

Agri-Connection

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A quarterly newsletter of the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA)



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Message from the Vice President

President Dr. Karki, currently in Nepal on a mission, afforded me the opportunity to write the “President’s Corner” for the second issue of Agri-Connection. It has been an extreme honor to serve this extraordinary organization as its Vice President. There is a reason why I qualified this newly-minted organization, NAPA, as ‘extraordinary’. It is the conviction of expatriate Nepalese agricultural professionals in their ability (and willingness) to bring the vast agricultural expertise under the NAPA umbrella and provide its collective expertise to our members and stakeholders. Our current members, and the large population of agricultural professionals who are yet to board the NAPA train, must take great pride in the founding of NAPA and its mission. NAPA has already begun professional, scientific, and social dialogues with relevant stakeholders to develop strategies toward addressing NAPA’s stated goals. We have already begun discussions with Nepal’s universities, research institutions, and governmental and non-governmental agencies for effective partnerships with NAPA. Professional discourse has already taken root via two successful bi-monthly Talk Program events (by Dr. Drona P. Rasali and Dr. Krishna.P. Paudel). To ensure that the NAPA statute captures its mission fully and the organizational functioning is rooted in professional norms and values, the By-law Review Committee is working toward amending the current by-laws. Student Coordination Committee has taken a highly active role in engaging students in NAPA activities, its own bi-monthly Talk Session beginning in January 2017.



NAPA has been very active since its inception in January 2016 in all aspects of societal activities, including a membership drive, member services, and various other professional activities. NAPA’s current membership strength

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stands at 131, but I congratulate the Membership Drive Committee including other NAPA members in increasing its membership by 25 new members since our last Newsletter! While it is impressive membership growth, the society functions at its best only if it grows to attract and recruit maximum number of potential members, and their continued retention. What may be our potential membership? While NAPA is a society of agricultural and allied professionals, agriculture itself is a comprehensive discipline with an incredible number of sub-disciplines. As a result, our potential membership could be quite large, conceivably much larger than any single non-agricultural Nepali professional society outside of Nepal. How do we, can we, or should we serve these massive potential agricultural stakeholders? The answer is clearly affirmative because NAPA is envisioned to be an umbrella organization for any and all agricultural and life sciences and natural resources.

I have been posed a question, rather frequently, by potential members - Why should I be a member of NAPA? While there may be several reasons for any potential member to become a NAPA member, such membership is expected to bring Nepalese expatriate agricultural professionals closer to the motherland. Each member is expected to benefit professionally through networking, serving on professional committee roles, presentations, publications, and civic engagement. I have been in the agricultural profession throughout my life, but the agriculture learning, teaching, and professional networking opportunities are as important now (for a senior professor) as they were for myself as an undergraduate/graduate student three decades ago. Therefore, I urge everyone to seriously consider the value-added membership of NAPA. In addition to being a mouthpiece for Nepalese expatriate agricultural professionals, NAPA also reaches out to members in personal urgencies for solidarity. Two recent incidents that directly affected our NAPA family members (Louisiana flooding that affected Durga P. Poudel and Georgia vehicular accident that resulted in family tragedy for Mr. Sameer Khanal) have given us a reminder that NAPA must be financially prepared to deal with any emergency events that may befall our members and beyond. Therefore, NAPA is in the process of establishing an Endowment Fund which will allow us to address such untimely demands. NAPA is yours and it belongs to everyone. Thus, I would rather love to hear from each of you *“How could I join and contribute to NAPA for my own professional benefit as well as for the benefit of the larger NAPA community?”*

It is clearly an exciting time for NAPA as we navigate through the process of building a vibrant professional society. Upcoming activities include the inaugural Talk Session of Student Coordination Committee on January, 2017 (Dr. Tilak B. Shrestha of Kentucky will be the speaker), publication of Working Paper series, and initiation of dialogue on the modes and mechanisms of developing a NAPA Journal for refereed publications, among others. I also urge members and potential members/non-members to mark your calendar, engage with planning activities, and attend/present professional papers at the First NAPA Convention in Oklahoma City, OK (May 26-27, 2018). More information on the 2018 NAPA Convention will be forthcoming.

Congratulations to all NAPA family members for your professional and personal triumphs in 2016 and very best wishes for 2017. Many thanks to Agri-Connection editorial team for your hard work to reach out to our valued members in a timely manner.

Megha N. Parajulee
December 2016

NAPA Tax Exempt Approval from IRS

Founded in 2016 and incorporated (Certificate ID: 10668534#BRK73) under the laws of the Secretary of State of the State of Louisiana (LA), USA, NAPA is a non-profit, non-governmental, non-religious, and non-political professional organization dedicated to serve mankind through educational, scientific, and developmental initiatives. NAPA was officially registered on January 6, 2016. Effective January 6, 2016, Internal Revenue Service of the United States government has determined NAPA as an entity exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Now any contributions made to NAPA to will be tax deductible under IRC Section 170.

