

Reprint

ISSN 1997-2571 (Web Version)

# Journal of Innovation & Development Strategy (JIDS)

*(J. Innov. Dev. Strategy)*

---

Volume: 7

Issue: 3

December 2013

---

*J. Innov. Dev. Strategy 7(3): 75-80 (December 2013)*

**INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SERVICES BY ICT IN BARI**

K.S. RAHMAN, N. MOHAMMAD, M.M. RAHMAN, S. NASRIN AND S. KUNDU



An International Scientific Research Publisher

*Green Global Foundation*®

Web address: <http://ggfjournals.com/e-journals archive>

E-mails: [editor@ggfjournals.com](mailto:editor@ggfjournals.com) and [editor.int.correspondence@ggfjournals.com](mailto:editor.int.correspondence@ggfjournals.com)



## INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SERVICES BY ICT IN BARI

K.S. RAHMAN<sup>1</sup>, N. MOHAMMAD<sup>1</sup>, M.M. RAHMAN<sup>1</sup>, S. NASRIN<sup>2</sup> AND S. KUNDU<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Scientific Officer, ASICT Division, BARI, Joydebpur, Gazipur-1701; <sup>2</sup>M.Sc student of Rajshahi University, Rajshahi;

<sup>3</sup>Scientific Officer, Planning and Evaluation Division, BARI, Joydebpur, Gazipur-1701.

\*Corresponding author & address: Kazi Saidur Rahman, E-mail: kazi@bari.gov.bd

Accepted for publication on 28 November 2013

---

### ABSTRACT

Rahman KS, Mohammad N, Rahman MM, Nasrin S, Kundu S (2013) Innovative agricultural information services by ICT in BARI. *J. Innov. Dev. Strategy*. 7(3), 75-80.

In recent years farmers attitude to access to agricultural information have been changed because of very fast networking of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Specially rural marketing exploring in a new ways as farmers access to market information. Various projects have been developed that integrate ICT into the dissemination of agricultural information to farmers. This paper discusses a number of innovative projects that utilize ICT in delivering information to farmers.

**Key words:** agriculture, farmers, ICT, information and innovation

---

### INTRODUCTION

With the change of time and the development of information technology, the potential of ICT to support the access to and exchange of information for farmers is cleared.

A new concept about agriculture informatics that has arisen following the rapid development in ICT and of the internet referred to as e-agriculture. Information is delivery through the advances in ICT and the internet. Improved ICT are known to enhance or expand human networks (Qaisar *et al.* 2011).

Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) is the largest multi- crop research institute conducting research on a wide variety of crops, such as cereals, tubers, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, fruits, spices, flowers, etc. Besides, variety development, this institute carries out research on such areas as soil and crop management, disease and insect management, water management and irrigation, development of farm machinery, improvement of cropping and farming system management, post-harvest handling and processing, and socio-economic studies related to production, processing, marketing and consumption.

Many of the organizations like government (A2I, BARI), private and cooperatives have attempted to facilitate technology transfer in the agriculture sector (Best and Kumar, 2008; Gollakota 2008; ITU 1981; MIOA/IICA, 2007; Munyua and Hilda, 2008; UNDP 2009). Also Radio and TV Programmers feature agriculture information.

BARI on line e-agriculture services to the beneficiaries. Any stakeholder can ask question related to agriculture with the help of on-line e-agriculture facility of BARI web site. BARI has been giving on-line feedback services through website ([www.bari.gov.bd](http://www.bari.gov.bd)) to end user.

### METHODOLOGY

To facilitate farmers BARI has established a web based methodology for any queries. Any root level farmer can directly access to BARI through BARI website ([www.bari.gov.bd](http://www.bari.gov.bd)) even from union level. Moreover for the better of our e-agri management and communication development we have established the following system for data collection.

The queries and data collection are given below which has been developed by renowned software using My SQL, PHP etc. Specialized applications are being developed to further extend this impact. Some of the results were analyzed by computer package software such as MS EXCEL, SPSS etc.

