

Success Story of agricultural development through Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

Bangladesh is a country where farmers do not have enough knowledge regarding cultivation, land and quality seed for plantation. Though both private and public sectors have different purpose and interest, they can work together for a point of common interest to improve the country's total agricultural structure where, availability of quality seeds to farmers, projection of required seeds etc will be ensured by the collaborative effort of R&D department. Our Research & Development sector, infrastructure development and other support services are working on stress tolerant seeds development, availability of quality seeds, variety development, regional specification, climate smart cropping pattern development, proper agronomic practice etc. Government R&D has started working on germplasm and other factors as well, in order to ensure quality innovation for the success of agricultural development through public-private partnership. PPP agreement between the public and private sector leads to sharing of resources, risks and benefits which in the long-run would generate and provide products and services more efficiently.



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In the month of January 2014 ACI Motors arranged some power tiller cultivation contest at Noagoan & Bogra (Sherpur) to promote & show the advantages of using the power tillers for cultivation, among which the newly introduced were R24 Power Tiller, ACI Power Tiller & other competitor's power tiller.



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Inauguration of the ACI-IBSc Innovation Center at Rajshahi University



It was an exciting day for the Advanced Seed Research & Biotech Center (ASRBC) on 26 December 2013 when the Department Heads, Directors & Managers of ACI Limited visited the laboratories, where they were given a tour of the types molecular research being carried out.

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Genome Study of Jute and Buffalo

By this time Bangladesh has already discovered genome mapping of Jute and Buffalo, which allows further research to be done in developing potential technologies to combat hunger against food, nutrition and social securities.

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Innovations and New Products

ACI Cropex innovative association concerning customer hygiene

In January ACI Cropex has taken some steps to provide fresh and hygienic vegetables for the community, but their major concern is how the consumers will get fresh and hygienic local fruits from the market. As a part of this venture, ACI Cropex has started contacting with 12 fruit shops in various location of Dhaka city from where they will supply fresh, pure and hygienic local branded fruits. Due to this initiative taken by ACI Cropex the fruit shopkeepers have started feeling proud to work with ACI Cropex as it will not only help them reduce labor and capital costs, but will also allow them to supply fresh and hygienic local fruits to their consumers.



The glorious launching of innovative products

As a succession to innovation ACI Animal Health started 2014 by launching few of its innovative products gloriously as per recent market demand.

In January'14 we have launched 5 Products among which 3 for Poultry and 2 for Dairy.

ACI-Vet Oral Powder(antibiotic), a preparation of 10% Azithromycin. This is one of the innovative products of Animal Health which has been launched for the first Time in Bangladesh. This antibiotic is effective against the treatment of bacterial diseases specially Mycoplasmosis, CRD, CCRD, early chicks mortality, etc in poultry.

It is unique for the following reasons:-

1. New molecule, so no chance of resistance and more safe.
2. Long serum half life, use daily once only in drinking water.
3. Cause less protein binding, so can be used at any time.

FRA C12 Liq. is another innovative product launched under Poultry Portfolio; the raw materials for this product are imported from FRAMELCO, a famous company of Netherland. It is also launched for the first time in Bangladesh. It is available in 100ml pet bottle.

The special features of this product are:-

1. Effective to control diseases caused by enveloped virus specially Avian Influenza, New castle disease, Fowl Pox & infectious bronchitis.
2. Can be used for the prevention of viral diseases.

Acigent Vet 20 Oral Powder(Antibiotic), is a preparation of 20% gentamicin. This is a broad spectrum antibiotic and is specified for the treatment of Fowl cholera, Colibacillosis, Necrotic enteritis, Yolk sac diseases & Salmonellosis etc in poultry.

FRA C12 Dry is another innovative product launched under Dairy Portfolio; the raw materials for this product are imported from FRAMELCO, a famous company of Netherland. It is also launched for the first time in Bangladesh. It is available in 100g pack.

The special features of this product are:-

1. Effective to control diseases caused by enveloped virus specially Foot & Mouth Diseases(FMD), PPR, Pox, Rabies etc.
2. Can be used for the prevention of viral diseases.

Promone Plus is a finished product which is directly imported from Korea. It is a combination of Iodine, Casein, Fructo Oligosaccharide & Protein. This is mainly specified for the fattening of animals and to fulfilling Iodine deficiency.



