

IPM CRSP Trip Report

Country Visited: India

Dates of Travel: July 15 thru July 24, 2011

Travelers Names and Affiliations: J. Mauricio Rivera C./Head, Dept. of Plant Protection, FHIA. La Lima, Cortés, Honduras.

Purpose of Trip: Attendance to the International workshop on: “MASS PRODUCTION OF BIOCONTROL AGENTS (PSEUDOMONAS AND TRICHODERMA)” organized jointly by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University’s (TANU) Department of Plant Pathology/Centre for Plant Protection Studies (Coimbatore, India) and the IPM CRSP (Virginia Tech, USA).

Sites Visited: 1) TANU at Coimbatore, 2) T. Stanes & Company Limited at Coimbatore, 3) Biocontrol Research Laboratories (BCRL) of Pest Control India PVT LTD at Bangalore, and 4) small farm of collaborator grower in the neighborhood of Coimbatore.

Description of Activities/Observations:

Activities: Days 1, 2 and 3 were spent traveling from Honduras to India. Days 4, 5, 6 and 7 were spent attending to lectures and laboratory practices in the Lecture hall and laboratories of the Department of Plant Pathology at TANU. On Day 8 visits were made to the laboratories of T. Stanes & Company Limited, and to an IPM validation plot in the field of a collaborating grower. On day 9 we visited Biocontrol Research Laboratories (BCRL) of Pest Control India in Bangalore.

Comments/Observations: The organization, as well as the development of the workshop, worked superbly well. The lectures reflected that the lecturers devoted special care to prepare them so that they were most clear, informative and useful to the audience. To me it was a great and timely experience in light that at FHIA we have just started the operation of a new facility for mass production of the entomopathogen *Metarhizium*

anisopliae, to be used (initially) for the control of Spittle bugs in sugarcane. The same fungus will also be tried locally for the first time for the control of the potato/tomato psyllid, *Bactericera (Paratrioza) cockerelli* as part of the work plan of the IPM LAC in 2011-2012.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
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