

Eastern Regional Station, ICAR- IVRI, Kolkata, Organized NEH Programme at Namthang, Namchi, Sikkim

Eastern Regional Station (ERS), ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata under its North-Eastern and Hill (NEH) programme organized “**Training-cum-Awareness on Scientific Pig Farming**” and also collected baseline data of beneficiaries in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)-Namthang, Namchi, Sikkim on 06.03.2024. A total of 50

beneficiaries from Rong Bul and Karek of Namthang, Namchi district actively participated in the said programme. Mr Bikash Tamang, Vice-President,



Zilla Panchayat, Namchi district was chief guest of the occasion. The programme was attended by the NEH beneficiaries, KVK staff, and personnel from press and media.

At the outset, Mr I. P. Shivakoti, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK-Namthang, Sikkim welcomed the chief guest and other dignitaries and during his address, appreciated the efforts of ICAR-IVRI, ERS, Kolkata for implementing NEH programme and distributing inputs through KVK, Namthang. Addressing the house, the chief guest thanked ERS, ICAR-IVRI,



Kolkata for implementing livestock-based activities for benefit of the farmers of the region and offered to extend all possible help in executing future programmes.

During his address, Dr P. K. Nanda, PS, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata briefed about objectives of the programme and gave an overview of the role played by ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata in implementing various schemes and flagship programmes through distribution of inputs under Developmental Action Plan for Scheduled Tribe Component (DAPSTC),



Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC) and North-Eastern Hill (NEH) for improving the socio-economic conditions of the beneficiaries. Dr Nanda also highlighted the research achievements of ICAR-IVRI, the premier research institute in animal sciences, particularly in developing vaccines and diagnostic kits for prevention and control of animal diseases. To give wider publicity and enhance brand image of ICAR-IVRI in north-eastern region, “**The Film on IVRI**” depicting its history, products and technologies developed was also showcased among the beneficiaries.



The inaugural programme was followed by organisation of a “**Training-cum-Awareness on Scientific Pig Farming**” in which the beneficiaries actively participated. Addressing the gathering, Dr P. S. Banerjee, PS, ERS, ICAR-IVRI, Kolkata appraised the beneficiaries on biosecurity measures and methods needed to safeguard the piglets from contracting various diseases. Dr Banerjee also emphasized the importance of timely vaccination of piglets, particularly against classical swine fever (CSF) and porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome (PRRS). In the technical



session, Dr Chewang Norbu Bhutia, Subject Matter Specialist (Animal Science), KVK-Namthang elaborately covered the feeding, breeding, housing and management aspects of pig farming through power point presentation. Further, the problems raised by the beneficiaries in connection with health, feeding, housing and management aspects of livestock were also duly addressed.

The training-cum-awareness programme was followed by distribution of piglets (n=150) along with pig feed (5, 000 kg) among 50 beneficiaries, who received @ 3 piglets and 100 kg feed each. With support of the media and press personnel, the IVRI-NEH programme also received coverage and the event was also published in local newspaper. The cooperation received from one and all, especially the subject matter specialists and staff of KVK-Namthang, Sikkim made the NEH programme a grand success.



Piglet distribution at KVK-Namthang

NAMCHÉ, 06 FEB [IPR]: Piglet Distribution and Training cum Awareness Programme under NEH Programme was carried out by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namthang, South Sikkim in collaboration with ICAR-IVRI, Eastern Regional Station, Kolkata at KVK Namthang.

One day programme on piglet distribution and training cum awareness programme on implementation of NEH Programme of ICAR-IVRI ERS was organized at KVK South Sikkim

on 06 March. Himesh Tamang, Up-Adakshya, Zilla Panchayat, Namchi District attended as the chief guest and addressed the gathering about the benefits of piggery farming and praised the FPO-based cluster approach of the programme.

He also encouraged the farmers to practice good hygiene in livestock farming. Dignitaries present from ICAR-IVRI ERS Kolkata were Dr PS Banerjee, Ex Station Incharge, Principal Sci-

entist and Dr PK Nanda Principal Scientist.

The beneficiary farmers from Rong Dal and Karek actively participated in the programme. The scientists from ICAR-IVRI, ERS, Kolkata spoke on the implementation of NEH Programme at two FPO villages i.e., Rong Dal FPO and Kisan Care FPO from Karek Namthang where 50 farmers from the village were provided three piglets each along with pig feed and mineral mixture, vitamins etc.

Media coverage of the programme



Training-cum-Awareness Programme on Pig Farming



Distribution of piglets and feed to the beneficiaries