Letter from the Executive Director, Agribusinesses

Volume 01

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Initiative in Launching H9 Vaccine

Avian Influenza is one kind of viral disease. Avian Influenza occurs in Type A disease which has two types of antigen-Hemagglutinin(H) and Neuraminidase(N). These two create the diseases and from these some are highly pathogenic and some low pathogenic. Recent lab tests (in BLRI and CDIL) of samples collected from a few flocks revealed that there is an alarming threat of H9 Serotype/Clade of Avian Influenza. From the farmers we have heard about some outbreak messages regarding some problems which they want a solution. If ACI can initiate the H9 vaccine (such as CEVAC NEW FLU H9 k) which is low pathogenic can easily be used to neutralize the threat. If H9 vaccine is used it will help to save the poultry industry, save production hamper and save mortality as well. ACI Agribusiness has taken the initiative to introduce the vaccine (against H9 of AI) so that no further problems are being addressed in the future.







Contents

- 3 6 Events and Activities
- 7 Agri-tech and Communication
- 8 9 Readers' Corner

3

4

ACI-IAP-SIDA Project Successfully Completed Training of 800 Women and Carried out Successful Demonstrations

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ACI Cropex committed to Supply best Quality Mango to the Consumers



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Agricultural Project in Rangpur and Lalmonirhat Cantornment

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Seminar on Shrimp Hatchery Management



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Innovative Technology Can Improve Seed Quality

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ACI-IAP-SIDA Project Successfully Completed Training of 800 Women and Carried out Successful Demonstrations

ACI in collaboration with the Innovation Against Poverty (IAP) Program of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) has been funding a project to promote climate smart sustainable agriculture in the coastal belt of Bangladesh.

800 more women were trained on

homestead vegetable gardening throughout April 2014 in Bauphal, Bakergonj, Kalpara, Galachipa and Babuganj areas, thus completing this season's training sessions.

Successful demonstrations were also held on Bittergourd, Maize, Pumpkin and Groundnut in the 8 locations of the project.











Agro-technology Fair in 2014

ACI Agribusiness organized Agro Technology fair arranged by LIMRA Trade Fairs and RDA, Bogra. The fair was inaugurated by the state minister of LGRD, Mr. Moshiur Rahman. Other key personnel who visited the fair were DG RDA, DC Bogra, Directors & Senior Personnel of different institutions under Ministry of Agriculture, etc. Throughout the event seminars and workshops were being held where DG RDA and other researchers shared their experiences. This was an international fair where participants of

7countries participated including Vietnam, China, Korea and local companies related to agricultural implementation, machineries related to finished products from agricultural production, beverage and food industry, renewable energy and light engineering were present in the fair. As Bogra is the main hub in the entire northern production region where two major groups - farmers and SME entrepreneurs could be found in one place. Hence, it is a big opportunity for everyone to meet and focus on

innovating agriculture through new technology. This fair mainly displayed the product of the companies present in the fair, their expression of service, facilities, uses and demonstration of the products. This fair has hugely helped everyone in targeting the company's premium customers, dealers etc. The most eventful part of the exhibition was among the participating 200 local and international companies ACI Agribusiness won the first prize in the exhibition.

Promoting ACI Motors through World T20 Hype

ACI Motors arranged a program of hanging the biggest national flag to support the Bangladesh National Cricket team at the hype of World T20. ACI Motors hanged a total of 12 biggest flags in the following areas- Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Rangpur, Naogaon, Bogura, Sylhet, Comilla, Chittagong, Mymensingh, Habiganj and Jessore. It was a buss marketing aligned for emotional attach-

ment for audience. This program has been inaugurated by the mayor of the areas, high officials of agricultural office, banks, colleges and universities in different areas. At the time of hanging many supporters of Bangladesh team was present to observe and participate in this program. Altogether around one to five lakh people has seen this flag hanging in those areas.





ACI Cropex Committed to Supply best Quality Mango to the Consumers

ACI Cropex has taken an initiative to move back those consumers who are scared to consume local fruits from the market. ACI Cropex has taken mango fruits as their branded product this year. For the success of the campaign ACI Cropex has organized a meeting with KATALYST for discussing about the Post Harvest Management Process. The Cropex team also visited several mango gardens which were located in Jessore, Satkhira, Meherpur and Chapainawabgonj. The Cropex

team trained up farmers and garden owners about the Post Harvest Management Process to get the high quality mangoes. After that ACI Cropex arranged a meeting at ACI Centre in 19th April with the traders from whom consumers who will get ACI Cropex branded mangoes Polashi Market, located Gulshan-1. Gulshan-2, Dhanmondi-27, Shantinagor, Newmarket, Uttara. Azimpur, Mohammadpur, Zigatola, Niketon



ACI-CCBA Collaboration for Promoting Summer Tomato and Cauliflower

ACI is widely promoting cultivation of summer tomato and cauliflower in the country. It is also promoting these crops in collaboration with Cold Chain Bangladesh Alliances (CCBA). For this, an MOU was signed on April 13, 2014. Under this collaborative program a number of demonstration, field days and farmers training program will be held at Gazipur and Jessore. In April 2014, a total of 50 innovative farmers of Gazipur and Jessore were trained on production of Summer Tomato: Summer King amd Cauliflower: Maradona.