Research Note: Uses of remittances in the Chitwan Valley of Nepal*

Prem Bhandari, University of Michigan



Introduction

This research note provides evidence of the uses of remittance by households in various activities in the western Chitwan Valley, a remittance dependent rural setting in Nepal.

Productive vs. consumptive uses of remittance on various socio-economic and cultural dimensions of household activities is much discussed in the migration and development literature. Proponents of the optimistic view, such as New Economics of Labor Migration (NELM) theory, argue that remittances are invested in production, establishment of businesses, reduce poverty, and develop human capital (Acharya and Leon-Gonzalez, 2014; De and Ratha, 2012; Adams, 2011). Contrastingly, the proponents of the pessimistic view argue that remittances are used for consumption, such as construction of bigger houses and spending on feasts, funerals, weddings, and medical bills rather than on productive investments (Koc and Onan, 2004; Seddon, 2004). Since there is a debate on the impact of remittances in migrant sending households (Garip, 2010), investigation on how migrants’ families use remittance earnings is crucial (Adams, 2011)

Background, Research Question and Data

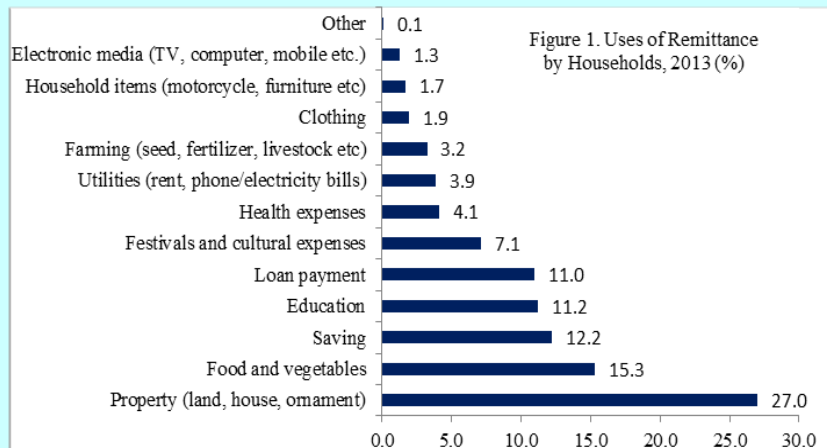
Nepal, like many other developing countries, is experiencing massive out-migration of young individuals (Bhandari, 2016). More recently, migration appears to have been a ‘rite of passage’ and a matter of social status and prestige for many Nepalese. Every day, excluding undocumented migrants, over 1,500 Nepalese move outside of Nepal (Kern and Muller-Boker, 2015). The 2011 Nepal Census reported ~2 million absentee individuals in Nepal (CBS, 2011).

The volume of remittances is also escalating over time in Nepal. Estimates show that the remittances from out-migration accounted for about 29 percent of GDP (World Bank, 2016). This account does not capture the remittances through informal channels. Now, Nepal stands as the third largest recipient in the world in terms of its contribution to GDP, whose position was sixth in 2011 (World Bank, 2011; 2016). The recent Household Budget Survey revealed that in 2014/15 remittance was the third (17.6%) most important source of a household’s monthly income after salary, wages, allowance and pension (30.3%) and business income (24.4%) (Nepal Rastra Bank, 2016). In rural Nepal, it was the second most important source of household income. Despite that, it is not clear how the remittance is being used by the receiving households.

This study attempts to answer this question using data from 185 remittance receiving households residing in 30 randomly selected neighborhoods of western Chitwan Valley. Use of remittance on various activities in the past 12 months was collected. The 283 migrants from 185 households were scattered in 21 countries. A remittance use calendar was developed, tested and used for data collection in 2013 (refer to Bhandari and Chaudhary 2016 for details).

Results: Uses of Remittance

Figure 1 shows the percent of remittances used in various activities by households in 2013. Results suggest that of the total remittance spent, a large proportion of remittance (27%) was used in buying property (land, house, and jewelry among others). It was followed by food purchase (15.3%), and savings (12.2%). Interestingly, human capital development - education (11.2%) and health care (4.1%) received a significant proportion of remittance. Similarly, ~11% of the remittance was spent in loan payment.



Surprisingly, farming (e.g. purchase of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and animal husbandry), one of the mainstay of most Nepalese, received only 3.2% of the total remittances spent.

Summary

Evidence reveals that households utilize remittances in production (such as buying land, farm inputs, savings, and human capital development) as well as consumption (food, clothing, festivals, buying household items and so on). However, there is a variation in the use of remittance in various dimensions of household activities. This evidence generates further questions: what factors explain such differential use of remittance? Does the extent to which the use in various activities vary by household characteristics? Further investigation is underway to answer these questions. Moreover, examination of the impact of remittances in shaping various social, cultural and economic behaviors in such a community is important, for which more data is required.

