

KVK-ICAR, East Sikkim Organized Training cum Demonstration on Organic Ginger Production

Technology transfer refers to the spread of new ideas from originating sources to ultimate users. Ginger is predominantly cultivated in Sikkim in mandarin ginger, maize-ginger, beans-ginger cropping systems with traditional method. Organic package of practices have been developed at ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong but is yet to reach in the farmers' field at commercial scale. Therefore, many farmers hesitate for ginger cultivation while others are still struggling to survive because diseases have severely affect the crop over the last 15 to 20 years resulting in yield decline. There is ample scope for further improvement of production and productivity of ginger for raising the income level of the farming community of the state through domestic and international organic produce. Potentiality of recommended technology through demonstration has been attempted among the tribal farmers of East district Sikkim with an objective to combat the causes of low yield and lower economic returns. Therefore, ICAR-KVK East Sikkim, Ranipool organized a day long training cum demonstration programme on organic ginger production technology for livelihood improvement for tribal farmers of East Sikkim under Tribal Sub Plan on March 18, 2017 at ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong. The programme was organized with the leadership of Dr. R.K. Avasthe, Joint Director, ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong, Sikkim and guided by Dr. Raghavendra Singh, Programme Coordinator (I/c), KVK East. Around 40 nos. of ginger growers of adopted villages of Khamdong and Thanka attended the programme in presence of Shri Karma Wongyal Bhutia, Panchayat Member, Thangsing Ward, and Smt. Bishnu Maya Tamang, Panchayat Member, 05 Upper Khamdong Ward, 41-Khamdong GPU. The program was organized as demonstration on organic ginger production has been initiated on under 5 ha of land with input support of healthy disease free rhizome, bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers. Initially, Joint Director, ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong, Sikkim addressing the farmers total that organic ginger production can be main cash crop option after large cardamom in the state. The farmers may increase the production and productivity of ginger and earn high income with adoption of complete and proper organic packages. Farmers were given hands on practice with complete organic package of practices in farmers' field.

Dr. Ashish Yadav, Sr. Scientist (Horticulture), ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong and Mr. Boniface Lepcha, SMS (Horticulture), KVK, East Sikkim explained about the organic ginger cultivation method to the farmers. The farmers were emphasized on cultivation of ginger cultivars with high oil and oleoresin content which will fetch higher price at national and domestic market. They were also briefed about the different diseases and pests of ginger with their management by organic method during the interactive session.

The program was witnessed by presence of Dr. Raghavendra Singh, Sr. Scientist (Agronomy), Dr. Matber Singh, Scientist (Agro-Forestry), ICAR-NOFRI, Tadong, Dr. Janak Singh, SMS (Plant Breeding) and Ms. Pallabi Phukan, SMS (Agril. Extension), KVK-East Sikkim, Ranipool.

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Addressing by Dr. R.K Avasthe, Joint Director ICAR-NOFRI



Demonstration on Ginger