Jute-ICARE is also carried out at the institute before supplying to the farming community.

Table 1: Detailed Information of Jute ICARE

Sl. No.	Particulars	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	No. of Jute growing block / state covered	4 Blocks under W.B & Assam	14 Blocks under W.B, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, A.P & Meghalaya	30 Blocks under W.B, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, A.P & Meghalaya	69 Blocks under W.B, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, A.P & Meghalaya	72 Blocks under W.B, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, A.P and Meghalaya
2	Land covered (Ha)	12331	26264	70628	98897	106934
3	No. of farmers covered	21548	41616	102372	193070	243549
4	Certified Jute seed (MT) cv. JRO-204 & JBO-2003H	64 MT	160 MT	500 MT	755 MT (JRO-204 589 M.T and JBO-2003H 166 M.T.)	535 MT
5	CRIJAF multi-row Seed drill machine	350 Nos.	350 (old) + New 350 = 700	700 (old) + New 500 = 1200	1200 (old) + New 750 =1950	Old = 1950 New = 600 Total = 2550
6	CRIJAF Single wheel jute weeder/ Nail weeder machine	500 Nos.	500 (Old) + 200 New Total = 700	700 (Old) + 500 New Total = 1200	1200 (Old) + New 750 Total =1950	Old = 1950 New = 900 Total = 2850
7	CRIJAF SONA (MT)	83	273	206	610	612
8	Sowing & Retting demonstrations	50 Nos.	132 Nos.	200 Nos.	400 Nos.	500 Nos.

A third-party evaluation of the project by National Productivity Council (NTC), New Delhi revealed that, about 90% of the registered farmers have adopted new variety of jute seeds which was only 2.07% before the implementation of the project. Further, 62.37% of the farmers have adopted retting through CRIJAF Sona powder which was not available before the start of the project. With regards to seed drill and nail weeder, the adoption has been confirmed by 36.59% and 34.64% farmers respectively. The average increase in yield as the result of implementation of the project in all the five states is 14.68%. The average no. of days taken for retting before and after the project is 20 and 13.82 respectively thereby, a decrease of 49.09% with CRIJAF SONA powder. A 15% increase in net income has been reported by sample farmers because of adoption of these improved production technologies of ICAR-CRIJAF.

Fig 1: Transfer of ICAR-CRIJAF technologies in farmers' field under Jute-ICARE for getting high quality fibre

Fig 2: Monitoring and meeting by the Scientists and officials involved in Jute-ICARE programme

Jute ICARE Team

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