

Strategy Workshop on

Harnessing the Potential of Geographical Indication Tagged Crops in North-East India – Research Needs, Outreach Approaches and Policy Perspectives

BACKGROUND

Geographical Indication (GI) is an essential option for protecting the intellectual property rights of commercially important agricultural crops originated from specific geographical area and associated traditional knowledge in making the commodities distinguished based on their unique characteristics. During last two decades, various institutions and state agencies have taken proactive role in protecting the signature crops through GI registration. As per Sec 2 (f) of GI Act 1999, all total 420 commodities have been GI tagged from April 2004 to March 2022. Of these, 128 commodities (30.47% of total GI registrations) come under agricultural crop category.

The North-eastern Region of India is a rich reservoir of indigenous agri-horticultural crops and many of the crops have immense commercial potential. However, the region, despite of its rich biodiversity has not been able to take full advantage of GI tagging and shares only 17.18% of the total GI tagged crops. All total 22 specialty crops of NE India namely, 4 cereals (Chak-Hao, Chokuwa Rice, Boka Chaul and Joha Rice); 9 fruits (Arunachal Orange, Kachai Lemon, Kaji Nemu, Khasi Mandarin, Memong Narang, Naga Tree Tomato, Tamenglong Orange, Tezpur Litchi and Tripura Queen Pineapple); 7 spices (Assam Karbi Anglong Ginger, Dalle Khursani, Hathei Chilli, Mizo Chilli, Mizo Ginger, Naga Mircha and Sikkim Large Cardamom); 1 tea (Assam Orthodox - Logo) and 1 vegetable (Naga Cucumber) have been GI registered. Among these, 7 crops belong to Assam, 4 crops belong to Manipur, 3 crops belong to Nagaland, 2 crops each belong to Meghalaya, Mizoram & Sikkim and 1 crop each belongs to Arunachal Pradesh & Tripura.

In addition, GI application for different crops of various North-eastern states like Bebo Large Cardamon from Arunachal Pradesh; Gol Nemu and Bhimkol Banana from Assam; Yongchak and Manipur Black Cherry from Manipur; Lakadong Turmeric and Soh-Shang from Meghalaya; Rangkuai Mango from Mizoram; Sikkim Orange, Sikkim Orchids, Sikkim Temi Tea and Hee Goan Seremna Cardamon from Sikkim and Jampui Orange from Tripura, etc. are under examination.

All the 22 GI registered crops are the unique gift of nature to this region. But only registration of these crops per se will not fulfil the objectives of the GI act, unless it is backed by sound enforcement mechanism. Here the responsibility of Research Institutes, Agricultural Universities and Developmental Organization for research and developmental activities on GI crops cannot be undermined.

Though most of the crops are presently being commercially exploited, but without adequate technology back-up, these crops may become vulnerable to various stresses in the future and eventually either lose their commercial value or lost over the time due to genetic erosion. Many institutes and universities in NE region have been working on GI crops. However, it is the need of the hour to formulate a meaningful roadmap on GI tagged crops by converging multifaceted and multidisciplinary R&D activities including policy perspectives.

A comprehensive strategy should be framed not only by covering research activities on crop improvement, molecular biology, production technology, organic production, post-harvest management and processing, climate change, bioprospecting and traditional knowledge, etc. but also for supply chain, extension programmes, technology commercialization, business incubation support and policy suggestions related to GI crops.

GI crops have a significant potential to facilitate rural development in NE India. Thus, a technology-led collective action is needed to derive benefits from still untapped commercial potential of GI tagged crops in premium niche markets. Then only legitimate rural producers will realize better monetary return which will not only foster the economic prosperity at local level but will also ensure sustainability for future GI registrations from the NE India.

Given this context, a Brainstorming cum Workshop on “Harnessing the Potential of GI Tagged Crops in North-East India – Research Needs, Outreach Approaches and Policy Perspectives” is being proposed under the aegis of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences in collaboration with ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Meghalaya to discuss various emerging and re-emerging issues on GI tagged crops in North-East India with following objectives.

1. To discuss the status, policy perspective and device inclusive strategies for harnessing the potential of GI tagged crops of NE India
2. To assess the R&D needs on GI crops and define the institutional support mechanism for rural prosperity.

