ISO 9001:2008 certification
The institute was assessed by M/S TNV Certification Pvt. Ltd. for Quality Management System on 12th November, 2013 and awarded ISO 9001:2008 certificate. The scope of certificate is “Rendering Research, Developmental, Technical, Technological, Innovation, Extension and service support to the silk Industry.”

Recent addition to the Research Projects
A project “Isolation and Characterization of Anti Fungal Peptides from Muga Silkworm Antheraea assamensis Helfer,” formulated in collaboration with NEIST, Jorhat and IIT, Kharagpur with primary objectives of isolation, purification, biochemical characterization and determination of mode of action of anti-fungal peptides from the haemolymph of fungal challenged muga silkworm, Antheraea assamensis Helfer against various fungi of Candida and Aspergillus sp. has been approved by DBT under DBT twinning programme.

Report: Dr.(Mrs. U. Hazarika)

Hybrid Authorization trial of C2 breed
Hybrid Authorization trial of newly developed C2 breed of eri silkworm was conducted in 7 state sericulture farms viz., Borduar, Adabari, Jamuguri, Sapekshaiy, Dhanubhang and Deomornoi of Assam and Nongpoh from Meghalaya during October, 2013. One hundred dils of C2 breed were supplied to each test centres.

Non bloomy red castor (NBR-1) was used to maintain uniformity in food quality. Control was maintained with local eri race, same quantum of dils and same food plant

Improvement in C2 over local race was observed in almost all parameters viz., fecundity, hatching, cocoon yield by number/dil, cocoon yield by weight (kg) /dil, ERR, good cocoon percentage, single cocoon weight, single shell weight, length of cocoon and cocoon shell ratio.

Report: Dr. M.C. Sarma and B.N. Sarkar

SPECIAL FEATURES

Research Council meeting: The 43rd RC meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Director of the institute on 4th July and 2nd August, 2013 to review the R & D activities.

Research Advisory Committee meeting: The 26th RAC meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Prof. B. Konwar, VC, Nagaland University on 17th August, 2013. Sri. R. Phukan, ACS, Director of Sericulture, Assam; Dr. M.V. Samson, former Director of CSB; Sri P. K. Das, Scientist-E (Retd.) CSB; Dr. A. Tikadar, Sc-D, representative of the Director (H.Q.), CSB, and Shri J. Patra, muga farmer, attended the meeting.
Sri Sarat Deori, Joint Secretary (Tech), RO, CSB, Guwahati and Dr. P. Jayaprakash, Sc.-D., MSSO, Guwahati were present in the meeting as invitees. Dr. K. Giridhar, Director of the institute informed the house about R&D projects/programmes of the institute, the efforts made for Front Line demonstration of selected technologies to develop model farmers on muga and eri culture in association with KVK, Jorhat and DOS staff, technology awareness meets on eri culture with NIAM Jaipur, development of Biotech Hub for the benefit of researchers. The Chairman in his opening remarks expressed his serious concern on low production of muga silk and inferred that more model farmers to be developed by providing technological inputs, infrastructure, etc. The chairman opined that certain formulations applied in tea gardens may affect the silkworms. DOS, Assam emphasized on undertaking field oriented research projects.

**Extension Officers' Meeting:** The 2nd and 3rd EOM was convened under the chairmanship of Director of the institute on 19th August and 15th November, 2013 to review the activities of different REC's.

**ISDS Review meeting:** ISDS Review meeting was held on 2nd August and 3rd December, 2013.

**ISO Management Review meeting:** The 1st ISO Management Review meeting was held on 19th September, 2013 to discuss the R & D activities of the institute as per guidelines of ISO 9001:2008.

**Vigilance Awareness week:** Vigilance Awareness week was celebrated from 20th October to 4th November, 2013.

**Independence day:** Independence day was celebrated on 15th August at Quarter complex of CSB, Cinnamara, Jorhat.
Biometric Attendance System: The institute has successfully installed and operated the Biometric Attendance System w.e.f 1st December, 2013.

Appointment of Junior Research Fellow: Ms Jotshna Sonowal was appointed as JRF under DBT funded research project “Characterization, transmission and cyto-pathology of infectious flacherie and cytoplasmic polyhedrosis virus in muga silkworm, Antheraea assamensis Helfer” on 24th September, 2013.

