



ACTIVITIES OF KVK KHOWAI DURING THE COVID-19 LOCK DOWN PERIOD



KVK Khowai, Tripura
(An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institute)
P.O. Chebri, Khowai, Pin-799207

EDITORS :

DIPANKAR DEY (SENIOR SCIENTIST AND HEAD I/C)
SUBHRA SHIL (SMS-HORTICULTURE)

CONTRIBUTORS:

DIPANKAR DEY
SURESH CH. BISWAS
ARDHENDU CHAKRABORTY
NURUL ISLAM
SUBRATA CHOUDHURY
PRADIP DEBBARMA
PRASANTO REANG
LORD LITAN DEBBARMA

KVK KHOWAI (CATEGORY "A") AN ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED INSTITUTE

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Activity: 2

➤ Home Delivery through Farmers Club :

Nayanpur village of Khowai district of Tripura holds a significant position in steady production of variety of Vegetables round the year. Fresh green vegetables like pointed Gourd, Spine gourd were getting over matured and rotten in the field itself. Generally Cachar, Karimganj of Assam are the major consumers of Pointed Gourd & Spine Gourd of this village but due to lock down the farmers fail to send their produces to these areas. KVK, Khowai & Economic & Social Welfare Development Farmers club jointly developed farm to Home delivery model of fresh vegetables. During the lock down period the farmers could able to sell 200 q of Pointed Gourd @ Rs. 35.00/kg & 150 q of Spine Gourd @ Rs. 32.00/kg & by this way they could earn a total of 116,500.00. The practice of Home delivery was done by maintaining all the Govt. Guidelines.



Activity: 3

► KVK Came forward to provide Cotton Masks to the farmers:

Sudden outbreak of COVID-19 resulted in unprecedented demand for masks which resulted in huge supply deficit for masks in the market. Good quality masks were not available in the market at affordable prices. As wearing mask was made mandatory by the Government in order to check asymptomatic spread of the disease. KVK Khowai came forward for this noble cause of social service by preparing and providing masks to the needy. Cotton masks being washable, economical, healthier than the masks having synthetic material and environment friendly and were loved by the people of Khowai district of Tripura. The KVK, Khowai so far supplied more than 5000 masks to the farmers, input dealers, senior citizens of Tripura.



Activity: 4

► Farmers Club & KVK Join hands in distribution of free food kits to fight against COVID-19:

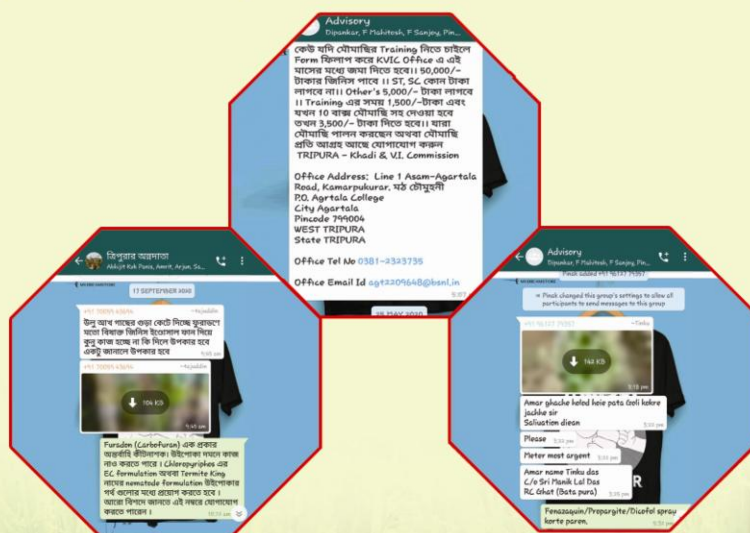
KVK Khowai with the help of farmer's clubs generating awareness among the people regarding COVID-19 spread. With the help of farmers clubs it has reached many villages of Khowai district like East R.C Ghat, North Chebri, Tablabari, Sonatala, Kakracher, Hrankhawal Para, North Pulinpur etc covering almost all the blocks of the district. With the help of team of volunteers of farmers clubs kits of food items (Potato:2 kg, Onion: 1 kg, Mustard oil: 1 lit, Soap, Fruits, Masks, turmeric powder, Spices) were distributed among the needy people by KVK as well as Farmers Clubs.



