

Training on management of layer ducks and preservation of table eggs under TSP at Tapan block of Dakshin Dinajpur district

For enhancement of livelihood security of tribal farm families of Dakshin Dinajpur, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres (CRIJAF), Barrackpore have taken several agricultural and animal husbandry related activities at Tapan block of the district. Besides agricultural activities, the institute has also undertaken important livelihood support programme on improved khaki Campbell duck rearing involving tribal women of the block. In this context, all ducks were vaccinated on 06.09.15 for prevention of duck plague disease. On 16th September, 2015, a hand tool training on **‘Management of layer ducks and preservation of table eggs’** was organized at Hajrabari premises of DCRAS in Tapan block for 50 tribal farm-women of this village.



During the session, multi-vitamin and mineral mixtures have been distributed to each beneficiary for sustainable egg production. After that, the demonstrated ducks of khaki Campbell breed have been exhibited to the participants for better dissemination of technology. Moreover, feedbacks have also been collected from the participating tribal farm-women through open ended interview schedule. From the collected feedback it were revealed that (a) all ducks came in laying stage at 150-160 days age, (b) within one month of laying period, some beneficiary received 80 eggs from 6 female ducks and average weight of each egg was 52 g, (c) the

selling price of the eggs at the beneficiary door step was about ₹ 5 per egg which is in lower side as the place is very remote tribal village and also due to comparatively less weight of egg at this stage of laying, (d) income generated by selling of duck eggs has been utilized for education of their children and health purpose and (e) the major constraints are wild predator attack and local scarcity of protein rich feed ingredients.



After feedback collection, a diagnostic field visit was also conducted round the village. The whole programme was conducted by Dr. C. Jana, SMS (AH&VS), Burdwan KVK under supervision of Dr. S. Sarkar, Co-ordinator of TSP, Dr. B. Majumdar, Pr. Scientist and with active collaboration of Dakshin Dinajpur Krishi Vigyan Kendra & Dakshin Chakbhabani Rural Awareness Society (DCRAS).