Events and Activities

Retailer Meetings for Hybrid Maize Seed Promotion in January 2014

ACI Seed has arranged eight retailer programmes at Dinajpur, Rangpur, Manikgonj and Comilla areas for its Maize Seed Promotion in January 2014. Around 200-240 maize seed retailers were present to share their experiences with ACI Seed. We presented the important features of our maize varieties along with their production technologies. The retailers were also explained the maize programme for Kharif-1. This event made the retailers motivated to sale the ACI Maize Varieties. They also recommended bringing in some high performed Maize varieties from renowned sources.

Apart from maize seed we also discussed important features of our popular vegetable varieties. They were pleased to know the high performance of ACI vegetable seed and even showed their interest in selling ACI vegetable seeds. Eventually, they expressed their gratitude to ACI for arranging this type of programme.



Learning Forum of ACI Animal Health

ACI Animal Health and Training Department jointly formed a Learning Forum named “Learning Forum of ACI Animal Health” which was an innovative initiative. The Business Manager including his team was present in the event and displayed their immense pleasure in starting this pioneering project. Dr. Sharifat Ali Khan gave a presentation about “Hatchery Vaccination” in the conference where the marketing team was also present. The next presentation in this event will be given by Dr. Md. Nezam Uddin Akhand (Rony) on “Gut Health Management of Poultry”. Presentations will be given throughout the year by the members of the Forum. By this forum activity, members will be able to increase their presentation skill, disclose their creativity, increase employee relation, be acquainted with their activities etc. Business Manager of Animal Health also declared that an award will be given to the best performer of the forum.



Events and Activities

Workshop on Mango Cultivation in Chittagong Area

Fruit gardening (especially mango) is becoming more popular nowadays mainly in hilly areas. Recently mango cultivation is growing rapidly due to higher demands of mangoes in such areas. In Khagrachori district, there are 380 gardens cultivating Mango fruits over 620 acres of land. In order to penetrate the mango market we have executed a training program with pioneer farmers where elite persons of Khagrachori district were also present along with the Deputy Director, CPS (Crop Protection Specialist). The Agriculture Officer was also present at the training session and even took part in the discussion to encourage the pioneer farmers in cultivating more quality mangoes. After completion of the training program all the participants were interested to use our Mango special product (Bio-Ferti). They were very hopeful in producing good quality crops by using our ACI fertilizer product (Bio-Ferti).



Buzz Marketing through Power Tiller Cultivation Race

In the month of January 2014 ACI Motors arranged some power tiller cultivation contest at Noagoan & Bogra (Sherpur) to promote & show the advantages of using the power tillers for cultivation, among which the newly introduced were R24 Power Tiller, ACI Power Tiller & other competitor's power tiller. There was a competition between the new R24 model of ACI Power Tiller which has 24 tilling blade with 16 HP Diesel Engine against the traditional ones which had 18 tilling blade with 12 HP Diesel Engine. In these 4 acres of cultivation race R24 Power Tiller comprehensively won by quite a margin in all aspects with 34% faster cultivation and 12% fuel saving. Around two hundred farmers, mechanics, retail businessman and agricultural officers of the agro industry were present in the cultivation race. Moreover, this contest allowed the respective dealers to promote their R 24 power tiller in those markets aggressively. This event created a word of mouth impact which was followed by the local media in that area that created a huge buzz around the market. Common T shirt & Caps were also provided to all the invited farmers in the event which made the occasion vibrant and inspiring.



Events and Activities

Promoting sustainable climate smart agriculture in Patuakhali, Barisal Barguna through ACI-IAP project

Due to climate change, coastal flooding and bursting of river banks are common in the south coastal belt of Bangladesh. The wet land and high salinity in the ground make it difficult to grow crops, which is why large parts of the region are left uncultivated during long periods of the year. As a result, poverty and lack of food is common among farm families and agricultural workers. To overcome this problem, ACI with a matching grant from the Innovation Against Poverty (IAP) program of SIDA is trying to spread the adoption of climate smart cropping patterns which include cereals and vegetables apart from rice. The patterns and crops introduced are specially adapted for the abiotic stresses of the region. The project began on September 2013 and by January 2014 the project team has been active in 8 locations of Patuakhali, Barisal and Barguna, comprising of 1600 farm families. All the farmers have been trained on sustainable agriculture in classrooms and 80 demonstrations are underway to act as model farms for field based training. Nurseries have been developed to supply the farm families with seedlings. Apart from field crops, the farm families were also introduced to the concept and benefits of homestead gardening. The 8000 mini sachets distributed among them by ACI also encouraged them to adopt vegetable farming. The project will run till mid 2015.



