Preface:

Agriculture is the science of cultivating ground, including the harvesting of crops and rearing and management of livestock, tillage husbandry and farming. Agriculture has faced countless challenges like soil erosion, nutrient depletion, expansion of saline area, creation of acid sulphate soil, imbalance of nutrient in the soil, inadvertent destruction of natural enemies of pest and emergence of both pest resistance and secondary pest in the recent years.

Traditional farming system is an ecologically based age old farming system developed by ancient farmers through generations of their interactions with nature and natural resources for food, fodder and fiber. It is an indigenous method of cultivating crop using self reliance locally available resources without external inputs. India is a large country with diverse agro climatic habitats, arable land, crops and cropping pattern suitable for growing location specific crops being cultivated by hundred of ethnic farming communities with their own indigenous technologies.

Storage and upkeep of agricultural products are very important. Post harvest activities, Considerable amount of food grains are being spoiled after harvest due to lack of sufficient storage and processing facilities. Storage of food grains by ethnic communities is mainly traditional in Barak Valley of Assam.

Chapter – I provides an overview of traditional farming and traditional pest management systems throughout the world with special reference to India, objective of the study, study sites which we selected for the present survey and documentation is also included in this chapter.

Chapter – II deals with the review of literature.

Chapter – III is incorporated with the documentation of traditional farming techniques practiced by the three ethnic farming communities of Barak Valley.

Chapter – IV documentation of various traditional pest management practices practiced by the three ethnic farming communities of Barak Valley and status of crop in the rural villages of Barak Valley.
Chapter – V survey and record of various storage structures for granary practiced by the three ethnic groups.

Chapter – VI To study and document the soil physical characteristics and soil classical nomenclature used by the three ethnic groups of Barak Valley.

Chapter – VII assessment of socio-economic conditions of the three ethic community farmers of Barak Valley in relation with agriculture practices.

Chapter – VIII is incorporated with the overall discussion and recommendation of the present study.

Chapter – IX is the last chapter of the thesis provides the references which were incorporated in the thesis.