Beneficiary empowerment programmes

✓ BEP on muga culture was conducted on 30th August 2013 for 50 women muga rearers sponsored by DOS, Assam and for 25 farmers of Jorhat, Golaghat and Sivasagar districts w.e.f. 2nd to 7th September, 2013. Dr K. Giridhar, Director, Sri B. Choudhury, Sri G. Rajkhowa, Dr Ranjan Das, Sri D. Goswami, Smt. M. D. Senapati, Ranuma Das, Dr (Mrs) U. Hazarika and Sri Z. M. S. Khan educated the trainees about latest technologies on muga food plant cultivation.

✓ BEP on eri culture was conducted w.e.f. 11th to 16th September, 2013 for 25 farmers of Jorhat, Golaghat and Sivasagar districts and w.e.f. 7th to 11th October, 2013 for 20 farmers of Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. Sri B. Choudhury, Dr M. C. Sarmah, Dr N. J. Dhar, Mrs R. Das, Sri D. Mech, and Sri S. A. Ahmed explained about the new technologies related to eri host plant cultivation and eri silkworm rearing in order to increase the cocoon productivity and skill of the farmers. The exposure visit was also organised to the farmers to gain confidence, skill and knowledge on eri culture.

Core training in association with NIAM

* Core training on value addition and marketing management of muga culture at Aizawl, Mizoram: The training was organized w.e.f. 16th to 19th September, 2013. 25 officers & officials of Mizoram nominated by the DoS, Mizoram participated in the training.

In the inaugural function, Pu Lalrinmawia, Joint Director (Sericulture), Pu Lalrozama, Principal, STI, Zemabawk, Shri B.N. Choudhury, Scientist, REC, Aizawl, Dr. L. Pachuau, Scientist, REC, Aizawl and Shri S.A. Ahmed, Scientist, CMERI & NIAM highlighted present status of silk industry in Mizoram, need of conservation of wild silk in Mizoram state and urged the participants to utilize the NIAM sponsored programme in delivering the extension services effectively to eri and muga rearers.

Director, CMERI & NIAM and Dr. Ramesh Mittal, DD, NIAM, Jaipur imparted training on value addition and marketing, entrepreneurship development in muga silk, quality standard and testing, root cause analysis on muga silkworm mortality & seed production and post-cocoon technologies in muga culture. The training module included participatory lecture, group discussion, practical session and field visits.
In the inaugural session, DD, NIAM and Dr. K. C. Singh, Scientist, RTRS, Imphal delivered Lecture on the status of vanja silk sector in Manipur, development of customer need based diversified products to generate additional income. Dr. N.I. Singh, and Shri S.A. Ahmed, Scientists, CMER&TI, Sri Anowar Hussain, IIE, Imphal and Shri Sandeep P Thubrikar, AD, Weavers’ Service Centre, Imphal imparted training on various aspects.

Core training on value addition and marketing management of eri culture at Kolasib, Mizoram: The training was organized w.e.f. 18th to 21st September, 2013. 25 trainees participated in the programme. DD, NIAM, Shri C. Lalrinawma, DSO, Aizawl, Shri Lalrozama, Principal, STI, Zemabawk, Shri S. A. Ahmed, Scientist, CMER&TI and Sri Lalthiangular, DSO, Kolasib imparted training.

Training under ISDS

Under Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) of MoT, GOI, following training programmes were conducted.

Eri silkworm rearing: Sri B. Choudhury, Dr. M. C. Sarmah, Sri P.K. Handique, Dr. (Mrs) U. Hazarika, Sri B. N. Sarkar, Sri S.A. Ahmed and Mrs B.C. Das imparted training as resource persons to 45 farmers.

Eri cocoon spinning: The training was imparted to 45 farmers by Sri B. Choudhury, Sri Z.M.S. Khan, Scientists and Sri Chandra Gogo (AT) as resource persons.

Muga silkworm rearing: The training was imparted to 60 farmers by Sri P.K. Handique, Sri D. Goswami, Dr. K. Neog and Dr. (Mrs) U. Hazarika on various aspects as resource persons.

Muga cocoon reeling: The training was imparted to 60 farmers by Sri Z.M.S. Khan, Scientist and Sri Chandra Gogo (AT) on various aspects as resource persons.