As this evidence is based on data from a small sample of migrant households collected from a part of the southern Tarai plain of rural Nepal, threats to external validity cannot be ruled out. Thus, conclusion should be drawn rather cautiously. However, I believe that this finding helps develop theoretically important and policy driven research questions and hypothesis.

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Research Note: System of rice intensification: New directions in Nepal*

Ram Bahadur Khadka
Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is a new set of cultivation practices (planting young and single seedling in wider spacing) that evokes the better rice phenotypes by manipulating the growing environment with optimum water and soil management. It increases rhizosphere aeration for better soil-microbial activities and improves plant establishment. An SRI experiment was established in Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Khajura, Nepal during 2012-2015. Higher yield was observed in organic SRI than non-organic SRI, conventional, and direct seeded rice. It was less susceptible to brown spot disease and lodging as compared to other cultivation practices. Results showed that the yield of high-value rice landraces can be increased by using SRI principles.

Two separate experiments in high hill and Terai regions showed the yield increased by 72% (6.18 mt/ha) in organic SRI for a local variety “Hansaraj basmati” at farmer’s field of Bajhang district and 66% (5 mt/ha) for a local variety “Tilki” at Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Khajura over conventional practices. These results demonstrated a great potential of SRI in increasing yield of premium rice landraces in organic production. Given that premium rice commands 3-4-fold higher market price than their normal counterparts, the practice not just increases the yield but also the overall cash output to the farmer.

Another experiment conducted at RARS, Khajura in 2014 showed that the seedling treated with *Trichoderma* spore solution increased yield by 22 - 32% as compared to the untreated seedlings. The higher yield increment with *Trichoderma* seedling treatment was achieved in organic SRI compared to the conventional and non-organic SRI. Similarly, the preliminary results on ratooning in rice grown in SRI showed that 80% yield of the previous crop could be retrieved from ratooning if stubble height of 0-3 cm is maintained after harvesting. In addition, ratooning experiments can offer several benefits such as saving time for crop establishment, eliminating the cost of seed and transplanting, and reducing labor costs. It may be especially valuable if there is only a short gap for rainy season rice after harvesting of the spring season. In addition, SRI enhanced the productivity of drought and green super rice varieties, more than 5 mt/ha in all tested drought tolerant varieties (Sukhadhan-1, Sukhadhan-2, Sukhadhan-3, Sukhadhan-5, and Sukhadhan-6) and 10.5 mt/ha in green super rice (08FAN-10). It should be noted that SRI-grown rice was less affected by the drought stress as compared to direct seeded and conventional ones. Thus, the synergistic effect of drought tolerant/green super rice varieties with *Trichoderma* seedling treatments and grown under organic SRI practice could help reduce the impacts of drought and increase rice productivity. In addition, integration of SRI in national seed system could help accelerate the adoption of new varieties by producing sufficient source seed from the nucleus and breeder seeds within a short period, which is considered to be the scarcest resources in initial years of variety release.

*Paper presented at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY



Graduations, Fall 2016

NAPA extends warm congratulations and best wishes for a great success in their future endeavors.

Name	Degree	Discipline	University
Krishna Bhatt	MSc	Veterinary Medical Science	University of Calgary, Canada
Girija Regmi	PhD	Veterinary Biomedical Sciences	Oklahoma State University, USA
Sulochana Dhital	PhD	Natural Resource Ecology Management	Oklahoma State University, USA
Pratishtha Poudel	MSc	Plant and Soil Sciences	Oklahoma State University, USA
Anup KC	PhD	Natural Resource Ecology and Management	Oklahoma State University, USA

NAPA Talk Sessions

NAPA recently initiated its regular talk series, which is being held once in every two months. The first-ever talk entitled, “**Securing Sufficient, Safe and Healthy Food in Nepal: Going beyond Calories**” was given by our NAPA member Dr. Drona Prakash Rasali (Director, Population Health Surveillance and Epidemiology, Canada and Provincial Health Services Authority, British Columbia, Canada) on October 15, 2016. He talked about securing sufficient, safe, and healthy food in Nepal (going beyond calories). He brought up some major issues and challenges of food security and dietary calories supply in Nepal. He highlighted the necessity of education, policy, and infrastructure development to reduce food insecurity in Nepal. Around 40 NAPA members joined the talk session. The talk session was followed by an interactive discussion.

The second talk session was organized on December 17, 2016. Dr. Krishna P. Paudel (NAPA member and professor of Environmental and Resource Economics at Louisiana State University). His talk themed, “**Surviving in Academia in the United States**”, successfully highlighted the issues for survival in the US academia. This was particularly helpful for those NAPA members interested in pursuing their careers in academic and research settings. A brief summary of each is presented elsewhere in the newsletter.





Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas
Student Coordination Committee (SCC) proudly announces

Technical Talk Session

Application of Remote Sensing in Agriculture

By: Tilak B Shrestha, Ph.D.

