

**MINUTES OF 13TH MEETING OF REGIONAL RESEARCH ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (RRAC) OF RSRS, JORHAT HELD ON 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2011**

The 13th RRAC meeting of RSRS, Jorhat was held at the conference hall of NBSS & LUP (ICAR), Jorhat on 27th September, 2011 under the chairmanship of Dr. Utpal Baruah, Principal Scientist, NBSS. The list of participants/invitees is appended as Annexure – I.

At the onset Sri T.K. Biswas, Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat and convenor of the meeting welcomed the Chairman, members, invitees and participants and extended his sincere thanks for participation.

Dr. B. B. Bindroo, Director, CSR&TI, Berhampore. At the onset apprised the members about the reconstitution of the RRAC for RSRS, Jorhat and requested the members to take part in the discussion on the technical issues pertaining to mulberry varieties, silkworm races and rearing technologies and other related matters of the culture and forward suggestions for inclusion in the future research/trial programme of RSRS, Jorhat to render meaningful services to the farmers. He opined that NE states comprise vast area and unique in topography and biodiversity. Therefore technologies for silkworm breeds and mulberry varieties perfected at CSR&TI, Berhampore might be slightly different in other NE states. As such feed back data from different states are very important for further improvement in technologies for adoption.

The Chairman of the RRAC reacting on the reconstitution of the RRAC, expressed that Scientists of RSRS may discuss with the Member/Expert in formulation of research project/programme. They may also refer to NBSS publication No.24 and 35 on agro-ecological regions and sub-regions of India respectively published by NBSS & LUP, Nagpur for formulating research programme. Further, Chairman suggested that detail soil survey of two farms located under two distinct agro-ecological settings may be carried out for determining the suitability of mulberry cultivation.

After the initial welcome address the item wise discussion as per agenda was taken up by the Chairman.

Agenda item No.1: Confirmation of 12th RRAC meeting minutes held on 30.11.2010 at Guwahati.

The minutes of 12th RRAC meeting was confirmed by the committee as no comment was received from any member.

Agenda item No.2: Follow up action on the recommendation of 12th RRAC meeting of RSRS, Jorhat held on 30.11.2010 at Guwahati.

1. Regarding allotment of a reeling machine to Borholla area, Sri R. Teron, Joint Director of Sericulture, Govt. of Assam, Jorhat reported that presently there are 65 mulberry rearers in Borholla area if reeling machine is installed there, the number of rearer will be increased. Director, CSR&TI, Berhampore advised Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat to pursue the matter with DOS, Assam.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

2. Sri S. N. Misra, Scientist – C, RSTRS, Guwahati informed the house about the performance of 2 F1 reeling cum twisting machine. Director, CSR&TI, Berhampore advised to organize demonstration programme for the reeler sponsored by DOS of NE states.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSTRS, Guwahati)

3. Regarding providing of a reeling machine to Sowguri area Sri R. Teron, Joint Director of Sericulture, Govt. of Assam, Jorhat reported that the reeling machine presently operating in Sowguri area is not sufficient to cover all the rearer of the area and opined that considering the interest and demand of mulberry rearer of Sowguri & Dergaon area, a new reeling machine may be provided to Sowguri area.

(Action: Superintendent of Sericulture, Golaghat & DOS, Assam)

4. Dr. S.N. Gogoi, Sc – C was advised to prepare “Package of practices for mulberry cultivation” state wise for both hills and plains under RSRS, Jorhat. Similarly, Dr. Y. Debaraj, Sc-C was advised to prepare the “Silkworm rearing practices” for each of the NE states. In this regard, both the scientists were advised to submit the same to the Director within 15 days of commencement of the meeting.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

5. REC, Shillong identified to function as “Satellite Bivoltine Breeding Centre” for bivoltine promotion programme, a decision for its overall strengthening was taken by putting more scientific and technical manpower, besides improving infrastructure and other facilities of the centre.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

6. Training calendar prepared for the RSRS for adhoc training of the farmers/ inservice DOS officials to be taken in true letter and spirit and the respective State Department to be persuaded by Sc-D, RSRS, Jorhat for their sponsoring and nominations etc.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

7. The respective REC in the different state may take up the training of stakeholders as per prescribed training calendar of the RSRS in their regions also in due consultation with DOS in order to fill the gaps.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

8. RSRS, Jorhat to initiate project formulation referring to local needs and may also explore possibilities of collaborative/MOU programme with other Institute. Further, taking up of collaborative projects/ programmes on consultancy mode on aspects of soils and their management being offered by the Principal Scientist, NBSS & LUP, ICAR, Jorhat needs to be attended.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

9. As Sowguri, Golaghat is the most potential area for mulberry sericulture and majority of the farmers by and large are women involved in silkworm rearing, it was suggested to cover more area of Sowguri under CDP. The Director suggested that the list of beneficiaries should be submitted to RSRS, Jorhat for monitoring technical aspects also the feed back data of silkworm rearing of the farmers. The Superintendent of Sericulture, Golaghat participating in the discussion informed that already 65 farmers were covered under CDP in Sowguri, Golaghat district.

