



Report on observation of 20th Parthenium Awareness week



Organized by: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Boudh

Date: 16th – 22nd August, 2025

Introduction: The 20th Parthenium Awareness week was observed by KVK, Boudh from 16th to 22nd August, 2025. The programme aimed to create awareness among farmers, farm women, rural youth, polytechnic college student & the general public about the harmful effects of the invasive weed *Parthenium Hysterophorus* (Commonly known as congress grass) and to promote eco- friendly management practices.

Objectives:

1. To securitize farmers and the community about the adverse impact of parthenium on Agriculture, Livestock, Human health and biodiversity.
2. To encourage community participation in eradication drives for a cleaner and healthier environment.

Activities conducted: During the week, a series of awareness and practical activities were carried out.

16th August, 2025: Dr. Mayuri Sing Sardar, SMS (Agricultural Extension) has conducted the awareness programme at Kulthakhali village, GP- Mundipadar, Boudh block with 25 nos. of rural youth. She organized a field trip for them to identify the parthenium. She gave lesson on hazards of parthenium to human health (allergy, dermatitis, asthama, animal toxicity and crop competition). She emphasized on its harmful impact on biodiversity and the encironment, calling for urgent and coordinated management efforts. She highlighted the successful use of the beetle zygogramma bicolopata as a biological control agent, which has shown promising results.

18th August, 2025: Mass (All KVK Staffs with Sr. Scientist & Head, and women farmers) weed eradication drive uprooting of parthenium weeds from KVK farm premises, roadside areas. Demonstration on safe uprooting practices using masks.

19th & 20th August, 2025: Awareness meeting for farmers and field visit by polytechnic college students. The meeting was inaugurated by Sj. Tapan Kumar Das, Sr. Scientist & Head who expressed deep concern over the invasive weed parthenium hysterophorus. He cautioned that the weed not only cause heavy crop losses but also poses severe risks to human and animal health.

Mrs. Sasmita Pal, Scientist (Home Science) told that parthenium thrives year round, spreading rapidly across vacant lands, roadsides areas and residential areas and is increasingly threatening food crops, vegetable and horticultural crops.

Mrs Kabita Mishra, Scientist (Agronomy) conducted and field visit for students to identify the parthenium. She had given information to the students on harmfulness of this weed on agricultural productivity and quality of animal milk and also requested to all the gathering to join their hands in complete eradication of this weed plant from out area, district, state and our country.

The event conducted with a vote of thanks acknowledging the contributions of all scientists and other staff of KVK who played a key role in organizing the programme along with the active participation of Sr. Scientist and Head and Principal, APC, Boudh.

All these activities were performed under the active guidance of Sj. Tapan Kumar Das, Sr. Scientist & Head, KVK, Boudh.

A total 10 nos. of farmers, 25 nos. of rural youth, 16 nos. of women farmers and 17 nos. of students actively participated in the week long programme. All official staff of KVK Boudh and APC Boudh also extends their support.

Outcome and Impact:

1. Farmers gained practical knowledge on safe handling, uprooting and disposal of parthenium.
2. Increased awareness among farmers, rural youth and students about the adverse effects of parthenium.
3. Strengthened community participation for a cleaner environment.

Report:

Sl No.	Name of the ATARI	Name of the State	Name of the KVK	Nos. of Farmer/Farm women/ Rural youth	Nos. of Students	Nos. of officials	Total Nos. of participants
1.	ATARI Kolkata, Zone-V	Odisha	KVK, Boudh	51	17	15	83

Photographs:



Eradication of Parthenium at APC, Boudh campus



Teaching about harmful effects of Parthenium at Kulthakhali village



Mass Weed Eradication at KVK, Premises and adopted village



Watching you tube live programme on this topic.

Sd/-
Sr. Scientist & Head
KVK, Boudh