



**AVRDC**  
The World Vegetable Center

# Newsletter

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## Raising the Center's profile in Southeast Asia

Building networks is one of the most promising means to escape isolation and improve impact. The ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network for Vegetable Research & Development (AARNET) demonstrates how partnerships can function to the benefit of those involved and, on a bigger scale, all ultimate stakeholders. This week, 8-9 May, the 2nd Steering Committee of AARNET met in Singapore. While the Center was represented by DDG-R Jackie Hughes from head office and Peter Ooi from ARC, the meeting was also attended by representatives from six (of ten) ASEAN countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, and Singapore.

AARNET was launched in 1998 to coordinate and facilitate ASEAN member countries in developing R&D projects on vegetables, in collaboration with AVRDC and other organizations, as well as to facilitate information exchange, technology transfer and training on vegetable production and related fields. In addition, AVRDC's help is sought to advise on project design and management and spearhead and endorse projects. The ASEAN Secretariat gave this meeting extra importance by sending a delegate to share the reactions from ministers to several AARNET proposals. "AARNET is a network, that can facilitate our scientific collaboration. I would like to encourage our scientists to make use of the opportunities it offers for joint research activities in ASEAN countries, share expertise and thus increase potential impact," says Jackie Hughes.

Over the years AARNET has been strongly associated with George Kuo, who was the driving force behind its development. "In terms of gathering regional interest and moving certain projects forward, his participation was much appreciated," acknowledged Leslie Cheong, Chairman of AARNET.

Nine years after the launch of AARNET, the Center is even better established within the Southeast Asian research and development environment and is considered a key actor in promoting sustainable horticultural development. Currently AVRDC is engaged in twelve research projects in the region. The latest projects to be added to the portfolio are an IFAD funded project on "Integrating Safe and Off-season Vegetable Production with Market through Information, Education and Training" in Vietnam and an ADB funded project focusing on the support of vegetable value added chains in GMS (Greater Mekong Subregion) countries for prosperity and poverty reduction.

More Information:

Intranet - The World Vegetable Center's activities in the ASEAN countries (PowerPoint, Dr. J. Hughes)

Internet - AARNET Web site (<http://www.bar.gov.ph/aarnet/ebsite/index.htm>)

## New Articles Received by the Library

Ferrandino, F.J., Smith, V.L. (2007). The effect of milk-based foliar sprays on yield components of field pumpkins with powdery mildew. *CROP PROTECTION*. v.26(4):657-663.

Imazaki, I., Sasahara, M., Koizumi, S. (2007). Spatial distribution of purple seed stain of soybean caused by *Cercospora kikuchii* in fields. *JOURNAL OF GENERAL PLANT PATHOLOGY*. v.73:41-45.

Lotan Pompan, M., Cohen, R., Yarden, O., Portnoy, V., Bruger, Y., Katzir, N. (2007). Trifluralin herbicide-induced resistance of melon to fusarium wilt involves expression of stress- and defence-related genes. *MOLECULAR PLANT PATHOLOGY*. v.8(1):9-22.

Paroda, R. (2007). Addressing the challenges for sustainable agriculture in Central Asia. Tashkent: CGIAR Program Facilitation Unit. 24 pp.

Sanogo, S. (2007). Interactive effects of two soilborne pathogens, *Phytophthora capsici* and *Verticillium dahliae*, on chile pepper. *PHYTOPATHOLOGY*. v.97(1):37-43.

Sharma, N., Rahman, M.H., Strelkov, S., Thiagarajah, M., Bansal, V.K., Kav, N.N.V. (2007). Proteome-level changes in two *Brassica napus* lines exhibiting differential responses to the fungal pathogen *Alternaria brassicae*. *PLANT SCIENCE*. v.172:95-110.

Rai, M.K. (2006). Handbook of microbial biofertilizers. Binghamton, NY: Food Products Press. xxv, 579 pp.

Raman, S. (2006). Agricultural sustainability: principles, processes, and prospects. Binghamton, NY: Food Products Press. 134 pp.

Pritchard, S.G., Amthor, J.S. (2005). Crops and environmental change: an introduction to effects of global warming, increasing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations, and soil salinization on crop physiology and yield. Binghamton, NY: Food Products Press. xii, 421 pp.

Sungpuag, P., Tangchianvit, S., Chittchang, U., Wasantwisut, E. (1999). Retinol and B-carotene content of indigenous raw and home-prepared foods in Northeast Thailand. *FOOD CHEMISTRY*. v.64:163-167.