Overview of BARI website are given below:

**Query/Response**

- Post a new query
- feedback/response

**Technology**

- Variety (Commodity)
- Other Technology

**BARI Personnel**

- Personnel Data Sheet(PDS)
- Internal Notice
- BARI MAIL

**Welcome to BARI**

BARI (Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute) is the largest multi-crop research institute conducting research on a large number of crops, such as cereals, tubers, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, fruits, spices, flowers, etc. Besides variety development, this institute also carries out research on non-commodity areas, such as soil and crop management, disease and insect management, irrigation and water management, development of farm machinery, improvement of cropping and farming system management, post-harvest handling and processing, and socio-economics studies related to production, marketing, and consumption.

**Important Issues**

- Latest News
- Upcoming Events
- Burning Issues
- Citizen Charter
- New Variety
- New Technology
- Technology Dissemination
- সাড়ে চার বছরের সাফল্য  
উদ্ভাবিত প্রযুক্তি সমূহ

**বায়ু সিলি**

Post a new Query form are given below:

## Query Submit

you must fill up the star marked fields

**Name**  \*

**Profession**

**District**

**Upazilla**

**Email**  \*

**Mobile No.**  \*

**Subject**  \*

**Message**

Please Use Avro Keyboard for Bangla Typing

Upload Image (Optional)  [Choose file](#)

[Send Message](#)

Query subject, message of feedback message are given below:

## Query/Response/Feedback

Search By Query Subject	Search By Query Message	Search By Feedback Message
<input type="text" value="Query Subject"/>	<input type="text" value="Query Message"/>	<input type="text" value="Feedback"/>

Query Subject	Request for suggestion
Message	Sir, Could you please inform whether wheat could be cultivated in the soil which becomes more salty during winter in coastal Chor area. if possible what is the variety @ from where Seed could be collected ?
<b>Feedback Information</b>	
Feedback Message	BARI Gom 25 released in 2010 is saline tolerant wheat variety. It can tolerate salinity level of 8-10ds/m. ↳ Seed can be collected from Regional Wheat Research Centre, BARI, Gazipur or from nearby BADC sale centre. ↳ ↳ Regional Wheat Research Centre, BARI, Gazipur
Query Subject	pH level of all districts of Bangladesh
Message	Dear sir,we need to know the pH level of all districts of Bangladesh.Please inform us Thank You.
<b>Feedback Information</b>	
Feedback Message	BARI Gom 25 released in 2010 is saline tolerant wheat variety. It can tolerate salinity level of 8-10ds/m. ↳ Seed can be collected from Regional Wheat Research Centre, BARI, Gazipur or from nearby BADC sale centre. ↳ ↳ Regional Wheat Research Centre, BARI, Gazipur
Query Subject	pH level of all districts of Bangladesh
Message	Dear sir,we need to know the pH level of all districts of Bangladesh.Please inform us Thank You.
<b>Feedback Information</b>	
Feedback Message	<b>The pH level of all districts of Bangladesh is given below:</b>
Feedback File Link	<a href="#">Download</a>
Query Subject	Timetable of BARI
Message	I'm interested to know when BARI will open to visit for us.
<b>Feedback Information</b>	

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The detail study was from secondary data. Number of queries/answers in different section/division/centre during 2011-12 and 2012-13 Annual report was collected from Annual report (ASICT Division, 2011-12 and 2012-13):-