Geography/Remote Sensing
Kentucky State University
(NAPA Member)



When: Saturday, January 28, 2017

Time: 9:00-10:00 PM EST

How to Join the Session?

Dial-in Free Conference Call Number: 641-715-3580, Access Code: 113245#

**Respected NAPA members
and interested individuals**

We cordially invite you to attend the first 'Technical Talk Session' hosted by NAPA-Students Coordination Committee. Please join us and interact with Dr. Shrestha.

Let us work together to promote NAPA for our common goal.

**Surendra Osti
Chair, NAPA-SCC**

About the speaker

Dr. Tilak B. Shrestha has taught and conducted research and production in remote sensing and photogrammetry. He was trained in natural resources, land use and environmental management. His teaching experiences include geography and geology in Tri-Chandra College, University of Memphis and NACEE 'North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence. He also worked in remote sensing and photogrammetry projects including in the 'Earth Mapping International, Georgia' and the 'PAR Government Systems Corporation, New York.' He holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Florida. His interests include martial arts, meditation and Sanatan Dharma.

NAPA requests IT support

To strengthen its services to the members and beyond, NAPA would like to request those of you with IT expertise to volunteer and help us in expanding and streamlining our digital forums. Your voluntary participation to further enhance NAPA's visibility and scope is highly appreciated. All contributors will be recognized at the first NAPA conference in May 2018. Interested individuals may send email to napa2072@gmail.com or call Lila B. Karki (334-750-5226) or Prem B. Bhandari (734-255-1539).

A brief synopsis of first NAPA Talk Session

Securing Sufficient, Safe and Healthy Food in Nepal: Going beyond Calories

Drona P. Rasali, DVM, PhD, CHET, FACE

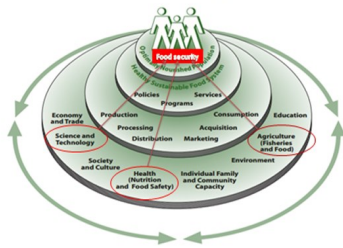
Director, Population Health Surveillance & Epidemiology, Provincial Health Services Authority, British Columbia, Canada.

In the maiden session of NAPA, I endeavored to bring up some of the major issues related to food security in Nepal. The objective was to begin a conversation for developing solutions through an intellectual discourse rather than making an exhaustive treatise on the subject matter. I touched on how human population interacts with food along the lines of both arguments of Malthusian and Boserup's theories. It is an undeniable fact that the hunger exists in the world, and many countries including Nepal have not achieved the World Food Summit target of halving the level of 1992/93 hunger by 2015.



Understanding a food system

(Adapted from: Food, Health and Well-being in British Columbia, 2006)



Three major aspects of food security among many elements and factors involved in a food system most relevant to the context of Nepal are food sufficiency, food safety and healthy foods. Access to food sufficient to sustain life is a human right issue. Nepal's food security and vulnerability profile (2001) classifies Nepalese households into four categories- those who are self-

sufficient and can provide food to others, those who are self-sufficient but cannot provide to others, those who need some assistance for food, and those who cannot obtain sufficient food in any case.

Current food supply in Nepal emphasized fulfilling largely the gap of energy supply as a priority. Sustainable but intensive production of major cereal grains in the southern belt of Terai, and high potential of producing fruits, vegetables, milk and meat in the hills and mountains is the key for self-sufficiency. It demands a serious planning for integrating the entire production system. While doing so, feeding the people in equitable manner targeting on those who have self-sufficiency for only 4 months in a year becomes an issue of paramount importance. Further, food safety is a public health concern, and it is one of the least emphasized aspects in planning development strategies in the country, where children dying of food borne infections and diseases are not uncommon.

Major Aspects of Food Security



There exist quite a few food related laws and regulations in Nepal. However, uncontrolled food supply chains are rampant and no systematic mechanism for inspection and monitoring exists. Taking actions against guilty parties in food related infections and poisoning right from the 'farm to plate' to ensure keeping the food safe for consumption is lacking greatly. To complicate this situation, availability of basic access to safe drinking water varies from 30% to 70% of the population depending upon remoteness of geographic regions.

Another increasingly critical aspect of food is its direct relationship with human health. With the modernization of people's life styles and introduction of myriads of food products in the market places, eating unhealthy foods is becoming increasingly a risk factor leading to serious non-communicable chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and cancers. Promoting healthy eating habits among people can support social, physical and mental well-being of people at all ages and stages of life.

A food system going beyond merely meeting the level of calories must be integrated incorporating all its components; especially food sufficiency, safety and healthiness as major considerations. Education, policy and infrastructure development must be directed towards reducing food insecurity which is a serious socio-economic inequity issue, if left unaddressed.

For details, please visit <http://www.napaamericas.org/talk-session.php>

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this presentation do not necessarily represent the position of author's past or present employers nor that of the NAPA.

