Presentation on Innovative Practices :: ASSAM ::

Integrated Approach of *Ipomea* Eradication for Land Reclamation towards Enhanced Agriculture

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For internal circulation and discussion only
Infestation of *Ipomea carnea*, one of the major weeds causing congestion of drainage channels in the Paddy Fields, is a severe problem in the upper Assam Districts.

Department of Soil Science of Assam Agriculture University (AAU), Jorhat conducted field experiments for chalking out permanent solution of *Ipomea* eradication in agricultural field.
Ipomea Plants
The main objective of the Practice is to reclaim Marshy land through eradication of *Ipomea* and decongestion of the natural drainage system for Agriculture purpose.
**Brief description:**

Name of the Work: *Ipomea Eradication for Land Reclamation.*

District: Sivasagar

Project: Sivasagar-VIII/11-12 *(Disang Dorika)* IWMP; Lachit MWS

Component: EPA

Block: Demow Development Block

Gram Panchayat: Lachit

Villages: Gandhia & Tamulipukhuri

Size of reclaimed/treated Area: 39 Ha.

Estimated Amount: Rs. 4.00 Lakh

PIA: Jorhat Soil Conservation Division

Year of Implementation: 2013-14
Ipomea infestation in the Project area

Silted up Natural Drainage line in the Crop Land
**Problems/ Issues:**

The entire field of 100 hectares (ha) was under rainfed condition. Infestation of *Ipomea* prevented free flow of run-off water through the main drainage system *i.e. Nowjan Nalla* of the field.

Silt deposition in the channel over the years due to *Ipomea* resulted a part of the Crop land to become waterlogged and marshy measuring about 39 hectares (ha).
Problems/ Issues:

- Spraying of weedicide in recommended dose, uprooting & burning of the desiccated *Ipomea* by manual means.

- Then, digging out of the entire length of the main drainage channel (*Nowjan Nalla*) with the help of the Watershed Committee and the villagers to clear the channel for free flow of water during monsoon.
Chemical Spray on the *Ipomea* population

Desiccated *Ipomea* Plants after Chemical treatment
Decongestion work in the Drainage Line of the Crop Land

Final Stage; Inspection by District Administration
Description of the outcome of the Innovative practices:

Significant portions of the land, that till recently was marshy & waterlogged and therefore unfit for cultivation, has become fit for cultivation & productive.

The good yield of paddy thereafter has appeared as morale booster to the villagers.

The farmers are more enthusiastic and became aware in Natural Resources Management now.
Efforts taken for Upscaling/Replication at other sites - Experience sharing:

This Activity are now being practised in other Districts with similar natured Problems viz., Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Nagaon, etc. under IWMP Projects.

In several parts of the above Districts, this activity has been taken up under other Rural Development Programme & Schemes.
Learning regarding process restructuring/reorganization:

• The process adopted by the use of herbicides is well appreciated by the beneficiary farmers.

• The drudgery of removing Ipomoea was minimized by this process as Ipomoea was killed and dried.

• The Watershed community has learnt this innovative practice.

• Learning from this process is replicable in all similar sites of Assam.
Thank you