

## IPM CRSP Trip Report

**Country Visited:** Tanzania

**Dates of Travel:** January 26-February 5, 2013

**Travelers Names and Affiliations:** Amer Fayad (IPM CRSP ME)

**Purpose of Trip:** Participate in the 12<sup>th</sup> International Plant Virus Epidemiology Symposium in Arusha, Tanzania and visit the USAID mission in Dar es Salaam.

**Sites Visited:** Arusha: IPVE Symposium; Dar es Salaam: Mikochoeni Agricultural Research Institute and USAID mission.

### Description of Activities/Observations:

January 27 to February 3, 2013, Arusha: Participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> International Plant Virus Epidemiology Symposium organized and hosted by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture.

January 27, 2013: I joined the International Plant Virus Disease Network (IPVDN) scientists Sue Tolin, Naidu Rayapati, and Judy Brown on January 27. We met our host country partners Miriam Otipa (KARI), Mildred Ochwo-Ssemakula (Makarere University) and Peter Sseruwagi (MARI).

We met with Lawrence Kenyon of AVRDC (plant virologist, Taiwan) and Fekadu Dinsaa, AVRDC vegetable breeder, regional center for Africa (Arusha). We discussed potential cooperation between the IPVDN and AVRDC in Tanzania and East Africa.

Some of challenges faced include: lack of local virologist, plant pathologists, limited resources, need for local and global partnerships, diagnostic labs, testing resistant varieties.

Fekadu expressed willingness to provide IPM CRSP scientists with tomato lines for possible analysis on virus resistance.

January 28-February 2, 2013: I participated in the IPVE symposium.

I chaired the IPM CRSP special session on January 29.

- A. Fayad: An overview of IPM CRSP.

- S.A. Tolin: Management of aphid, beetle, seed and contact-transmitted RNA viruses in tropical ecological cropping systems.
- J.K. Brown: Comparative case studies of whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*) vector-begomovirus diversity: associated effects on virus disease epidemiology in diverse study systems in Central America and sub-Saharan Africa.
- N. Rayapati: Epidemiology and management of intractable virus diseases in subsistence agriculture: the case of a thrip-transmitted tospovirus in South Asia.
- R. Gilbertsen: Diversity, biology and management of begomovirus diseases of horticultural crops in West Africa.

I presented R. Gilbertsen talk as he was unable to attend this symposium.

February 1, 2013: N. Rayapati, S. Tolin and I helped lead the group work discussion on: Partnership for strengthening capacity building development in Africa. We presented summaries to the whole group. These will be edited into the symposium recommendations.

February 4, 2013: I visited the USAID mission in Dar es Salaam and met with Elizabeth Maeda (Agricultural Research Specialist) and Kevin McCown (Policy Advisor). I reviewed the IPM CRSP activities with Elizabeth Maeda, especially those in Tanzania and East Africa. We recognized the importance of capacity building and the need to work with the national research centers in Tanzania, including MARI and the Tengeru Horticultural Research and Training Institute (HORTI).

February 5, 2013: I visited MARI and met the director Joseph Nguduru and Peter Sseruwagi. We discussed the IPM CRSP program and the activities in Tanzania and East Africa. I toured the labs and greenhouses. They have a BSL3 facility. Their molecular biology lab is very well equipped. They are interested in partnering with IPM CRSP to work on important pest problems in the country, especially cassava, passionfruit, and vegetable crops. While there, I attended a seminar by Julie Willoughby of NC State. She presented her work with MARI that is being funded by the Gates foundation Grad Challenges program. I then had a meeting with the horticulturists and plant pathologists who inquired about our IPM work and the possibility of involving MARI in future activities.

### **Training Activities Conducted:**

No training activities were conducted during this trip.

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

Regional projects should encourage and support graduate students to attend regional and international meeting and present their work. This is also an opportunity for IPM CRSP host

country scientists to network and interact with other scientists and benefit from discussion and potential collaborations.

During the symposium, we met with several scientists from IITA, AVRDC, BecA and other institutions. We will follow up discussion with Lawrence Kenyan and Fekadu Dinsaa of AVRDC regarding the potential cooperation on tomato research. We should explore the possibility of cooperating with Jagger Harvey of Biosciences Eastern and central Africa (BecA) and BecA scientists on capacity building programs for graduate students.

IPM CRSP scientists need to explore the complexity of interaction between the different national research centers in Tanzania. It would be of benefit to the IPM CRSP to formally collaborate with MARI and explore the benefit of working with the Tengeru Horticultural Research and Training Institute (HORTI) on testing disease and pest resistant lines and cultivars of vegetable crops.

### List of Contacts Made:

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