

IPM CRSP Trip Reports

Country Visited: Kenya

Dates of Travel: November 02-06, 2010

Travelers' Names and Affiliations: Dr. Kemal Ali, Dr. Kassahun Zewdie, Ms. Sintu Alemayehu (Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research) Mr. Zelalem Bekeko (Haramaya University) and Million Abebe.

Purpose of Trip: Take part in the First IOBC International Workshop on Biological Control & Management of Parthenium, and Annual Partners Planning and Training Workshop.

Sites Visited: Nairobi

Description of Activities/Observations: We took part in partners planning and training meeting of the IPM CRSP parthenium project that took place on 03 November, 2010 with the objective of reviewing the implementation of parthenium project activities during 2009-2010.

We presented progress under objectives 2, 3 and 4 and discussed on the way forward. Also presented three papers and a poster, and attended the presentations of other participants at the IOBC Workshop on Biological Control and Management of Parthenium. We have been able to gather information from the discussion made after each presentation and from interactions with scientists from different countries. The information gathered is expected to help for the future plan to release *Zygogramma* and to properly conduct listronotus host range test, both of which are important components of the project in Ethiopia. On 06 November, 2010 Ethiopian team met, in the presence of Dr. Wondi Mersie, and discussed and exchanged ideas on ways of properly implementing project objectives in Ethiopia with emphasis on issues related to future release of *Zygogramma* and host range test of listronotus.

IOBC Recommendations

1. While *Zygogramma bicolorata* is recognized as an effective biocontrol agent of *Parthenium hysterophorus*, there are several other agents available in Australia which should be considered for introduction in countries where *P. hysterophorus* is a problem.
2. Combined workshops of IOBC Working Groups on Parthenium and Chromolaena should be considered for future meetings.
3. The International Parthenium Weed Newsletter produced by the University of Queensland be expanded to include the IOBC Parthenium Working Group and IPM-CRSP Parthenium Project.

4. IOBC Working Group is urged to contact the organizers of the International Conference on Parthenium, to organize joint workshops in the future to prevent duplication and promote coordination.
5. IOBC Working Group, IPM-CRSP Parthenium Project and International Parthenium Weed Network to consider development of a parthenium website.
6. Countries where parthenium has recently invaded are encouraged to survey and record the spread and to implement control and possible eradication programs. Countries where parthenium has firmly established are encouraged to continue surveying and to take up biological control and other management options as early as possible to prevent further spread and economic loss.
7. Countries in West Africa Indochina and Pacific should monitor possible introduction of parthenium from countries where it is present and take up immediate eradication measures when found.
8. Some agencies supported by developmental funds which are inadvertently introducing invasive weeds should take appropriate remedial measures to prevent further spread.
9. Governments of countries where parthenium has established in recent years are encouraged to declare it a noxious weed.
10. Countries are encouraged to cooperate and create regional networking to implement integrated weed management including biological control.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Dr. Dhileepan Kunjithapatham	Principal Entomologist, Alan Fletcher Research Station Australia	Department of primary industries & Fisheries Kunjithapatham.Dhileepan@deedi.qld.gov.au Tel. +617 3375 0721
Dr. Rachel McFadyen	Research Scientist	rachel.mcfadven@live.com.au
Prof. Steve Adkins	Lecturer and plant physiologist at Queensland University	s.adkins@uq.edu.au
Dr. R. (Muni) Muniappan	Program Director-IPM CRSP	Office of international research, education & development Virginia Tech blacksburg, VA 24061 USA rmuni@vt.edu Tel. 540/231-3516
Morris Akiri	CABI, Africa-Regional Director	ICRAF complex United Nations avenue, Gigiri P.O.Box 633-00621, Nairobi Kenya m.akiri@cabi.org Tel. 254 722743179