How to survive in the US academia: A brief synopsis of NAPA talk session

Krishna P. Paudel, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

My talk centered around the survival in academia from being a graduate student to the highest academic rank of full professor. Graduate schools in the U.S. are known to foster a cut-throat competitive environment. Students need to take classes, get decent grades, and work on their research projects. They also need to make sure they complete research work and publish those in high-ranking journals. Students need to devote their time exclusively to graduate education. After a Ph.D. degree, it's hard to land a position in academia even though an individual may appear to have required academic credentials. Positions are found based on network, reputation of university, reputation of the major professor, and of course the research/teaching abilities. Graduate students looking for a career in a research university must give their best from the first day of grad school.



Once someone is able to land a tenure-track assistant professor position, the challenge is to get tenured. It takes ~5-6 years to get tenured in a land grant university. Although prestigious universities, e.g. in Ivy League, are known to give early tenure and promotion based on ability and quality/body of work, this is uncommon in land grant universities. Here, I am using agricultural economics for suggestions as reference.

There are three components in tenure and promotion of a faculty in a land grant university: research, teaching, and extramural fund (or outreach with an extension appointment). The recently minted faculty must make sure what are expected of him/her in the position to be successful. From a research perspective, it is important to find what and how many journal articles need to be published before one goes up for promotion and tenure. From a teaching perspective, one needs to know how many classes need to be taught each year and the administrator's expectations. From a funding perspective, finding what is expected and minimally required (what sources, what amounts in total) is crucial. While competitive federal grants are harder to get, state and clientele based funds are relatively easy to secure. Sometimes funding from such sources gives you breathing room and should be used as a cushion for uninterrupted research. Extension is a different beast, and I have no direct experience about it. However, excellent clientele relationship is a must to succeed in that aspect of appointment. One must also have a good rapport with senior faculty members to get the tenure.

One may have to serve in committees and outreach in a tenure track position. Minimize these involvements as they are time consuming activities. Identify good mentors (it could be your major professor, another Nepali professor or better yet a senior trustworthy faculty member in your department) early in your career. Get advice from the mentor before taking any serious outreach responsibilities.

Once the promotion and tenure are secured, continued efficiency and establishing the identity become vital. Finding out the hot topics in the field and those who are well known, or frontier envelope pushers becomes critical. Getting to know these envelope pushers and establishing a working network with them is essential to move forward. Continuous success is needed to get promoted to a level of full professor. It is twice as hard to get promoted to a full professor than to become a tenured associate professor.

If you are successful in achieving the rank of full professor, try to make a mark in your field. Be a mentor and help out junior researchers. Get involved in your profession and try to contribute to your field. Be a role model to your graduate students and encourage them regularly, while demanding the need for quality work. To have a long-term sustained productivity is hard, so you must decide what is best for you. If you think research is not what you would like to do at some point, find an administrative job or something that is less demanding. Do the best you can in whatever you do from that time forward.

For details please visit: <http://www.napaamericas.org/talk-session.php>

नयाँ वर्ष

सोम खनाल, म्याडिसन, विस्कन्सिन



नयाँ वर्ष नयाँ हर्ष नव-यौवनकाल होस्
नयाँ उत्साह र जांगर जगाइदिने साल होस्
पलाउन् जगतै सारा शान्तिका शुद्ध आंकुरा
परिश्रमीहरु चढून् अर्को उन्नति टाकुरा ।

जे जे हुनु थियो भैगो रोकियोस् अरु दुर्गती
यै नयाँ साल भित्रैमा सुधियोस् मान्छेको मति
ध्वंसको गति थामियोस् सिर्जनशील होस् मन
बढून् सज्जन र ज्ञानी घटून् विश्वमा दुर्जन ।

नौला नजरका दृष्टी नौलै हुन् सपना पनि
नौलो बिहानीमै पूरा भैदिऊन् बिपना बनी
आंटका योजना सारा प्रेरणा भै फुलिरहुन्
ढांटका मृगतृष्णा चै निरासा मै झुलिरहुन् ।

पुरानो घाउका खाटा नयाँले साफ गर्दियोस्
गल्ती, बिराइएका बाटा नयाँले माफ गर्दियोस्
रित्ता भैसकेका अञ्जु, खोक्रा भैसकेका मन
बर्षाई आसाका मोती, नयाँले शिघ्र भर्दियोस् ।

झुल्केर सुनौलो सूर्य नयाँ दिन उदाउँदा
भुल्केर सुकेको मूल हरियाली पलाउँदा
फर्केर गुँडमा पंक्षी अटूट प्रीत लाउलान्
छुटेका मुटुका तार फेरि जोडिन पाउलान् ।

