

Report on VVK Training Workshop

“Value addition in Broom Grass for Enhanced Income and Promotion under Cultivation” (*Cultivation and Product Development for Livelihood Promotion*)

CFLE organized a Training Workshop on “Value addition in broom grass for enhanced income and promotion under cultivation” (*Product Development for Livelihood Promotion under VVK*) at Holistic Eco Livelihood Park (HELP), Guchamura, West Tripura District from Dec. 27 to Dec. 28, 2017. A total of 25 trainees from Nandan Nagar, Taltala, Bamutia, Berimura, Guchamura and Amtali of West Tripura District and trainees from Kumarghat, Depecherra of North Tripura District participated in the Training Workshop.

Training Objective:

1. To impart scientific training to the trainees on collection, harvesting, storage, value addition, marketing etc. individually or collectively covering the entire gamut of backward and forward linkages for broom grass.
2. To encourage the trainees for broom grass cultivation.

The Training Workshop was opened with a welcome speech by Pawan K Kaushik, Scientist E and introductory remark by Sri Prasad Rao Vendarappa, IFS, DCF, Research, State Forest Department, Govt. of Tripura. Mr. Rao thanked the members of Panchai Farmers Club for their enthusiasm and interest in livelihood development through value addition in Broom Grass. He also wished the training to be beneficial to the artisans especially women and also should encourage the trainees to develop many innovative products. He also thanked CFLE for establishing field demonstration plots and organizing awareness programs for promotion of broom grass cultivation in the State.

Interactive sessions were organised during in the forenoon and practical/workshop sessions were organised during the afternoons in both the days, as detailed below -

Interactive sessions (Day 01)

10.00 AM to 01.00 PM (Registration 09.00 to 10.00 am)

Time Slot	Topics of Discussion/Lectures/Presentation	Resource Persons
10.00 - 10:30 am	Introduction of Broom Grass and Trade in Tripura	Shri Prasad Rao Vendarappa, IFS, DCF, Research
10:30 - 11:15 am	Distribution of broom grass in Tripura and Techniques of Cultivation	Shri Pawan K Kaushik , Sc-E, CFLE
11:15 - 11:45 am	Sustainable harvesting of broom grass	Mr. Pritam Choudhury, JRF, CFLE
11:45 - 12:30 am	Experience sharing on quality of broom grass at different stages of maturity	Shri. Mihir Baran Choudhury, Master Trainer
12:30 - 01:00 pm	Post - harvest storage and handling	Shri Pawan K Kaushik, Sc-E, CFLE & Shri. Mihir Baran Choudhury, Master Trainer

The second session was the practical session where the trainees were given hand to hand training by Master trainer's specialist in various product developments.

Practical session (Day 01)

2.00 PM to 5.00 PM

Practical training on different design and techniques of making broom and its value added utility products	Master Trainers
Broom grass based different types of Broom	Shri. Mihir Baran Choudhury (Trainer/Trader)
Broom grass based Jewellery	Shri Dhiman Das
Broom grass based Brush and different types of broom	Shri Sridham Shil
Broom grass based Jewellery and other handicrafts	Smt Antara Sarkar Deb

The trainees were divided into 4 groups with a master trainer in each group. They developed various products in supervision of these master trainers using broom grass, bamboo and other eco friendly raw materials. The trainees were observed to be completely involved and all the groups in total developed 77 items under different categories of products on the first day of the training.

On the second day, the interactive lecture session (as detailed below) was mainly focused on value addition and market linkage development and how wastage materials can be used to make innovative products. Demand Supply Management was also one of the main aspect of discussion the session. The concluding session in the evening was chaired by Smt. Banumathi G. IFS, Director, NTFP Centre of Excellence Govt. of Tripura. The details of interactive lectures followed by the practical sessions are herein below -

Interactive sessions (Day 02)

10.00 AM to 01.00 PM

Time Slot	Topics of Discussion/Lectures/Presentation	Resource Persons
10.00 - 10:30 am	Grading of available material, Optimum utilization of different grades to minimize wastage	Mr. Pritam Choudhury, JRF, CFLE
10:30 - 11:15 am	Processing / value addition techniques	Smt Antara Sarkar Deb, Master Trainer Ananya SHG
11:15 - 11:45 am	Present market demands and market linkages	Shri Mihir Baran Choudhury, Master Trainer
11.45 am to 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm	Practical and Group-wise Display of Products (Lunch break 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm)	
4:00 - 4:30 pm	Experience sharing on broom grass cultivation under JFMC in Ambassa	Smt. Banumathi G. IFS, Director, NTFP Centre of Excellence, Govt. of Tripura
4.30 to 5.00 pm	Concluding Session	

During the two-day training, the trainees were encouraged through personal attention and guidance by the master trainers for developing some innovative products like Brooms with bamboo made

simple handles, Shaving brush, Painting Brush, Bamboo and Broom mixed jewellery and other handicraft items were also developed.. The session was concluded by portraying the different products built during the workshop in both the days. Shri Pawan K Kaushik, Shri Prasad Rao Vendarappa and Smt. Bhanumathi G. were in the Jury for making judgement for their performance for award of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions.

The trader Mr. Mihir Baran Choudhury was very much satisfied with these innovative products developed by the trainees and also praised the trainers for their ideas on product development. He further suggested that organizing such workshops to facilitate interactions among the experts and stakeholders is always better and would certainly help them in developing micro-enterprise. He also admired the approach of CFLE working in collaboration with forest department and other farmer clubs, SHGs and communities. He also mentioned that the training workshop fulfilled its objectives successfully and requested to organise more trainings to boost up the manufacturing sector. He informed that most of the broom grass presently being transported to many states in raw form only.

The training workshop concluded with certificate distribution. Sri Pawan K Kaushik, Sc-E extended his thanks to all the trainees, support staffs, dignitaries as well as members of Panchai Farmers Club for their support and making it successful.



