



State Award – Manipur

Tha Animakhai Chabi -Traditional Cauliflower Variety

Keisham Thoibi Devi
Bishnupur, Manipur

Keisham Thoibi Devi (51) is a progressive farmer growing traditional crop varieties using organic farming methods. She cultivates rice, cabbage & cauliflower as major crops and has adopted integrated farming system at her field.

Twenty years ago Keisham Thoibi Devi got some seeds of this cauliflower variety from her in-laws. She was attracted to the characteristics of the variety when sown in her field. She tagged some desirable plants which had matured early, had creamy white coloured curd and were free from insect-pests and diseases for preparing seeds for the next year cultivation. The selection of seeds from the best curds was repeated for several years and the variety was stabilized in 1998. She has been adopting same selection process to maintain the purity of desirable traits.

The variety is most suitable for early sowing in first week of July and produces narrow elliptical, creamy-white coloured curds. The average weight of curd is 750g, having medium compactness and are partially covered by inner leaves. It has delectable taste, is tolerant to insects and pests and fetches good market price due earliness. Since 2005, the variety has been distributed to neighboring farmers and relatives for cultivation. Most of the farmers at Langpok

and Nambol area of Manipur are growing this variety due to good earning during early season.

Facilitated by NIF-India, the validation at Central Agricultural University, Imphal confirmed its early maturing trait and reported that the variety fetched superior market price due to the early availability. The farmers of Langpok, Nambo, Thiyam and other adjacent villages have been growing this variety by procuring seeds from the innovator. Early maturity, delicious taste and high market price of the variety due to early availability in the market are highly appreciated traits of the variety by the farmers of the region. The application has already been filed for registration under PPV&FR Act, 2001 at PPV&FR Authority, New Delhi.

