

Farmers Training Cum Field Day

“Zero tillage pea lentil and toria in rice fallow”

Farmers’ Training Cum Field Day on “Zero tillage pea, lentil and toria in rice fallow” was organized at the ICAR Research Complex for NEH region, Umiam, Meghalaya during March 20-21, 2012. Conventionally, after *kharif* rice, fields remain fallow in lowland, mainly due to excess moisture owing to seepage from surrounding hillocks in mid altitude. Draining water from rice field completely at physiology maturity (about 10 days before harvest) create favorable condition for



Farmers visiting experimental plot on zero tillage



Furrow opener being demonstrated by Dr. S. V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR RC-NEH

cultivation of *rabi* pulses like pea, lentil and oilseeds like toria. A simple drainage channel of 30 cm depth and 20 cm depth at 5m interval creates the desirable soil moisture situations. Keeping this in view, a two-day farmer’s training cum field day on “Zero tillage pea lentil and toria in rice fallow” was organized at the Division of Natural Resource Management to disseminate the zero tillage technology in rice fallow (Low land/Up land) for cultivation of pea, lentil and toria. During this program, different aspects of zero tillage technology including suitable varieties, cultivation practices, herbicide application, opening narrow furrow with furrow opener, placing fertilizer and seed, pest and diseases management etc. were demonstrated to the farmers. Leaflets on Zero tillage technology (in English and *Khasi* language) were distributed to more than 150 farmers attending the program. In this program, which was held under the project “NICRA”, Dr. S. V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR Research complex for NEH region, Umiam asked for more collaboration and convergence among different stake holders and farmers for popularizing the zero tillage and other such resource conservation technologies for climate resilient agriculture in NEH region. An exhibition on different rice, pea, lentil and toria varieties, farm tools and implements, fertilizers and manures and pesticides etc. relevant to zero tillage technology was also organized for the benefit of the farmers.

