

**Title: Success story on Potato Cultivation under IARI-NEH Programme,
Champhai District, Mizoram**

Challenges:

Farmers of Biate, Khawzawl Neighdawn, Ngaizawl, Rabung, Selam, Tualte and Tuipui village of Champhai, Mizoram have been cultivating unidentified varieties of Potato generally buying from the Grocery shop which are low yielding, tall stature, and sensitive to blight and frost. These characteristics of unidentified do not attract the farmers for commercial cultivation and moreover it was not profitable. Potato are generally sown during second week of October and harvested during last week of January. This creates the room to increase Potato production as well as cropping intensity and farmer's income.

Initiative:

Under IARI-NEH Programme, KVK, Champhai introduced and popularized the Potato var. Kufri Mohan through demonstration in the district with an aim to popularize double cropping by utilizing the residual moisture of soil after harvesting of maize, bean, soybean and rice. Good quality seeds were provided to the farmers with proper training for potato sowing and cultivation.

Interesting results and feedback:

With the adoption of HYV of Potato, the average productivity recorded was 1.65 t/ha with a net return of Rs. 57,800/- per ha compared to local unidentified variety yielding 0.90 t/ha with a net return of Rs. 28,000/- .

Impact on farmer's income/livelihood:

Under IARI-NEH Programme, 8 villages have adopted the cultivation of Potato var. Kufri Mohan during 2020-21. In this demonstration, 24 farmers from Biate, Khawzawl, Neighdawn, Ngaizawl, Rabung, Selam, Tualte and Tuipui villages covering 1.06 hectares of land. The average productivity of the variety was 1.65 t/ha with a net return of Rs 57,800.

Lesson learned:

We experienced that late swing of Potato in the mid of November to December first week hampered the production and productivity of crop in different village. In this regard we should ensure timely seed supply to the farmers as it is the pre requisite for profitable cultivation of Potato.

Interventions	Popularization of Potato (var. Kufri Mohan)							
	Name of Village covered	Biate	Khawzawl	Neihdawn	Ngaizawl	Rabung	Selam	Tualte
Quantity of seed supplied(kg)	240	100	200	300	200	500	87	500
Extent of adoption in the village in ha	0.12	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.10	0.25	0.04	0.25

