

MAKHANA CROP IMPROVEMENT, PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

- Collection, Evaluation and Documentation of Makhana (*Euryale ferox* Salisb) has been done. The 46 accessions of *Euryale ferox* were collected in 2004-2005 from Darbhanga, and Madhubani and have deposited in the Gene bank of NBPGR, New Delhi during first exploration. During second exploration Kisanganj, Arariya, Purnia, & Katihar districts, 18 accessions of *Euryale ferox* were collected and transplanted Makhana Research farm and are being maintained.



- Studies on management strategies for maximization of productivity of water bodies through Makhana based integrated aquaculture farming system were taken up in 20 farmers' pond. Different biophysical, limnological and fish growth studies are being done.



- Systematic and scientific experiments on *Euryale ferox* are being conducted at the lab and in field condition for generating information on establishment, growth and morphogenesis of *Euryale ferox*. Encouraging result has been found in the lab conditions where successful and early establishment of the crops is under way. An innovative attempt to germinate the seed under ex-situ condition were attempted and further seedling were transferred in the polybags for domestication of the crops to over come the traditional way of its cultivation.

- Understanding Makhana. This project is undertake with objective to study Socio-institutional parameters affecting Makhana production and livelihood systems of Makhana producers; to study cost of production and input output relationship in Makhana production; to study price and marketing of Makhana and to study production, environment and management aspects of Makhana cultivation. Four district of Bihar state, two in agro-climatic zone I Darbhanga and Madhubani & two in agro-climatic Zone II Katihar & Purnia were selected for detailed depth studies.