आसामात्र फलाकेर, प्राप्त त हुन्न क्यै पनि
यो नयाँ सालमा यस्तै सोचून् सबैले तै पनि
आसामै अडेको रैछ, जीवन के छ र आखिर
आफनू मात्र नभै केही गरौं अरूको खातिर ।

रात बिते पछि जस्तै नयाँ बिहानी आउने
अँधोरोबाट उम्केर उत्साही गीत गाउने
बीऊ चेतनाको छर्दै फुटोस् प्रेमको मूल नै
जगाई पृथ्वी सारा हरा-भरा बनाउँदै ।

सुर्केर पाखुरा आफ्नै कर्मले सिर्जना गरी
जे मिल्छ खुशी भै बाचौं बाडिचुँडी बराबरी
छाडिदिउँ माग्न पनि, बित्थै याचना खर्च भो
झार्दिऊँ न मिलेर सेखी, यो 'लोभी' नयाँ बर्षको ।

टाढा नहूँ कसैबाट दिलकै वरीपरी रहूँ
नथाकेर निरासाको सामना नि गरिरहूँ
जैले आउला त्यो वर्ष साच्चै नयाँ प्रकारको
असुल गरौंला एकमुष्ट, दुःख वर्ष हजारको ।

*टिप्पणी: लेखकका अनुसार यो कविता प्रत्येक नयाँ वर्षका
उपलक्ष्यमा जनवरी १ तारिख र बैशाख १ गतेका दिन एक
एक पद्य गरी पाँच वर्ष लगाएर लेखिएको हो-सम्पादक*

Call for NAPA Working Papers

This is an announcement for the publication of a series of working papers on agricultural and related disciplines. Dr. Dilip Panthee is entrusted with the publication of this series. All NAPA members are requested to submit their relevant working papers. You may submit it in a complete journal article format such that it helps publish in a peer reviewed journal later with minimal effort. Publishing as a working paper will not hinder you from future publication in any peer reviewed journal in any way whatsoever. It will in fact help you streamline your manuscript such that you will receive fewer reviewer comments for improvement. Please contact Dr. Panthee, editor-in-chief, at drpanthee@yahoo.com for further details.

भकारीमा कीरा किन ?

पीताम्बर दाहाल



धानका बाला पाके अब, खेतमा र बगरमा,
गाउँलेहरु हिंडे भिरी, हँसिया कम्मरमा ।

सुनौला बाला लडे किन, रातदिन भेकमा,
बिटाबाध्नु अघि धान, नझार्ने रे खेतमा ।

बिटा बाँधी कुन्यु बनाई, बुढा बसे कुर्न,
खाना बनाई बुढी आइन, दाईँ संगै गर्न ।

धान चुटी कुनियु चुली, तयार भो बल्ल,
घाम जुनले साथ दिए, साल भरलाई टम्म ।

उकाली र ओरालीमा, बोरा पिठियुंमा,
पानी खोज्न हिंडे बुढा, बुढी चौतारीमा ।

रात दिन बोरा बोकी, भरी भकारीमा,
बुढा बुढी मक्ख भए, साँचो सिरानीमा ।

कपाल कोरी चुल्हा बाटी, धान कुटी ढिकीमा,
बुढा आए बजार गरी, खुशियाली घर पिढीमा ।

सेता चिल्सा चामलमा, चिन्न सकिएन,
किन आका दुश्मन कीरा, भन्न सकिएन ।

वर्षातमा पुत्ला ऊडे, धानको भकारीमा,
जिल्ल परे बुढा बुढी, धनको नोकसानीमा ।

तीन मैनाको धान नष्ट भो, कीरा रमाएर,
चिन्तित भए बुढाबुढी, भोकमरी सम्झेर ।

लौ न लौ, हे राम के भाको,
किन दुश्मन, किरा धानमा आको ?

केहि ता होला यस्को दबाई, कृषि विज्ञसंग,
लुन जाऊ बुढी सोध्न, जेटी बाबु संग ।

Miscellaneous

Job links

https://chroniclevitae.com/job_search/new
<http://www.fass.org/jobs/>
<http://careers.careerplacement.org/jobs/>
<http://www.agcareers.com/>
<http://www.entsoc.org/employment/career-center>
<http://www.ift.org/careercenter.aspx>
<https://www.aaea.org/employmenttopps>

Upcoming Conferences/Annual Meetings

Experimental Biology

<http://experimentalbiology.org/2017/Home.aspx>

2017 SAAS (Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists) Convention, Mobile, Alabama, February 3-7, 2017.

http://saasinc.org/2017-Mobile/Welcome_page.asp

Association of 1890 Research Directors (ARD)

Symposium 2017; Atlanta, Georgia, April 1-4, 2017. <https://www.umes.edu/ard/1890Symposium/>

Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting, July 27-30, 2017. Columbus, Ohio.

