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KVK launches new technology in paddy cum fish culture

TEZU, Sep 14: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lohit has introduced a new technology in paddy cum fish culture for the first time in the district with its application on trial basis in two villages - Khaoji and Juna-IV.

Under the supervision of Dr Debasis Sasmal, SMS (Fishery Sc), this technology was introduced for the first time in two villages - Khaoji and Juna-IV covering around 3 hectare in four units.

The programme being sponsored by NABARD, Itanagar has been completed very successfully.

On the occasion, a field visit to Khaoji village was undertaken to demonstrate the technology to the farmers of nearby villages, political leaders, administrators and different govt officials.

Apart from 64 farmers,



Mahadevpur EAC H N Dubey, DTO cum PDATMA, Kheram, M Chowlu and Lower Lekang ZPM Jogesg Taye among others visited the field, checked the fish

growth and rice production. Elated at seeing the new technology, EAC, Mahadevpur; DTO cum PDATMA, Kheram; SADO, Namsai; SVDO, Mahadevpur

and ZPM, Lower Lekang assured to adopt and spread the technology in near future.

Along with paddy cum fish culture, KVK constructed piggery unit at the dyke

along with horticulture crops like banana, tokopat, colocasia, pineapple etc.

Rice (Bahadur variety) was sown in the month of May and now it has matured and harvesting is on. Average fish growth has been found weighing 250 gm (100 gm - 450 gm) in 130 days.

It is a little different technology compared to the indigenous type of paddy cum fish culture. Canals (2-3 feet wide and 1.5-2 feet depth) are dug in two sides of rice field and connected with a small pond of 0.01-0.03 hectare. The advantage is that fishes (fry) are introduced in the pond before sowing of rice rather than fingerlings and reaped after rice harvest. When the water level goes up, fishes migrate to the rice field automatically and the culture area of fish increases up to 80 - 100 times. *Contd. on P-4*

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This helps in the growth of the fish, as it is known that the larger the water area the larger the fish growth and fish gets natural food and insects from the paddy field, also decreasing the disease outbreak in rice.

In this early variety of rice, no disease outbreak has been found. In this type of technology, the farmer gets not only fish seeds in cheap rate (because fingerlings are very costly than fish fry) but also fishes get more time to grow and in turn farmer gets more return from fishes.

Another advantage in the technology is that the fishes are not to be harvested at a time till water retains in the small pond. So, the farmer will get good price for his harvest. After the harvest of paddy fishes get food from the piggery unit. So, along with rice farmer will get a lucrative return from fish, pig and horticulture crops. The more lucrative part of this technology is that rainfall in Lohit district is very high and tall water resistant rice variety is cultivated and the technology can be introduced with a little modification in rice field without hampering the cultivated crop.