(Action: Superintendent of Sericulture, Golaghat & DOS, Assam)

10. Regarding technical and administrative control of REC, Mongoldoi, it was discussed in detail and informed the house that the communication is under progress with competent authority.

(Action: Scientist – D, RSRS, Jorhat)

Agenda item No.3. Progress achieved on ongoing project.

Following ongoing projects were reviewed and found as per milestone.

1. Development of weather based forewarning system of mulberry diseases
2. Development of weather based forewarning system of mulberry pest.
3. Validation trial of the ready reckoner of sulphur fertilizer application for obtaining targeted yields of mulberry
4. Studies on micronutrients for sustained high productivity of quality mulberry in Eastern and north-eastern India
5. Mulberry Silkworm Race Authorization Programme
6. All India Coordinated Experimental Trials for Mulberry (AICEM) Phase III

7. Studies on the biology and feeding efficiency of the coccinellid predator, *Scymnus* sp. for management of whitefly on mulberry.

Agenda item No.4: Progress achieved on field technology

Following field technology/demonstration programme were reviewed and found as per milestone.

1. Technology Assessment and refinement through Integrated Village linkage Programme.
2. Demonstration of crop protection programme with sericillin.
3. Promotion of vermin compost.
4. Testing of rearing package emanated through the project- 3250.
5. Bivoltine Seed Cocoon Generation Programme.
6. Testing of newly developed multi x bi and bi x bi hybrids.
7. Expansion of mulberry plantation programme.
8. Trainers Training Programme.
9. Farmers Training Programme.
10. Extension Communication Programme viz., Field day, Exhibition, Audio Visual Programme, Awareness Programme.

Agenda item No.5: Any other points with the permission of the Chair.

1. Smti Malini Doley, Reeler member of RRAC requested to cover Lalitymukh area under CDP.
2. Communication should be made with DOS, Manipur to send representative in the RRAC meeting.
3. Extension Communication Programme should be conducted by State Department

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
Sri T.K.Biswas
Scientist-D
RSRS,Jorhat

Sd/-
Dr. Utpal Baruah
Chairman, RRAC
&
Principal Scientist

NBSS & LUP (ICAR)

LIST OF MEMBERS/INVITEES PRESENT IN RRAC MEETING HELD AT NBSS & LUP (ICAR), JORHAT ON 27.09.2011

#	Name of the Members/invitee		Present/Absent
01.	Dr. Utpal Baruah, Principal Scientist, NBSS & LUP (ICAR), Rowriah, Jorhat	Chairman	Present
02.	Director, CSR&TI, Berhampore, West Bengal	Member	Present
03.	Joint Secretary (Tech) Regional Office, CSB, Guwahati	Member	Absent
04.	Dr. Kalyan Pathak, Senior Scientist Department of Agronomy, AAU, Jorhat	Member	Present
05.	Dr. Sajib Baruah, Assistant Professor, Department of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat	Member	Present
06.	Dr. Pradip Kumar Borah, Principal Scientist, National Seed Project, Department of Pathology (Plant), AAU, Jorhat	Member	Present
07.	Senior Technical Officer, DOS, Govt. of Assam	Member	Absent
08.	Smti Malini Doley, Reeler Representative Lolitymukh, Khokonguri, Jorhat	Member	Present
09.	Smti Pinku Pegu, Rearer Representative Khokonguri, Jorhat	Member	Present
10.	Scientist – D, RSRs, Jorhat	Convener	Present
11.	Scientist – D, RSTRS, CSB, Guwahati	Invitee	Present
12.	Director of Sericulture, Govt. of Nagaland,	Invitee	Present
13.	Director of Sericulture & Weaving, Meghalaya, Shillong	Invitee	Present
14.	Joint Director of Sericulture, Govt. of Assam, Jorhat	Invitee	Present
15.	Superintendent of Sericulture, Govt. of Assam, Golaghat	Invitee	Present
16.	Superintendent of Sericulture, Govt. of Assam, Majuli	Invitee	Present
17.	Incharge, REC, Agartala		Present
18.	Incharge, REC, Dimapur		Present
19.	Incharge, REC, Shillong		Present
20.	Dr. S. N. Gogoi, Scientist – C		Present
21.	Ms Ranuma Das, Scientist - C		Present
22.	Dr. Y. Debaraj, Scientist – C		Present