**Queries/Feedback information**

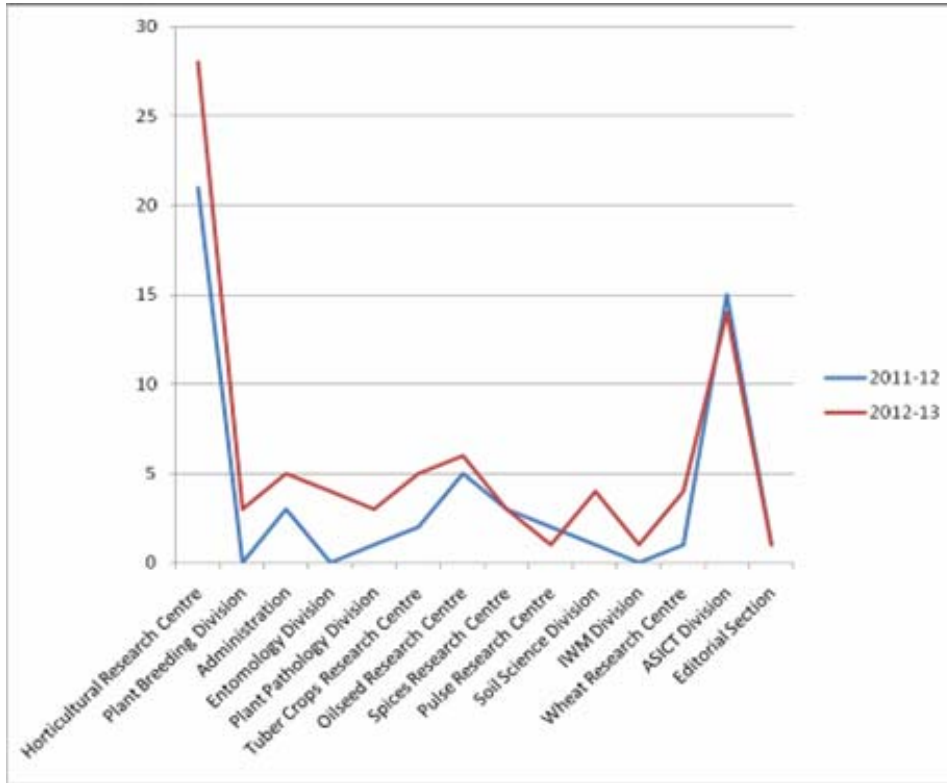


Fig . 1 Line-chart of queries/feedback (2011-12 and 2012-13)

From Figure 1 it was observed that the number of queries/feedback is increasing year by year. So that the formers are being benefited by using BARI e-agriculture services.

**Queries/Feedback information (2011-12)**

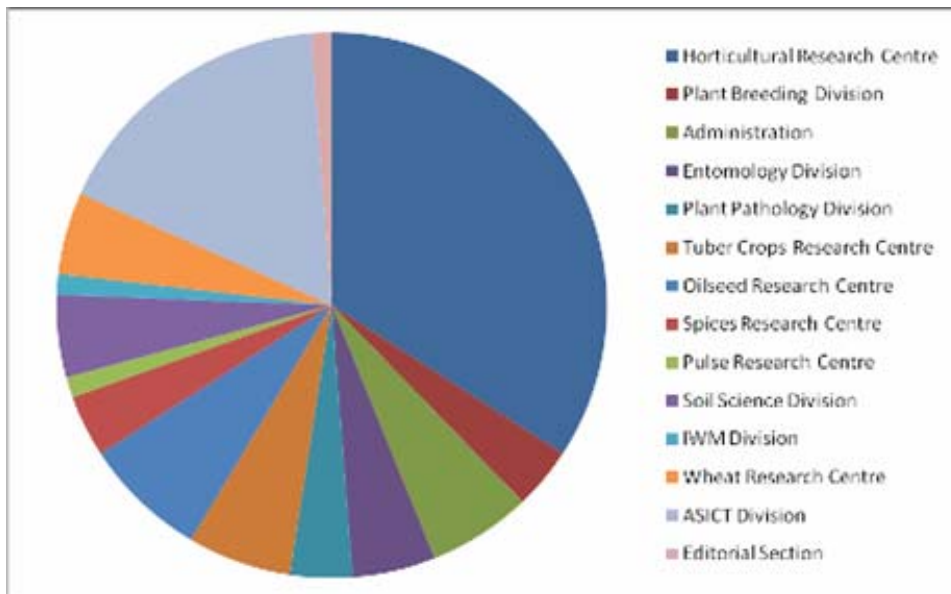


Fig. 2. Pie-chart of queries/feedback (2011-12)

Queries/Feedback information (2012-13)

