

Project: Cultural Research on Samayo (*Valeriana jatamansi*) for its Domestication on Terrace Risers and in Community Forest Area

Project area: Dailekh district

Project Period: July 1999- February 2002

Target group: *Immediate target group:* Concerned government line agencies and local NGOs

Ultimate target group: The resource poor and under-employed farmers residing in mid western hilly areas where Samayo can be adopted as a viable income generation option

Partners: Hill Agriculture Research Project (HARP) / DFID Nepal, Agricultural Research Station (ARS), Dailekh under NARC, and Regional Seed Testing Laboratory, Bhairahawa

Project goal: To develop technology for domestication of Samayo to support to increase income of resource poor and under-employed farmers residing in mid-western hilly areas of Nepal.

Key activities and Implementation modalities

The three-year study was conducted in collaboration of Agricultural Research Station (ARS), Dailekh under Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC) and Regional Seed Testing Laboratory, Bhairahawa. The project implementation was impaired by the insurgency problem and consequently the project had to be terminated before its completion.

The main activities included a reconnaissance survey of the Samayo followed by different PRA tools and techniques; Literature study; multi-location trial for planting (direct seeding, transplanting, rhizome planting) and study of its growth.

Major Achievements

Following information, knowledge and experiences documented in a technical paper and shared to the researchers and other stakeholders:

- Adaptability and production potential of Samayo in Mid-Western hill
- local knowledge of Samayo,
- experiences of farmers involved in its trail/study, and
- results of multi-location trial for it

Impact

Even though the research could not be completed successfully, the results obtained through this research are useful as basic information for further research to develop package of practices for Samayo domestication, so that additional income generation activity for the people become available.
