

Parthenium awareness programme organized at Nagaon



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The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nagaon and the of Directorate of Weed Science Research Centre, AAU, Jorhat in collaboration with the Department of Botany, Nowgong College organised an awareness programme on Parthenium on 22nd August, 2011 in the premises of Nowgong College.

Parthenium, popularly known as the Congress weed, star weed or carrot weed is considered one of the seven most dreaded weeds of the world. First observed in India in 1956, it has now spread throughout the country. It germinates in summer and in rainy season, produces flowers and seed throughout its life. The weed is responsible for largest number of airborne contact dermatitis in India. Almost every part of the plant is reactive. When a person comes in constant contact with the weed for a period of three to 12 months, it induces severe human allergies, asthma, dermatitis, and rhinitis.

The public awareness meeting was presided over by Dr. Khargeswar Bhuyan, Principal, Nowgong College. At the very outset, the objective of the meeting was narrated by Dr. N.C.Deka, Principal Scientist, DWSRC. Programme Coordinator of the KVK, Dr.T.P.Saikia welcomed all the participants. Opening address was delivered by Dr. B.Guha, Chief Scientist, RARS, Shillongani.

Dr. I.C.Baruah, Principal Scientist, DWSRC delivered an elaborative power point presentation on the topic "Biology of Parthenium". Harmful effects of Parthenium on human beings, crops and animals were also explained.

Dr. J. Deka, Principal Scientist, DWSRC delivered his power point lecture on "Management of Parthenium". He advised to remove Parthenium before flowering stage to avoid seed bank in the soil. Sh. R.K. Das, JDA(CZ), Deptt. Of Agriculture attended the programme as Chief Guest. A short video play on Management of Parthenium was also showed in the programme. Different herbicides for control of Parthenium with potted live plants of Parthenium were also exhibited outside the meeting hall. Altogether 280 numbers of students, college teachers, scientists and farmers participated in the programme.

In the end, Dr. S. Borkotoky lauded the efforts of the KVK Nagaon and DWSRC along with the faculty members of Nowgong College for organizing such an awareness programme.

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