Activity:5

► IT platform shorten the distance between the scientist & Farmers:

After the lock down has been declared all over the country the farmers of the Khowai district were facing lots of problems as they were unaware of precautions against COVID-19. Farmers were facing problems in Agricultural Activities (Do's & Don't's) during lock down. They were facing problems in marketing of vegetables produced, insect pest problems, management of musrooms, livestock & disease control management, disease control of fruits & vegetables. KVK Khowai started new wats app group to provide advisory and to address problems faced by the farmers during the lock down period. More than 1100 numbers of farmers were connected through Wats app and KVK boost them to continue their agriculture activities by taking safety measures against COVID-19. All the scientist of KVK are actively providing need based technical supports to the farmers and side by side gave them reply on their need based queries. In this way till date more than 150 queries have been resolved through whatsapp & Telephonically. This approach not only address the farmers problems but also share lot of information's related to COVID-19, weather forecast, agriculture sector activities, which helped the farmers of Khowai district to continue their agricultural activities by following the Government guidelines.



Activity: 6

► Instant Crop Protection Advisory & Suitable PPC Supply through KVK, Khowai - Agri –Clinic at NICRA Adopted village of Khowai district of Tripura

North Pulinpur is a 100% tribal inhabited village of KVK, Khowai
The village has been adopted by KVK, Khowai under NICRA Project
Bitter Gourd & Maize is cultivated in almost 100 ha area of the village and the major crop of the village

During Lock down period the farmers were facing problems of fruit fly in bitter gourd and stem borer in maize, the farmers were not getting suitable Advisory and right PPC to address the issues.

They have informed KVK Khowai Scientists

KVK, Khowai scientists visited the farmers plot and given them immediate solution with supply of PPC from KVK, Agri clinic.

After one spray of recommend PPC the farmers could get rid of the insect attack in those two major crops during harvesting time & they could get very good yield.(Bitter Gourd: 97 q/ha, Maize: 54 q/ha)



Activity: 7

► Online Advisories & Consultations:

Restrictions on movements of people during the COVID-19 lock down period resulted in situation where farmers were not in a position to visit the farm advisory centre and solution centres. Under the above circumstances the farmers of Khowai district exerted the option of contacting experts of KVK, Khowai through telephonic conversation and other ICT tools like wats app messages and Common Service Centre Video call facility. The problems of the farmers were well understood by the experts with the help of photographs and video clips and online solutions were provided to the farmers related to the crops and livestock's. Besides this field visits were also conducted by the KVK, Scientists as per the demand of the farming community of the district.

Activity:8

► Agro Met advisories helped farmers for safe harvesting during lock down period:

During lock down period the farmers of Khowai district were unable to harvest their mature rabi crops due to shortage of labours. Frequent adverse weather situation also adding woes to the farmers. There was urgent need to connect such farmers and encounter weather abrasion. During that time KVK, Khowai has provided technical support in terms of Agromet advisories to make farmers aware about weather forecast and field operation etc. Farmers took timely action for harvesting of rabi crops and proper storage. They were also advised regarding social distancing in doing the Agricultural operation.

Activity:10

► Ensuring Safe Harvesting with necessary Precautions against COVID-19

Bitter Gourd & Maize are the two most important crops of North Pulinpur ADC village of Khowai district of Tripura. They are being cultivated in almost 100 ha area of the village. As the crop was ready for harvesting & the farmers have to harvest the crop in the COVID-19 lock down situation, the storage facility being inadequate and poor at farmers level they have to visit mandis for selling their produce. To tackle the big problem and selling of produce during COVID-19 pandemic advisories released by the KVK's proved very helpful. The farmers were also motivated to store their produce at home, where ever it was possible. The farmers were make aware about the importance of sanitize the farm machineries and it was demonstrated to them by the KVK officials. As a testimony to the efforts of the KVK the infestation of COVID-19 is absent in that village.