JOIN NAPA

Please send duly filled membership application to napa2072@gmail.com or ambikaadhikari100@gmail.com. Required fee may be paid through PayPal or credit card by clicking on PayPal button or by sending a check. Please specify the purpose of the payment (e.g., Regular Membership Fee or Donation to NAPA) in the "additional information" box. See page 11 for further details. Visit us at <http://napaamericas.org/>

NAPA Memberships and Committees

We would like to invite all agricultural professionals living and working in the Americas to join NAPA and contribute to its goals and objectives. You may send an application to napa2072@gmail.com or ambikaadhikari100@gmail.com. Required fee may be paid through PayPal, credit card or by sending a check to the treasurer, Ambika Tiwari. Make sure to specify the **purpose** of the payment (e.g, Membership Fee, Donation, etc.) in the “**additional information**” box when paying online. Below table provides the newly joined members.

Regular or General (\$50.00 for two years): Individuals who hold at least an undergraduate or bachelors or equivalent degree in agriculture or allied areas shall meet the requirements of this member category.

Student (\$25.00 for two years): Current students of agricultural and allied areas of studies who are at good standing student's status.

Life Membership (\$500.00 One time): Individuals having met regular/general member's category and pays defined dues at a time.

Joint/Family Membership (\$15.00 for two years): Spouse of a member of any of the five categories (regular/general, student, life, honorary, and associate), who is not eligible for other categories of membership. Family member shall not have a voting right.

Associate Membership (\$50.00 for two years (\$500 for Associate Life member): Interested individuals who do not qualify for membership types above. Associate member shall not have a voting right and shall not be eligible Executive Committee member. An Associate member may qualify for Associate Life member with the necessary payment.

Honorary (No fee, but free to contribute any): Individuals having outstanding achievement in academic and professional career and contribution to the field of agriculture and allied areas around the globe.

New NAPA members after September 2016

SN	Regular Member	State
1	Nilhari Neupane	Nepal
2	Nishan Bhattarai	Michigan
3	Peetambar Dahal	California
4	Tilak B Shrestha	Kentucky
	Student Member	
1	Ambika Pokhrel	Alabama
2	Anil Adhikari	Texas
3	Asmita Poudel	Kentucky
4	Manoj Chhetri	Oklahoma
5	Nabin Sedhain	Georgia
6	Navin Shrestha	Alabama
7	Pratibha Acharya	Texas
8	Ram Bahadur Khadka	Ohio
9	Rosan Sharma Poudel	North Dakota
10	Shankar Gaire	Texas
11	Subidhya Shrestha	North Dakota
12	Sujan Bhattarai	Kentucky
13	Surendra K.C.	Hawaii
14	Tekan Rana	North Carolina
	Joint Member	
1	Pratibha Paudel-Acharya	Delaware
2	Sharmila Parajulee,	Texas

Membership Committee

Ambika Tiwari, Chair
 Jhalendra Rijal, Member
 Laxman Adhikari, Member
 Lekhanath Poudel, Member
 Pradeep Wagle, Member
 Prakash Parajuli, Member
 Raja Khanal, Member
 Shiva Kumar Rai, Member
 Upendra Sainju, Member

Student Coordination Committee

Surendra Osti, Chair
 Sushil Neupane, Co-Chair
 Shrijana Dawadi, Member
 Sujan Bhattarai, Member
 Roshan Sharma, Member
 Surendra KC, Member
 Chandra Kanta Dhakal, Member
 Shankar Gaire, Member
 Pratistha Poudel, Member

Member News, Publications, Presentations, and Awards

Member news

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee, NAPA Vice President, has been elected as the President of the Entomological Society of America International Branch (2016-2017). NAPA is always proud of the achievement and recognition of its members.

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee has also been appointed Foreign Examiner for doctoral research at several universities in India, including Avinashilingam University, Bharathiar University, Kongunadu Arts and Science College (Coimbatore), Loyola College (Chennai), and Chikkaiah Naicker College (Erode).

Dr. Sandipa Gautam has been elected President of the Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologists (2016-2017).

Publications (*denotes NAPA members)

Paudyal, S.*, G. P. Opit, F. H. Arthur, G. V. Bingham, and S. G. Gautam. Contact toxicity of deltamethrin against *Tribolium castaneum* (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae), *Sitophilus oryzae* (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) and *Rhyzopertha dominica* (Coleoptera: Bostrichidae) adults. *Journal of Economic Entomology*, 1-7. 2016.

Paudyal, S.*, G. P. Opit, E. A. Osekre, F. H. Arthur, G. V. Bingham, M. E. Payton, J. K. Danso, N. Manu, E. P. Nsiah. Field evaluation of the long-lasting treated storage bag, deltamethrin incorporated, (ZeroFly® Storage Bag) as a barrier to insect pest infestation. *Journal of Stored Products Research*, Accepted. 2016.

Bastola, A., M. N. Parajulee*, R. P. Porter, R. B. Shrestha, F. Chen, and S. C. Carroll. 2016. Intercrop movement of convergent lady beetle, *Hippodamia convergens* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae), between adjacent cotton and alfalfa. *Insect Science* 23: 145-156.

