Report on farmers' training and demonstration of improved microbial jute retting using CRIJAF Sona held on 21st July, 2016 at Hili block of Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

Tribal farmers of Hili block of Dakshin Dinajpur district produce good quantity of jute, but due to conventional jute retting technology they follow, the fibre quality so obtained is generally poor and fetch lesser market price. It was felt that the tribal farmers of the block need to be provided improved microbial jute retting technology deploying 'CRIJAF Sona' so that they can get better quality fibre with higher fibre recovery and good yield resulting better economic return. With such intension ICAR-CRIJAF organized farmers training and demonstration on improved jute retting technology (using CRIJAF Sona) under TSP in collaboration with the State Department of Agriculture, Govt. of West Bengal on 21st July, 2016 at Garna Primary School (training) and at a canal of Sree River (25° 15′ 14″ N, 88° 57′ 07″ E) in Hili.

Dr. B. Majumdar, trained the tribal farmers of Hili regarding improved microbial retting of jute

Dr. Jyotirmoy Biswas, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Dakshin Dinajpur trained the tribal farmers

Farmers were enthusiastic to learn the retting technology

Demonstration of improved jute retting by CRIJAF Sona at Garna area of Hili block (25° 15′ 14″ N, 88° 57′ 07″ E)

In the training & demonstration programme, 106 tribal jute farmers of Hili block actively participated and learnt about the improved microbial retting technologies for quality jute fibre production. The farmers were eager to learn the retting technology and interacted with the Scientists of CRIJAF regarding jute retting technologies, fibre quality and marketing of fibre. In the farmers training Dr. B. Majumdar and Dr. S. Sarkar of ICAR-CRIJAF, Dr. Jyotirmoy Biswas, Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA), Dakshin Dinajpur, Mr. Akash Saha, Asstt. Director of Agriculture (ADA), Hili block educated and trained the farmers about improved jute retting technologies.

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