In the training, farmers received an orientation on the new varieties and hands-on training on the cultivation of summer tomato and cauliflower. It is anticipated that the farmers will get 5-8 kg of tomatoes from each plant for a profit of Tk.6000-7000 from each decimal of land. While from cauliflower: Maradona they will get Tk 70,000 as profit from 33 decimal of land.

This is a new and bonus crop for these localities that will generate employment and income in the lean period of the cropping system.



Seed Dealer Family Conference 2014

Seed Dealer Family Conference 2014 has successfully completed at Bonodia Family Park, Jessore and Vinoyjagot, Rangpur on 17 & 19 April 2014. Around 50 seed dealer along with their family were present and actively participated in the programme. The objectives of the programme were motivating dealers along with his family for strengthening late boro hybrid rice sales.

The programmes were designed by including different sports events, rides, gift, and quiz along with

business discussion in both the places. The participants were so happy to be associated with this programme. They have conveyed their heartiest gratitude to ACI Seed for giving them opportunity to be spend time with family.

In the business session the dealer were found to be motivated in selling ACI Hybrid rice in late Boro and Aman season. ASM, Jessore and Dinajpur and their team were playing the key role for making the programme successful.





Agricultural Project in Rangpur and Lalmonirhat Cantornment

In 21st April 2014, ACI Fertilizer visited Vermi-gas and Biogas slurry projects in Rangpur. Business Manager, Sales Manager and Assistant Product Manager visited the project to see the feasibility for marketing of organic fertilizer. Major General Md. Salahuddin Miaji, Commander, Rangpur area is trying to develop a model consisting of integrated agriculture — fish, poultry, dairy, cattle, etc. He renovated the unutilized 200 acre land into cultivatable land for rice, maize, vegetables and

watermelon. He also has a dairy farm which has around 2000 cattles. By using the cow dung they will develop a biogas plant through joint venture with Winsource Limited in Lalmonirhat cantornment known as Military Farm. 28MT raw cow dung is produced per day, from where 7-8MT finished organic fertilizer would be produced. ACI Fertilizer will market the organic fertilizer which will be produced from the Biogas project.



Trichoderma Lab in RDA, Bogra

In 22nd April 2014, ACI Fertilizer visited the lab facilities in Sherpur, Bogra. Business Manager, Sales Manager and Assistant Product Manager visited the lab facilities to see the development of Trichoderma added organic fertilizer. Trichoderma is a fungus that increases the microbial activity in

the soil; it protects the crops against fungal pathogens and produces antibodies. RDA, Bogra is developing this Trichoderma Lab in collaboration with Katalyst and Innovision. They are also supplying Trichoderma in liquid and powder solution to the farmers on trial basis. Trichoderma helps in the production of

organic fertilizer and the liquid solution is also helpful in spraying the plants as fungicide. Trichoderma decomposes very quickly and RDA is trying to develop tricho-compost through adding Trichoderma living agent in organic fertilizer.





Seminar on Shrimp Hatchery Management

On 2nd April 2014, ACI Animal Health organized a seminar on Shrimp Hatchery Management in Cox's Bazar & Chittagong. Honorable Executive Director of ACI Agribusiness was present in the seminar. He mainly described about the strength and investment of different business unit of ACI at Cox's Bazar. He also talked about new business on Shrimp Hatchery under aqua division. Lastly he talked about a new culture method name called "Aqua Moaf" a project of Poland where the production rate of fish is 100 times more than the

normal fish production in Bangladesh. Finally he thanked all the participants who attended the seminar. Md. Shaheen Shah. Business Manager of ACI Animal Health was also present and he described all segments of ACI Animal Health including the marketing of a newly launched Hi technological product. He briefly described an imported product from Vitafor Belgium which is very active against WSSV Shrimp. He also described different equipments for using shrimp hatchery which is already under processing. There was an open discussion

session where Mr. Polash. Mr. Mision and Mr. Aftab gave advices on some products and new formulations for shrimp industry which they are using at this moment. On the 2nd day of the seminar, ACI Animal Health visited shrimp hatcheries of Mr. Polash, Mr. Mision and Mr. Aftab to know about the current market situation of shrimps. After visiting every point in their hatchery & knowing about their operation uses and opportunity they found out with these outcomes:

- 1. Need technical service with Lab facilities
- 2. Multivitamin Premix for shrimp
- 3. Vitamin C
- 4. Artemia
- 5. Artificial Feed
- 6. EDTA
- 7. Bleaching Powder
- 8. Sodium Thiosulphate
- 9. Probiotics
- 10. Herbal Feed
- 11. Mother Shrimp (Brood)
- 12. Light Equipment for Hatchery Management



PHOTO CORNER











Innovative Technology Can Improve Seed Quality

Drying seeds reduces their moisture content and counteracts the deleterious effects of tropical conditions while in storage, resulting in greater productivity and income for the farmer. To that end, Rhino Research Group now markets desiccant drying beads, a simple, inexpensive and widely adaptable method for drying horticultural seeds and maintaining high seed quality during storage. Yet innovative technology alone is not enough. Increasing

smallholders' access to high-quality seeds also depends on the sustainable distribution and marketing of the technology through market based supply channels To that end, Hort CRSP's 'Seed Systems – Improving Seed Quality for Smallholders' project (2011-2014) was developed to demonstrate and sustainably market drying beads to smallholders in Barisal, Noakhali, Bhola.



