

IPM CRSP Trip Report

Countries Visited: Uganda and Kenya

Dates of Travel: 7/17 – 7/27/2012

Travelers Names and Affiliations: Drs. J.M. Erbaugh & J. Kovach, The Ohio State University

Purpose of Trip: Year 4 work plan development and site visitations in Kenya

Description of Activities/Observations:

7/18 arrive Uganda 10:45 PM

7/19 Erbaugh and Kovach to Makerere University: Kovach meets with Makerere grad students to discuss thesis research and advise on analysis of field data; Erbaugh meets with S. Kyamanywa and J. Karungi to discuss budgets and process for following day work shop on Year 4 work plan design.

7/20 The work shop for preparing the work plan for Year 4 began at 8:30 a.m at the Fairway Hotel and was opened by Dr. Kyamanywa and led by Dr. Erbaugh. All 3 country coordinators were present along with two global theme coordinators, Drs. Bonabana and Mangeni, Dr. Kovach, OSU Entomology, and Beatrice administrative coordinator of the IPM CRSP. The agenda for the meeting is attached. The meeting ended at 6:30 P.M.

7/21: The group met from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. A draft work plan was completed for the EA IPM CRSP Site including year 4 plans for each of the global themes.

7/22: Left AM and flew to Kenya. Kovach and Erbaugh drove with Dr. Waiganjo from Nairobi airport to Thika.

7/23: Courtesy call with Charles Waturu, Director, KARI/Thika; then traveled to KARI/Mwea for courtesy call with Waweru Gitonga, Center Director and Caesar Kambo, Deputy Center Director; then met with farmers at our first field site at home of Simon Ndambiri for grafting and high tunnel trials; and finally to meet with farmers of Kongai Tisa who provide another trial location for grafting and high tunnel production of tomato.

7/24: Met with the KARI/Thika IPM CRSP team including site PI Monicah Waiganjo, Drs. Jess Mbaka, Daniel Gikarra, and Simon Wepukhulu, Justa Gitonga, Charity Gathambiri and Miriam Otipa and reviewed progress and year 4 work plan.

7/25: Drove with Drs. Waiganjo and Mbaka to meet with new high tunnel/grafting collaborator Mr. Minah at his farm east of Thika. He is developing his farm as a training center and has already put in extensive high tunnels with irrigation for producing tomato. Returned to KARI/Thika for a wrap-up session with Dr. Waiganjo.

7/26: Met briefly at KARI/NARL to discuss passion fruit work with Otipa and IPDN work with Dr. Kenyua. Departed Nairobi that evening.

Training Activities Conducted

Program type (workshop, seminar, field day, short course, etc.)	Date	Audience	Number of Participants		Training Provider (US university, host country institution, etc.)	Training Objective
			Men	Women		
Work shop	7/19	Country and Global theme collaborators	5	5	OSU and Makerere University	Work plan development
Field meeting	7/23	5 farmers at Mwea	4	1	Waiganjo (KARI), Kovach, Erbaugh	Grafting and high tunnels
Field meeting	7/23	15 farmers of Kongai Tisa	10	5	Waiganjo (KARI), Kovach, Erbaugh	Grafting and high tunnels
Station meeting	7/24	KARI IPM CRSP team	5	4	Waiganjo, Kovach, Erbaugh	Research and Work plan review
Field meeting	7/25	Mr. Minah & field school	1		Waiganjo, Kovach, Erbaugh	Extending Collaboration

Suggestions, Recommendations, and/or Follow-up Items:

Comments by Kovach on two MS thesis candidates:

1) Chris Muwanika: Thesis title: Effect of soil amendments and mulching on occurrence of viral diseases in Uganda. Treatments should be untreated control, cow manure, coffee husks, straw mulch and reflective mulch. Main points: 3rd season data collection is critical; need to determine yield by weight and weight per fruit; incidence should be recorded between 1 to 0; and graph moisture and temperature by time.

2) Charles Ssemuogerere: Trying to establish thresholds on 4 coffee pests but concern expressed about the design of study. He is randomly sampling 10 trees/plot but recommended to look at same 10 trees each time and record pest changes on the yields of these trees.

Work Plan recommendations/observations: 1) Make each activity description more succinct; 2) clear statement of objectives; with a truly regional program like the IPM CRSP program in East Africa, the concern is how to fully apply global themes at all 3 sites, particularly impact assessment; 3) Any corrections to work plans should be sent to Dr. Erbaugh by July 31.

7/23: Director of KARI/Thika indicated that they had just been visited by their Board of Governance, who had commented that one of their strengths was their partnerships with organizations like the IPM CRSP. Deputy Director of KARI/ Mwea indicated that as a result of 2010 Grafting/High tunnel work shop he was now grafting his tomato with solanum incanum (resistant root stock but poisonous fruit) and getting good edible fruit. He was also collecting seed of SI because it had known medicinal properties. Farmers at Mwea, our original field collaborators, (field trials located at home of Simon Ndambiri) were busy preparing grafts for next season with clips fashioned from test tubes. Two other farmers who joined us had put up high tunnels because of talking with Simon our collaborator but had problems with bacterial wilt in the high tunnel – they had not solarized their soil nor had they grafted and they were now interested in both. They prefer Roma because they believe it is more durable and has longer shelf-life. The discussion turned to easier grafting techniques and potential other crops they could grow in the high tunnel. The Kongai Tisa farmers related their story of being hit-hard by bacterial wilt, then hearing about the grafting, and then having the problems they had last season with bw in the high tunnel and their grafted seedlings being stressed in a low tunnel. They had learned a lot. They solarized their soil, prepared new grafted seedlings and were extremely pleased with the results. As they said, they now have ‘hope ‘ that they can “defeat” bw. Tomato is their most important crop and they were grateful to the IPM CRSP for the grafting technology in particular. One thing we noticed is that the grafted seedlings already had white flies so they need to protect seedlings from this problem.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Dr. S. Kyamanywa	Principal/Makerere Univ.	
Dr. J. Karungi	Uganda Site PI	

Dr. A. Maerere	Tanzania Site PI	
Dr. M. Waiganjo	Kenya Site PI	
Dr. J. Bonabana	PI – Impact Global Theme	
Dr. M. Mangeni	PI – Gender Global Theme	
Charles Ssemwogerere	MS Grad student	
Robinah Atukunda	MS Grad student	
Chris Muwanika	MS Grad student	
Charles Waturu	Director, KARI/Thika	
Waweru Gitonga	Center Director, KARI/Mwea	
Caesar Kambo	Dep. Center Dir., KARI/Mwea	
Simon Ndambiri	Lead farmer at Mwea	
Gerald	Mwea farmer	
Merclus Nyasa	“	
Margaret Weru	“	
15 farmers of Kongai Tisa		
Dr. Jess Mbaka	KARI/Thika & IPM CRSP	
Dr. Daniel Gikarra	“	
Simon Wepukhulu	“	
Justa Gitonga	“	
Charity Gathambiri	“	
Miriam Otipa	“	
Mr. Minah	East Thika farmer	