The recommendations of the workshop are expected to generate a comprehensive information on GI tagged crops of NE India and formulate a meaningful roadmap towards harnessing the benefits of GI registration for the rural prosperity. Finally, a strategy paper or a policy paper will be formulated by synthesizing the discussion and recommendations of the workshop which will be forwarded to various stakeholders and policy planners.

Organised by -

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Regional Chapter – Barapani)

ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya - 795004



HYBRID MODE

STRATEGY WORKSHOP ON
HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION TAGGED
CROPS IN NORTH-EAST INDIA – RESEARCH NEEDS, OUTREACH
APPROACHES AND POLICY PERSPECTIVES



Thematic Areas

- 1 Future research needs for GI registered crops
- 2 Policy perspective at National and Regional level
- 3 Outreach strategies for GI tagged crops

When and Where

Date

03 October 2022, Monday

Venue

ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region
Umroi Road, Umiam, Meghalaya

EMINENT PANELISTS



Dr. Joginder Singh Minhas
Project Manager cum Consultant
International Potato Centre



Dr. Prasanna Pathak
Director of Extension Education
Assam Agricultural University



Dr. Mayank Rai
Professor
Central Agricultural University



Dr. Kanwar Singh
Senior Scientist and Resident
Consultant, IRRI-APART



Dr. Gargi Sarma
Assistant Professor
Assam Agricultural University

ORGANIZERS

Convenor



Dr. V. K. Mishra
Director
ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region
Umiam, Meghalaya

Organizing Secretary



Dr. U. K. Behera
Dean
College of Agriculture, CAU, Meghalaya
and Convenor, NAAS - Barapani Chapter

Co-Organizing Secretary



Dr. S. S. Roy
Senior Scientist
ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region
Manipur Centre, Imphal

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PROGRAMME

03 October 2022, Monday
ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region

9.00 am Registration

INAUGURAL SESSION

10.00 am - 10.20 am	Welcome Address & Introduction of Topic	Dr. V. K. Mishra, Convenor
10.21 am - 10.30 am	Inaugural Remarks	Dr. T. Mohapatra, President (NAAS), New Delhi
10.31 am - 10.40 am	Key Note Address & About NAAS	Dr. U. K. Behera, Organizing Secretary
10.41 am - 10.45 am	Vote of Thanks	Dr. S. S. Roy, Co-Organizing Secretary
10.46 am - 11.15 am	High Tea and Interaction	

TECHNICAL SESSION

11.16 am - 11.45 am	GI Registered Horticultural Crops of North East India: Needs and Strategies	Dr. S. S. Roy, Senior Scientist, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre
11.46 am - 12.15 pm	Maximizing Economic Potential of GI Tagged rice of North East India - Researchable Issues	Dr. A. Pandey, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology, Ranchi, Jharkhand

PLENARY SESSION

12.16 pm - 12.25 pm	Local Landraces of Potato in NE Region - Suitable Case for GI Tag	Dr. Joginder Singh Minhas, Project Manager cum Consultant, International Potato Centre
12.26 pm - 12.35 pm	Deriving Benefits of GI Crops for North-east India - Opportunities and Challenges	Dr. Prasanna Kumar Pathak, Director of Extension Education, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat
12.36 pm - 12.45 pm	Scope and Importance of GI Registration for Agricultural Products in NE India	Dr. Gargi Sharma, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Plant Breeding and Genetics, AAU, Jorhat
12.46 pm - 12.55 pm	Improving Productivity and Profitability of GI Tagged Rice in NE through Climate Resilient Technologies	Dr. Kanwar Singh, Senior Scientist and Resident Consultant, IRRI-APART
12.56 pm - 01.05 pm	Research Needs for characterization & Protection of GI Tagged crops of North-east India	Dr. Mayank Rai, Professor, CPGSAS, CAU, Meghalaya
01.06 pm - 01.25 pm	Interaction with Students and Other Participants	
01.26 pm - 01.40 pm	Conclusion and Recommendations	
01.41 pm - 01.45 pm	Vote of thanks	
	Lunch	

Please register yourself at the earliest...
<https://forms.gle/8RKmvYj8MEG1hLyY9>
(Registration will be closed on 29.09.2022)

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