Inauguration of the ACI-IBSc Innovation Center at Rajshahi University

An Innovation Center, established under joint efforts of Institute of Biological Sciences (IBSc) and ACI Ltd, was inaugurated on February 3, 2014 at the Senate Bhaban of Rajshahi University. The chief guest of this inaugural occasion was Prof Dr. Muhammad Mizanuddin, Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University. Prof. Dr. Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University was the special guest on this occasion.

Dr F H Ansarey, Executive Director, ACI Agribusiness narrated the future goals and target of the innovation center to the invited faculty members of the university, agricultural institutional guests of Rajshahi, representatives from the press and electronic media and ACI's stakeholders. He also said the company had set an advanced biotechnology center in order to integrate conventional breeding for higher and better productivity in agricultural research. The session was presided by Prof Dr Tanzima Yasmin, Director, Institute of Biological Sciences, Rajshahi University.

The inaugural session was followed by the presentation of a key note paper on Innovation through collaboration in agriculture research and development by Prof. Dr. Lutfur Rahman, Advisor, ACI Agribusiness. He also said that ACI has reliable research collaborations with several national and international institutes, for development of varieties with biotic and abiotic stresses in several crops such as rice, wheat, mustard, tomato, brinjal etc. As a discussant of the key note paper Prof. Dr. M A Bari Miah, Institute of Biological Sciences, University of Rajshahi told that ACI will be able to avail ample opportunity in order to strengthen its biotechnological research and development through this collaborative innovation center at Rajshahi University.

A vibrant display with festoons and live fruit cuts of ACI's R & D varieties, as well as varieties from collaborative foreign principals created a great deal of attraction and information on ACI Seed activities to the invited guests.



New Technology of BT Brinjal

Due to climate change effects Bangladesh has become one of the most vulnerable countries. Since agriculture is the back bone of the country's economy, there is a high demand to develop crop varieties which can only be put into practice if the climates change effects are adopted. Apart from that, Bangladesh needs to develop high yielding varieties of vegetables in order to fight food security issues. Besides, Bangladesh may consider GM foods (Genetically modified foods) like BT Brinjal as a viable option to reduce pesticide application in controlling harmful pests and also environmental pollution.



Improving Quality Tilapia Seed Production for Bangladesh's Sustainable Aquaculture Development

Bangladesh is one of the top freshwater aquaculture producers in the world, but it is currently facing problems over its tilapia seed quality. In order to solve the problem and help aquaculture develop in the country sustainably, a new World fish project hopes to provide farmers with better quality tilapia breeds and seeds. Over the past eleven years, there has been a huge growth in tilapia farming in the country. Although there has been a potential growth, there are still problems while producing tilapia seeds.

Gross anomalies have been recently observed in respect to brood fish management and stock replacement, due to the establishment of a huge number of tilapia hatcheries in the country. As a result, limited numbers and repeated use of brood fish is leading to the problems associated with stock deterioration and inbreeding. Due to the use of inferior quality tilapia seeds from these hatcheries, farmers have reported that they are not getting the expected size of fish for the market. In regards to these problems, the genetic deterioration of brood stock and poor hatchery management has been considered as the greatest constraint for producing quality seed production. In order to combat the problems with tilapia seed quality, World Fish (Bangladesh) and South Asia, have recently established five 'Tilapia Breeding Nucleus's' (TBN) for the production and dissemination of improved germplasm of tilapia in the public and private sector hatcheries of Noakhali, Barisal, Jessore and Mymensingh regions.



Genome Study of Jute and Buffalo

By this time Bangladesh has already discovered genome mapping of Jute and Buffalo, which allows further research to be done in developing potential technologies to combat hunger against food, nutrition and social securities. To further develop this country in the agricultural sector, this is high time for Bangladesh to invest in developing HVAC (High value agriculture commodities) technology for which PPP (Public private partnership) is a potential tool as well.





Did you know???

Carrots contain 0% fat.

27% of food is thrown away in **developed countries**.

Lemons contain more sugar than **Strawberries**.

Switzerland eats the most **chocolate** equating to **10 Kilos** per person per year.



