

Three-day training on Integrated Farming System was organized for Scheduled Caste farmers at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramgarh

A three-day training on the integrated farming system was organized under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan at the Agricultural Science Center in Ramgarh. This training began on July 10th and concluded on July 12th. To provide farmers with comprehensive information on the Integrated Farming System, knowledgeable scientists from ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region Patna, Bihar Animal Science University, Patna, Central Rainfed Upland Rice Research Centre, Hazaribagh, and Farming System Research Center for Hill and Plateau, Ranchi, were participated in the training. The objective of this training was to encourage Scheduled Caste farmers to make agriculture a source of year-round income. The chief guest at the closing ceremony was Dr. Anup Das, ICAR- Research Complex for Eastern Region Patna. He advised farmers, through a virtual (online) medium, to adopt the information received during the training. He emphasized that farmers, as the country's food providers, could earn income year-round and become prosperous by adopting the Integrated Farming System, which enables the production of various commodities for home and market use. Dr. Das highlighted that integrated farming creates a balanced and sustainable ecosystem by combining different farming practices, such as crop production, animal husbandry and forestry, even on small land areas. This reduces costs and protects soil health and the environment. Healthy soil leads to nutritious crops, and nutritious food improves overall health. During the training, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Head of the Crop Research Department at ICAR's Eastern Region Patna Complex, advised farmers to integrate poultry farming, fishing, animal husbandry, beekeeping, vegetable-fruit farming, and mushroom cultivation on the same land. He taught the skills necessary for implementing these methods within an integrated farming system to maximize profits. Scientists from the Research Center in Plandu Ranchi, including Dr. V.K. Yadav, Dr. Reena Kamal, and Dr. Reshma Shinde, also trained farmers. Dr. Shiv Mangal Prasad, Principal Scientist at the Central Rainfed Upland Rice Research Center in Hazaribagh, provided training on rice-based integrated farming systems. He discussed integrating various enterprises such as agro-horticulture, forestry, mushroom farming, goat farming, beekeeping, poultry farming, pig farming, duck farming, and dairy farming per hectare of land to ensure profitability even in adverse conditions. Dr. R.R. K. Sinha from Bihar Animal Science University, Patna, informed farmers virtually about integrating poultry farming into the system to increase production and maximize profits. Dr. Sudhanshu Shekhar, Head Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramgarh, emphasized adopting Integrated Farming Systems and scientific farming methods to reduce costs and increase production and profit potential. During the closing ceremony, farmers received fruit plants, seeds of improved vegetables, maize, Napier grass cuttings, pro trays, and other small agricultural equipment to promote the Integrated Farming System. Over 30 Scheduled Caste farmers from Udalu village participated in the training. Dr. Inderjit, Dr. Dharamjit Kherwar, Sunny Kumar, Shashi Kant Choubey, and Roshan Kumar played crucial roles in making the training successful.