- Core training on value addition and marketing management of eri culture at Imphal, Manipur: Training was organized w.e.f. 18th to 21st November, 2013. 25 Officers and Officials of Manipur participated in the event.
Field Days

RERS, Shadnagar conducted field day at Gora-gummi village of Gangavaram Mandal of East Godavari, A.P. on 21st November, 2013. Dr. C. Srinivas and Dr. T. Ravivarma of RERS, Shadnagar, Dr. R. N. Prasad of ESSPC, Peddapuram, several officers /officials of DoS, Govt; of A.P., Sri P. Rambabu, T. O. of Rampachodavaram and 20 eri farmers participated in the day. The scientists of RERS and ESSPC urged the farmers to take up eri silkworm rearing for additional income utilizing 25-30% of available tapioca leaves without affecting the tuber yield. They explained the importance of disinfection, cultivation of tapioca, silkworm egg incubation and young age silkworm rearing. Sri P. Rambabu elaborated about different programmes /schemes to develop eri culture. The pamphlets on cultivation of tapioca/caster plantations, disinfection and silkworm rearing techniques were distributed to farmers.

Report: Dr. C. Srinivas & Dr. T. Ravivarma

RERS, Mendipathar conducted 2 field days, one at Eri Seed Grainage, (ESG) Borduar, Kamrup on 19th September, 2013 and another at Hatigaon Community Hall, Goalpara on 9th October, 2013. 46 eri rearers at Borduar and 45 eri rearers at Goalpara took active part. In ESG, Borduar, Sri P. L. Goswami, an eminent social leader, Sri A. Kalita, manager of ESG, Borduar and Sri J. Kalita, a social worker and Dr. H. Barman, Scientist, RERS delivered lecture on the importance of eri culture and urged the farmers on utilizing the benefits of various schemes provided by State Sericulture Department and CSB. Mrs. B. Kowar and Smt. S. Rabha, eri rearers spoke on their experiences and views.

Report: Sri G. Rajkhowa

In Goalpara, Sri P. N. Borgohain, Scientist, RERS and Sri Gudesh Rabha, representative of Budhlpur Gram Panchayat, Sri H. K. Roy and Sri A. Rabha, Demonstrators, State Seri. Deptt. Goalpara, Sri N.C. Rabha, president, Budhlpur Gram Panchayat, Sri B. K. Rabha, Head, Baijuri village, Hatigaon, Goalpara put forth their valuable suggestions to the farmers on various aspects of ericulture, marketing of cocoons etc.

Report: P.N.Borgohain & Dr. H. Barman

Front Line Demonstration

“Frontline demonstration” on the integrated technologies of eri culture was conducted at 3 selected farmers’ fields of Jorhat district of Assam to enhance eri production and income of farmers. District KVK was involved with their inputs in agricultural components for enhancement of productivity in a composite manner. Cocoon production increased from 20.40 to 31.57 % after demonstration over benchmark data.

Report: Dr. M.C. Sarmah and B.N. Sarkar

Mother Moth Testing

The “Mother Moth Testing” technology was developed for detection and elimination of beprine during the process of silkworm seed production. To popularize the technology, demonstration was given in coordination with the DoS, Assam at five locations of Sivasagar district and Tingkhong of Dibrugarh district of Assam. 114 muga graineurs participated in demonstration.

Report: Sri G. Rajkhowa
Demonstration at Tura, Meghalaya

Demonstration on “Microscopic examination of mother moths for detection of pebrine spores”, use of Improved bamboo mountage, use of nylon nets during early age silkworm rearing and use of botanicals to control stem borer in som and soalu were demonstrated at the farmers’ fields of Bandapara, Bolbokri, Rongbakri of Tura, Meghalaya.

Report: Dr. J C D Phukan

Awareness Meet/FAP

- At A.B. Colony village of Rajavommangi Mandal in East Godavari District of A.P., FAP was organized on 19th November, 2013 by RERS, Shadnagar. 28 eri farmers participated in the meeting.

Report: T. Ravivarma & Dr. C. Srinivas

NIAM sponsored FAPs:

At Agartala FAP was organized on 13th September 2013.

Shri T.K. Chakma, IAS, Director, Dept. of Handloom, Handicraft & Sericulture, Tripura, Director CMERTI, Dr. G.B. Singh, Scientist, REC, Agartala, Shri Umesh Das, Principal (HHS), Agartala, Shri N. Murasingh, Deputy Director, DHHS, Agartala, Smt. Mamata B. Sharma, Executive, SMOI, Guwahati and 101 reapers/spinners/fabric producers participated.

At Dirang, Arunachal Pradesh, FAP was organized on 24th October, 2013.

Dr. R.P. Meena, IAS, DG, NIAM, Director, CMERTI, Dr. S.M. Deb, Director, NRC on Yak, Shri D. Riba, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Dirang, Shri Dorjee Phuntsa, Asst. Director (T&H), Bomdila, staff of State Department of Textile & Handicraft, Scientist of KVK, Dirang and 124 eri silk reapers/spinners/fabric producers participated.