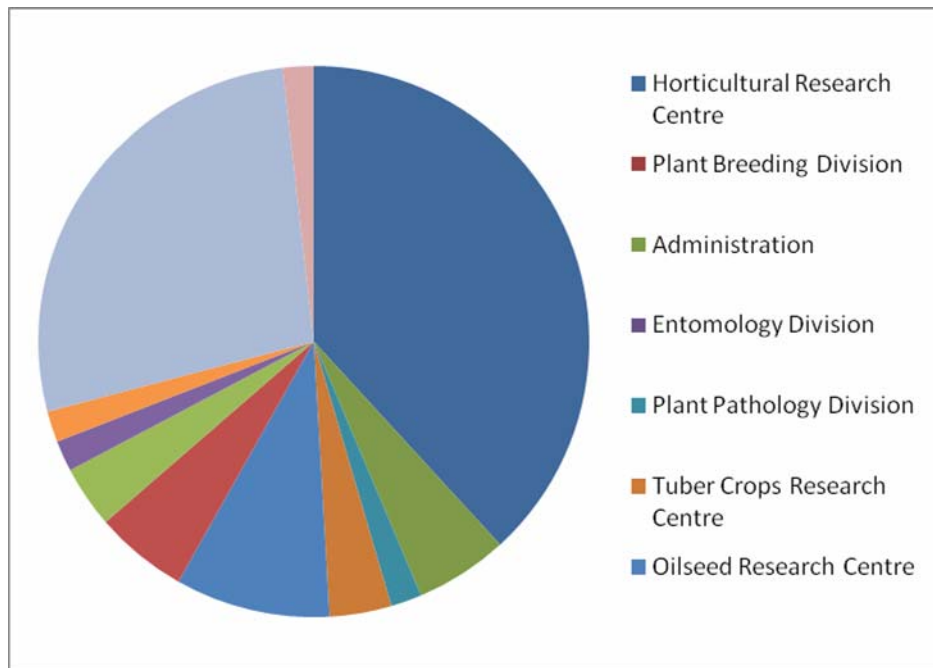


Fig. 3. Pie-chart of queries/feedback (2012-13)

From figure 2 and 3 it was observed that most of the farmers want to know about Horticulture crops (such as fruits flowers and vegetables etc.).

#### CONCLUSION

Agriculture is the major driving force of Bangladesh economy. 80% people depends on agriculture. About 20% of the national GDP depends on it. Throughout the agricultural seasons farmers typically seek information on disease prevention, pest control and advice to make their farms more productive. Demand for these kinds of information is rapidly increasing (Fig. 1). ICT and web service of BARI providing these information which made their access easy. Thus, these services assisting famers in making the best decisions in farming. Day by day post a new query and feedback/response rate is increasing.

#### REFERENCES

- Access to Information (A2I), Prime Minister Office, Dhaka. website: <http://www.a2i.pmo.gov.bd>
- Annual Central Review Report (2011-12) ASICT Division, BARI. Gazipur.
- Annual Central Review Report (2012-13) ASICT Division, BARI. Gazipur.
- BARI website: <http://www.bari.gov.bd>
- Best ML, Kumar R (2008) Sustainability failures of rural telecenters: Challenges from the sustainable access in rural India (SARI) project, *Inf. Tech. and Int. Development*, 4(4), 31-45.
- Gollakota K (2008) ICT use by businesses in rural India: The case of EID Parry's Indiagriline, *Int. J. of Inf. Management*, 28(4), 336-341.
- ITU (1981) Appropriate modern telecommunications technology for integrated rural development in Africa (2 vols). AMTT/IRD, Geneva.
- MIOA/IICA (2007) Review and assessment of agricultural markets information system in member countries of the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA), Executive Summary.
- Munyua, Hilda (2008) ICTs and small-scale agriculture in Africa: A scoping study, final report to IDRC.
- Qaisar TM, Khan MMA, Alom S (2011) Innovative agricultural information services by ICT project in India. *Int. J. of Trade, Econ. and Finance*. 2(4), 276-279.
- UNDP (2009) <http://www.apdip.net/resources/case/in06/view>