Denmark's Agro Tech is Consulting in Agro Food Technology and Food Innovation

Denmark's Agro Technology is participating in research and development projects towards new and unknown materials from biomass and conversion of biomass and join biomass and bio- plastic networks: "Biobased plastic and natural fibers for multiple applications"

This AgroTech supports companies in product development with bio-based materials in multiple

applications and assists in business and market development. It's quantitative impact study on biomass resources from the agricultural sector and the aquarius sector. It developed the business opportunities for the bio-refinery concepts and creating new possibilities for agriculture. By the completion of tests and demonstrations within agri-technology, biomaterials and

bioprocess technology, clean tech, and energy technology, the area of domestic animals and food technology and technology within the greenhouse industry. It created an opportunity participating in research and development projects towards new and unknown materials from biomass and conversion of biomass.







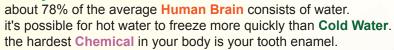
Readers' Corner



Did you know???



water expands about 9% when it freezes into Ice. you've lost about 1% of your body's Water by the time you feel Thirsty.





Calorie Chart

Vegetable (Per 100gm)	Calories	Fat (g)	Carbohydrate (g)	Protein (g)		
Summer Squash	11.3	0.1	2.5	0.4		
Cucumber	6.8	0.1	1.4	0.4		
Radish	11.6	0.3	2.1	0.3		
Zucchini, cooked	14.4	0	3.5	0.6		
Green & Red Bell Peppers	30	0.15	7.55	0.61		
Spinach, cooked	20.7	0.2	3.4	2.7		
Banana	89	0.33	22.84	1.09		
Blueberries	57	0.33	14.49	0.74		
Broccoli, cooked	21.8	0.3	3.9	2.3		
Pumpkin, cooked	24.5	0.1	6	0.9		
Peas	58.7	0.3	10.5	3.9		
Onion	30.4	0.1	6.9	0.9		

Question & Answer



My name is Liakot Ali and I am a farmer. I live in Debiganj, which is northern portion of the country at Panchagar. I grow brinjal for last few years and recently I am facing a insignificant problem of my brinjal growth. I have noticed that the plants are getting infertile and fuzzy before the maturity of brinjal. Even I am getting very less amount of seeds. So may I have any suitable suggestions regarding this issue?

Liakot Ali, Debiganj, Panchagar.

We are glad to have your attention on this question. We got your problem. It is taking place due to lack of Boron. Firstly, let us clarify you that as you are from north Bengal, so there is deficiency of Boron in the soil. Now let us inform you that what are the symptoms regarding lack of Boron in vegetables. It disrupts the photosynthesis process in the absence of boron. It creates a barrier to the growth of root. We would suggest you to use our Boron. Deficiency of Boron decrease 25% of yield. So it will increase the yielding up to 25%. It enables the Nitrogen to vigorous the soil properly. It helps to produce more fruits and flowers. So we suggest you to use our Boron.

^{***}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.



Readers' Corner



Figure out the vegetables from the box!



^{***}To win exciting prizes, take a picture of this page with marked answers and send the picture to biolife@aci-bd.com by May 2014

Winner & Answer of the previous Word Game!!!

Zaheen Muhtasim Rahman

Asparagus
Avocado
Brussels Sprout
Beetroot
Endive
Fennel
Leek
Rhubarb
Yam

B	R	U	S	S	E	(L)	S	S	P	R	0	U	T	T	(A)	
Ε	R	Т	G	R	F	Ε	Z	D	W	L	N	Q	T	A	S	
Ε	В	Α	N	G	U	Ε	V	Α	В	P	W	T	A	V	P	
Т	J	M	G	N	E	K	W	D	Ε	N	D	I	N	0	Α	
R	E	A	D	R	S	L	F	Ε	N	N	Ε	L	A	С	R	
0	Т	R	V	G	I	W	S	J	N	E	M	P	R	Α	Α	
0	Х	Ι	F	G	M	M	L	Н	Α	N	S	L	G	D	G	
T	U	R	N	I	P	G	W	Α	T	D	M	L	Ε	0	U	
F	R	D	N	R	V	В	Α	T	V	Ι	P	W	M	J	S	
R	Н	U	В	Α	R	В	R	T	D	V	С	Y	0	Х	Y	
U	E	В	U	J	U	J	Q	D	D	E	V	N	P	T	W	
F	E	N	N	Ε	L	Ι	U	R	F	K	С	А	J	X	S	
Т	Ι	W	Н	0	W	V	S	0	Т	Y	Y	А	M	Р	L	

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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.