At Imphal Manipur, FAP was organized on 23rd November, 2013.

Shri Govindas Konthoujam, Hon’ble Minister of Commerce & Industries, Vety. & A.H. and Sericulture, Shri H. Ginjamang Simte, Director, Department of Sericulture, Govt. of Manipur, DD, NIAM, Dr. K. C. Singh, Scientist, RTRS, and more than 100 farmers participated in FAP.
RERS, Mendipathar organized FAP at Borkhal, Kamrup on 27th September 2013 and at Mukalmuwa, Nalbari on 7th October, 2013.

At Borkhal, Sri P. Rabha, Head Master of Borkhal Primary School, Sri J. Talukdar, Extension Officer of State Deptt., Sri C.N.Rabha, President of Gyanjyoti Sangha, Mr. Aden D. Marak, Village Head of Borkhal, Sri U. Talukdar, Demonstrator, State Deptt., and 121 eri farmers took part.

At Nalbari, Sri Anil Rajkhowa, ADS, Nalbari, Sri Nabarup Thakuria, EOS, Sri Dilip Baishya, Demonstrator of DSO, Nalbari, Dr. H. Barman, Scientist, RERS, Sri Madhab Deka, retired teacher, Nalbari, Vice-President of All Assam Naga Nam Sangha, Randhanipara Mohila Sammittee and 50 farmers participated in the event. The dignitaries gave a brief scenario of ericulture to the farmers. Ms. Moina Das, farmer, Galdighila village and Sri Hemanta Kalita, a social activist, Randhanipara elaborated their experiences on ericulture and marketing of products.

Mr. T.C. Deka- a Progressive weaver

Sri Tarun Chandra Deka of Pairikata, Mongaldoi, Assam is a self employed progressive weaver of muga and pat fabrics. He is the manufacturer of muga silk products like Mekhela-chadar, dokhora, sarees, ganmucha and other garments.
Sri Chandra Deka used to buy muga yarn at the rate of Rs. 13,000-14,000/kg from different places of Assam and Meghalaya and manufactured different products within 20-30 days. He is able to earn more than Rs. 60,000/-per year. He has created employment generation for another 3 persons as weavers. Due to fine creativity in loom, his products have got great demand and the persons use to buy the products from his loom itself. Thus Sri Deka is pride of muga industry and his approach can reshape the rural economy of other parts of Assam.

Report: Dr (Mrs) Ranjana Das

Talks delivered at the institute

- Dr. M. Chutia and Sri S.A. Ahmed on “Application SPSS for biological science”.
- Dr. N.I. Singh on “Some basic principles of modern silkworm breeding”.
- Mrs. M. D. Senapati, on “Reference citation”.
- Dr. M. C. Sarmah on Eri culture- its products, product diversification and by product management.
- Sri G. Rajkhowa on “Hatching failure in muga silkworm”.
- Dr. K. Neog on “Role of Insect stimulants”.

Workshop/Training attended


Sri B.K. Basumtary of REC, Mongaldai participated in the Orientation training programme w.e.f. 21st to 23rd August, 2013 at IIE, Lalmati, Guwahati.

Dr. M.C. Sarmah attended National Seminar on “Recent Advances in Modern Biology & Sericulture for Women Empowerment and Rural Development” held on 24th-26th October, 2013 at KSSRDI, Bangalore.

Sri D. Mech, Dr. D.K. Gogoi, Dr. R. Kumar, Dr. A. K. Gogoi, Dr. N. Biswas, Sri S. Saikia and Sri B.K. Basumtary, scientists participated in ‘Resource Development Programme’ at IIE, Lalmati, Guwahati w.e.f. 18th-23rd November, 2013.

Dr. (Mrs) R. Das and Dr. (Mrs) U. Hazarika, scientists attended the training programme on “Research Methodology in Rural Development” at NIRD-NERC, Guwahati w.e.f. 18th-27th November, 2013.

Publication of Books/Book chapters

Sarmah, M. C.; Sarkar, B.N.; Ahmed, S.A. and Deuri, J. (2013) Eri culture- a comprehensive profile. Published by Director of Sericulture, BTC, Kokrajhar, Assam

Retirement/ Promotion

Dr. A. K. Sahu and Dr. K. Das, scientists retired on 30th November and 31st December, 2013 respectively from CSB.

Sri S. Puro, Driver took voluntary retirement from CSB service on 31st August, 2013.