

WASPA NEWS

2nd issue

Fertilizer Guidance

The DAE is working with the WASPA project to improve guidance for fertilizer application in areas where wastewater is used for agriculture. Wastewater contains nutrients but how this affects the need for fertilizer is not fully understood. To improve this knowledge and to help farmers the DAE has collected 50 soil samples that have been analyzed by the Soil Research Development Institute (SRDI). The DAE has the results and is working on fertilizer guidance for 33 crops and vegetables. The results will be shared in December.

Review of Regulations of Wastewater and its use

A review of the laws and regulations of wastewater has been reviewed by Abu Naser Md. Wahid, a law professor at Rajshahi University. A sharing session was held by him in Rajshahi with the Learning Alliance. In Rajshahi the responsibility for the drains was found to fall to RDA and RCC, but in different ways – RDA is mostly responsible for planning, although RCC has some role in this, and RCC is responsible for keeping the drains clean and pollution free. The Building Construction Act (1952) and Rules (1996) state that RDA should not approve construction of any building without a septic tank in the plans and to demolish any that break these rules. In reality these rules are not adequately followed and many households connect directly to the storm water drains. This problem is made worse because despite plans by the RDA for a sewage system this has not been constructed. The WASPA project is working with partners to look for alternative options, such as small-bore sewerage that could help with this situation.

Small-bore Sewerage Study

Prof. Dr. Md. Mujibur Rahman of BUET has been asked to undertake a study of the feasibility of introducing small-bore sewerage and small-scale treatment to parts of Rajshahi. He and his team has had discussions with RCC that were attended by the Honorable Mayor. The research team is currently investigating the possibilities. Small-bore sewerage is a less expensive way of taking sewerage from the household and is easier to put in an existing city than full-scale sewerage. There is currently no plan to implement the findings of the study but they will be shared with RCC and if it looks like a feasible option then the RCC can discuss the possibility of implementation with the LA members.



Meeting with RCC on Small-bore Sewerage Study

Garbage Trap

Progress of the garbage trap construction was slow at the initial stage even though full cooperation from the RCC has always been there and a number of official processes needed to be gone through. Presently the construction work of the garbage trap is in progress in full swing and it is expected that the work would be completed by mid of December.