



INDIGENOUS PADDY SEED COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION

AN INITIATIVE BY DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND ECONOMICS

(JANUARY, 2019 TO MAY, 2024)

STEPS

- Field Visit with the students
- Interaction with the Farmers
- Collect Samples of Indigenous Paddy
- Preserve at College
- Create Awareness among the Students
- Motivate the Farmers to Cultivate Indigenous Varieties

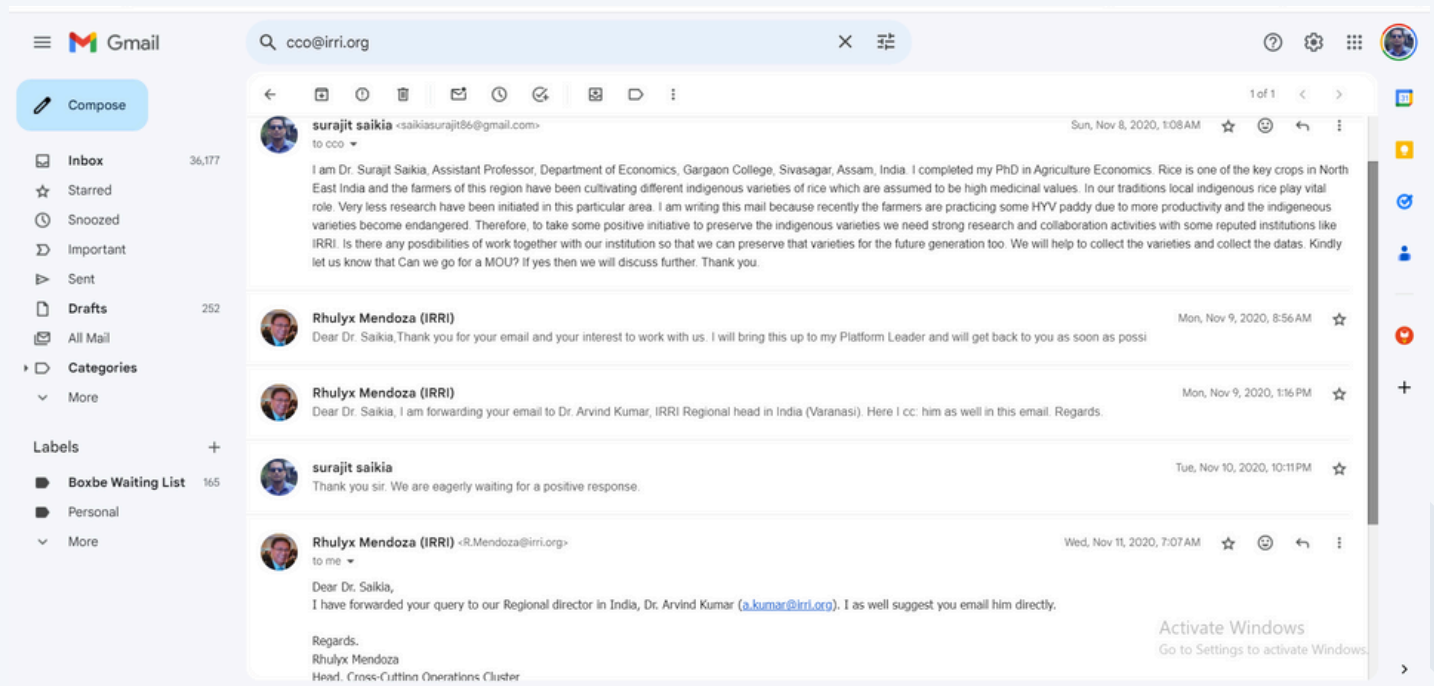


ABOUT THE INITIATIVE AND RATIONALITY

To achieve food security and enhance productivity of foodgrains intensive methods of agriculture have been introduced in Indian agriculture. After the Green Revolution varieties of High Yielding Paddy Seeds (HYV) have applied in the Agriculture fields of India as well as in Assam. As a result, the state's farmers have reduced the cultivation of Indigenous rice varieties and cultivated more productive HYV seeds. More domination of HYV seeds in the agriculture fields results in a sharp loss of indigenous varieties. By keeping in view this issue the Department of Botany and the Department of Economics have decided to collect the indigenous varieties and generate awareness among the farmers. Some of the Indigenous varieties of paddy were collected from different tribes of North-East India. About 30 students have participated in this initiative.

DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IRRI)

Dr. Surajit Saikia, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Coordinator, IQAC contacted the International Rice Research Institute for the same.



The screenshot shows a Gmail inbox with the following email thread:

- From:** surajit saikia <saikiasurajit86@gmail.com>
To: cco
Date: Sun, Nov 8, 2020, 1:08 AM
Content: I am Dr. Surajit Saikia, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Gargaon College, Sivasagar, Assam, India. I completed my PhD in Agriculture Economics. Rice is one of the key crops in North East India and the farmers of this region have been cultivating different indigenous varieties of rice which are assumed to be high medicinal values. In our traditions local indigenous rice play vital role. Very less research have been initiated in this particular area. I am writing this mail because recently the farmers are practicing some HYV paddy due to more productivity and the indigenous varieties become endangered. Therefore, to take some positive initiative to preserve the indigenous varieties we need strong research and collaboration activities with some reputed institutions like IRRI. Is there any possibilities of work together with our institution so that we can preserve that varieties for the future generation too. We will help to collect the varieties and collect the datas. Kindly let us know that Can we go for a MOU? If yes then we will discuss further. Thank you.
- From:** Rhulyx Mendoza (IRRI)
Date: Mon, Nov 9, 2020, 8:56 AM
Content: Dear Dr. Saikia, Thank you for your email and your interest to work with us. I will bring this up to my Platform Leader and will get back to you as soon as possi
- From:** Rhulyx Mendoza (IRRI)
Date: Mon, Nov 9, 2020, 1:16 PM
Content: Dear Dr. Saikia, I am forwarding your email to Dr. Arvind Kumar, IRRI Regional head in India (Varanasi). Here I cc: him as well in this email. Regards.
- From:** surajit saikia
Date: Tue, Nov 10, 2020, 10:11 PM
Content: Thank you sir. We are eagerly waiting for a positive response.
- From:** Rhulyx Mendoza (IRRI) <R.Mendoza@irri.org>
To: me
Date: Wed, Nov 11, 2020, 7:07 AM
Content: Dear Dr. Saikia, I have forwarded your query to our Regional director in India, Dr. Arvind Kumar (a.kumar@irri.org). I as well suggest you email him directly.
Regards.
Rhulyx Mendoza
Head, Cross-Cutting Operations Cluster



PHOTOGRAPHS