Calorie Chart

Fresh Fruits (Half Cup)	Calories	Fat (g)	Carbohydrates (g)	Protein (g)
Onion	30.4	0.1	6.9	0.9
Celery, cooked	13.5	0.1	3	0.6
Romaine Lettuce	7.8	0.2	1.4	1
Summer Squash	11.3	0.1	3	0.6
Pumpkin , cooked	24.5	0.1	6	0.9
Sweet Corn	66.2	0.9	14.6	2.5
Broccoli, cooked	21.8	0.3	3.9	2.3
Cauliflower, cooked	14.3	0.3	2.5	1.1
Asparagus, cooked	22	0.3	3.8	2.3
Leek	27.1	0.3	3.3	
Green beans	17.1	0.1	3.9	1
Mushrooms, cooked	21.1	0.4	4	1.7

Source: www.blogilates.com

Question & Answer



Q1. My name is Akhter Ali Khan and I am from Thakurgaon. Recently in this winter I have started cultivating Tomatoes. But with very regret I have to say that, when the plant started growing up the fresh leaves of the plants confined with yellow pale fade color. Even the matured leaves also started confiding yellow pale fade gradually. I also observed the growth of the plants stopped improving and somehow the growth tillers getting reduced. The qualities of my tomatoes are disappearing. In this circumstance what can I do?

Akhter Ali Khan, Thakurgaon

Answer: After going through your entire problem what I can diagnose is lack of sulfur. As you are from north Bengal, so there are scanty of sulfur in the soil. When you will have the scanty of sulfur in the soil the acidic and organic materials will be carried out, the quality of the plants will start thinning. So I will suggest you to use the Greensul. While using Greensul your production will increase up to 25%. The root of the plants will be sturdy as your expectation. It will help to create amino acid as well as it makes the leaves ever green.

***In order to get answer to any of your agriculture related queries, please email us at biolife@aci-bd.com or visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/aciagribusinesses.

WORD Game

Figure out the vegetables from the box!



S	P	I	Q	P	A	P	A	Y	A	E	X	F	E	T	F
C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	Y	W	L	N	Q	T	U	M
Y	H	A	U	G	U	A	V	A	B	P	W	T	A	P	S
J	O	M	G	N	S	T	R	A	W	B	E	R	R	Y	C
S	N	A	L	R	S	L	F	I	F	A	G	G	A	P	K
T	E	R	I	G	O	O	S	E	B	E	R	R	Y	I	X
A	Y	I	F	G	M	M	L	H	A	C	S	P	G	N	S
R	D	N	R	S	A	G	W	A	T	O	M	E	E	E	F
F	E	D	U	R	V	B	A	T	V	C	P	A	M	A	H
R	W	N	I	K	B	I	R	T	D	O	C	C	O	P	Y
U	E	B	T	J	U	J	Q	D	D	N	V	H	P	P	W
I	C	P	O	L	T	K	U	M	Q	U	A	T	J	L	S
T	I	W	H	Q	W	V	S	Q	T	T	Y	R	W	E	L

***To win exciting prizes take a picture of this page with marked answers and send the picture to biolife@aci-bd.com

Winner & Answer of the previous Word Game!!!

Abrar Shahriyar Mridha

Kumquat	F	C	T	U	N	A	E	P	L	Z	Z	Z
Peach	O	R	V	T	U	N	E	N	I	P	P	G
Coconut	H	A	Z	E	L	N	U	T	B	B	V	T
Cranberry	E	I	F	K	Y	Z	E	E	L	T	D	G
Honeydew	D	D	P	I	S	T	A	C	H	I	O	R
Strawberry	T	N	U	F	K	T	R	X	B	S	G	O
Pineapple	U	O	N	P	N	T	C	X	Q	C	S	U
Gooseberry	N	M	U	U	R	P	A	A	A	F	D	N
Ugli fruit	L	L	T	U	W	E	S	A	Y	L	I	D
	A	A	D	U	L	C	H	Q	D	Y	S	N
	W	B	N	F	P	A	E	X	H	Q	T	U
	Q	T	V	T	B	N	W	H	O	A	G	T

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ACI Agribusinesses
 Creating Wealth for Farmers

ACI Agribusinesses, the leading agriculture integrator in Bangladesh, is dedicated to gaining prosperity of Bangladesh through food security. ACI Agribusinesses offers complete solutions to farmers and also educates them about the technical know-how.