Brief report on Kisan Goshti organized by Department of Agriculture, IIAST on "Disease Management in Guava Crop" in Rajauli Village

( की फसल में रोग प्रबंधन)

The Kisan Goshti organized by the Department of Agriculture, IIAST, on "Disease Management in Guava Crop" held on December 5, 2019, in Rajauli Village, was a significant event addressing the critical challenges faced by guava farmers in the region. Guava, being a high-value fruit crop, is susceptible to various diseases that can severely impact yield and fruit quality. The goshti aimed to provide farmers with essential knowledge and effective strategies for managing diseases in guava cultivation, thereby enhancing the sustainability and profitability of their farming practices.

Dr. Faria Fatima, Assistant Professor at the Department of Agriculture, IIAST, delivered comprehensive insights on disease management in guava crops. With her expertise in plant pathology, Dr. Fatima identified the prevalent diseases affecting guava, such as anthracnose, wilt, and fruit rot. She elaborated on the symptoms, causes, and life cycles of these diseases, emphasizing the importance of early detection and accurate diagnosis. Dr. Fatima advocated for integrated disease management practices, which include cultural methods like proper pruning, sanitation, and irrigation management, along with the use of resistant varieties and the judicious application of fungicides and bio-control agents. Her practical advice was tailored to the local conditions of Rajauli Village, making it highly relevant and actionable for the farmers.

The event also saw active participation from students of the B.Sc (Hons) Agriculture program, adding a practical and interactive dimension to the goshti. These students engaged with farmers through demonstrations and hands-on activities, sharing their academic knowledge while learning from the farmers' real-world experiences. This interaction fostered a two-way exchange of information, enhancing the farmers' understanding of disease management techniques and providing students with valuable field experience. The collaboration between students and farmers exemplified the integration of theoretical knowledge with practical applications, benefiting both parties.

Overall, the Kisan Goshti in Rajauli Village was a successful initiative that underscored the Department of Agriculture, IIAST's commitment to supporting local agriculture through education and community engagement. By equipping farmers with effective disease management strategies for guava crops, the event contributed to improving crop health and productivity in the region. The goshti highlighted the importance of sustainable agricultural practices and reinforced the

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role of academic institutions in promoting agricultural development and resilience in rural communities.



## **Glimpses of the Goshti**