Bhandari, P.* and I. Chaudhary. 2016. "A Calendar Method of Collecting Remittance Use Data in a Remittance Dependent Setting of Nepal." *Migration and Development*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2015.1129689>.

Bhandari, P.B.* and D.J. Ghimire.* 2016. "Rural Agricultural Change and Individual Out-migration." *Rural Sociology*. DOI: 10.1111/ruso.12106.

Presentations

Khadka, Ram. New Directions on Systems of Rice Intensification in Nepal. Research talk presented at Cornell University, December 2016. Please see Research Note for additional details.

Poudel, Sanjok*, Uma Karki*, Yubaraj Karki, Rishi Khatri, and Asha Tillman. 2016. Raising Kiko Wethers in a Year-round Grazing System. A poster presented at the 74th Professional Agriculture Worker Conference (PAWC), Tuskegee University, Alabama.

Awards

Lok Raj Joshi, graduate student at South Dakota State University, was awarded 1st place in oral presentation category, awarded by American College of Veterinary Microbiologists. Presentation title, "Pathogenesis and infection dynamics of Seneca virus A in pigs".

Santosh Dhakal, graduate student at Ohio State University, was awarded 2nd place in oral presentation in Immunology section awarded by American Association of Veterinary Immunologist (AAVI). Presentation title - "PLGA nanoparticle delivery of inactivated swine influenza virus vaccine provides heterologous protection through cell-mediated immunity in pigs".

Arati Sharma, graduate student at Ohio State University, was awarded 3rd place by the American Association for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (AVEPM). Presentation title - "Distribution and diversity of *Salmonella* strains in shipments of mail-order hatchling poultry".

Dipak Kathayat, graduate student at Ohio State University, was awarded the David Francis Award by The American College of Veterinary Microbiologists Award for enteric disease research and poster presentation entitled, "Discovery of novel narrow spectrum small molecule growth inhibitors for avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli*".

Helping hands: NAPA family support

NAPA Executive Committee (EC) members and NAPA families are deeply saddened by the devastating accident of Sameer Khanal and his family on Friday November 4, 2016 in Jefferson County, GA. We have no words to convey how shocked we are and how devastating it is for the family.

Mr. Khanal and his family are in the thoughts and prayers of NAPA families. As a token of support and to show our solidarity at this difficult moment, NAPA organized a fund collection drive to which members and non-members have generously donated. NAPA has received a total of US \$1,260.00. With the subtraction of PayPal surcharge, NAPA is delighted to handover the bereaved family a check of US \$1,217.30 as a small token of support. Details about the donors and their contributions are provided in the table below.

This token of support is to convey the message that NAPA is always there with its members in need. We pray for speedy recovery. Last, but not the least, NAPA is thankful to the big hearts of all the members who generously contributed at this critical moment. United we stand.

Name	Amount (\$)
Jeffrey Swindle	25.00
Pradeep Wagle	100.00
Prem/Usha Bhandari	51.00
Lekhanath Poudel	10.00
Pradip Adhikari	51.00
Manish Neupane	50.00
Raju Pandey	100.00
Tanka Prasad Kandel	50.00
Dilip Panthi	50.00
Buddhi Achhami	20.00
Sanjay Lamsal	250.00

Name	Amount (\$)
Lila and Uma Karki	51.00
Ambika Tiwari	20.00
Peetambar Dahal	25.00
Sushil Nyaupane	20.00
Nityananda Khanal	150.00
Tilak Bhandari	51.00
Ramesh Khanal	101.00
Kemika Bhandari	50.00
Bikash Ghimire	10.00
Sharmila Parajulee	25.00
Grand Total	1,260.00

Call for your creative works and relevant information

NAPA would like to request you all to provide pertinent information, be they short articles, vacancy announcements, graduate assistantships, creative works, and many other relevant materials for publication in the Agri-Connection that is published quarterly. For more details, please contact Dr. Sanjay Lamsal, Associate Editor, at napa.americas@gmail.com. For anything in Nepali, make sure to type in Google Unicode. You may visit **Agri-Connection** at <http://napaamericas.org/newsletter.php>



NAPA Contact Info

Email: napa2072@gmail.com

Facebook: Nepalese Agriculturists Americas

www.napaamericas.org/





Announcement of the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA)

Dear NAPA valued members and beyond!

The 6th NAPA Executive Committee Meeting held on November 5, 2016 unanimously decided to host its first 'Biennial Conference' on May 26-27, 2018.

When: Memorial Weekend May 26-27, 2018

Where: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA

How to contribute?

Participation in paper/poster presentation, panel discussion, scientific sessions, and more

Please mark your calendar to be a part of this historic conference with hundreds of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals and beyond.

For more information, visit:

<http://napaamericas.org/>