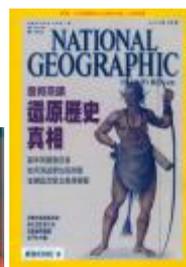
## New Popular Magazines Now Available in the Library

*The Economist*: The battle for Turkey's soul – 5th-11th May 2007

*National Geographic*: May 2007

*Scientific American* (English): Hazy hints of alien life - May 2007

*Time*: The most influential people in the world – 14 May 2007



## Recommended Web Link of the Week:

### E-answers – Your Extension Information Source

*E-answers* – is a dynamic, online resource that brings more than 250,000 pages of university information and education into your home or office – when and where you need it. The practical, current, and unbiased information in this site represents the work of Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station profes-

sionals at more than 50 Land Grant universities throughout the United States.

Please visit <http://e-answers.adec.edu/>

- Source: Fang-chin Chen/Library Services Unit

## Travel

**Dr. Katinka Weinberger**, 7-11 May, to Washington DC, USA, to participate in a CGIAR Science Council/IFPRI organized expert roundtable on food safety; 15-22 May, to Arusha, Tanzania, to RCA to conduct the Theme 5 meeting “Postharvest management and market opportunities”; to discuss progress of the EU/IndigenoVeg and Proniva socio-economic activities with staff; 23-25 May, to Stuttgart, Germany, to give a lecture on ‘Gender and Nutrition’ at the Hohenheim University.

**Dr. Jaw-Fen Wang**, 12-23 May, to India, to join the AVRDC Tata Foundation exploratory mission.

**Dr. Srinivasan Ramasamy**, 12-22 May, to India, to join the AVRDC Tata Foundation exploratory mission; 23-24 May, to review and discuss the progress of lab bioassays against DBM populations from different parts of India at UAS-Bangalore.

**Dr. Tien-cheng Wang**, 14-17 May, to Nanjing, PRC, to visit Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences (AAS) and Nanjiang Agricultural University; 28-22 May, to Changsha, to visit Hunan Plant Protection Institute and Hunan Agricultural University; 23-27 May, to visit Shenzhen Center for Quality Crop Seed at Shenzhen and Plant Protection Research Institute of Guandong AAS at Guangzhou to present seminars, interchange scientific technology and explore future research collaboration on Solanaceous crops; to discuss with Drs. Liu Yong and Zhang Deyong, collaborators in the GTZ-chilli project on the progress of projects to be conducted at the Hunan Plant Protection Institute.

**Dr. Thomas Lumpkin**, 16-18 May, to Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the Final Steering Committee Meeting of the SDC-Human Resource Development Project for the Mekong Region (HRDP-IV).

**Dr. Jackie Hughes**, 18-24 May, to join the exploratory missions supported by Sir Ratan Tata Trust’s Small Grants Programmes to visit Punjab, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Maharashtra, India to develop joint research and development proposals for improving vegetable production, consumption and marketing in selected areas of India.

**Mr. Arun Kumar**, 19 May-7 June, to new Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Aurangabad, Pune, Rajpur, Dhaward, India, to conduct a survey with seed companies for the AVRDC Tomato Breeding Impact Study (2007); to conduct a survey with the farmers visiting the field day.

**Ms. Dolores R. Ledesma**, 19-27 May, to Aceh, Indonesia, to conduct a training course on Experimental Design and Data Analysis.

**Mr. Christian A. Genova II**, 20-16 May, to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to participate in the chilli supply chain survey of the ACIAR/Postharvest project.

- Source: Yvonne Ting/ASU

**Dr. ML Chadha**, 14-22 May, to Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Punjab, to participate in a joint Tata Foundation and AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center exploratory mission and to develop collaborative project proposals.

- Source: Dr. M.L. Chadha/AVRDC-RCSA



Photo (left to right): Mr. Cheng-chang Kuo, Photographer for CommonWealth magazine, Jin Shieh, Pepper Unit, and Dr. Thomas Lumpkin, DG

For a quarter century, CommonWealth magazine has stood as Taiwan's most influential business magazine. With a current circulation of 90,000-120,000, CommonWealth is Taiwan's most respected magazine on economics, politics and current events. This week a reporter and photographer from the magazine interviewed Dr Lumpkin about the Center's research and development work. Their story will be featured in the July issue of CommonWealth. We look forward to expanded coverage of the Center's work in the national Chinese and English media.

- Source: Communications

## New Staff



I am pleased to inform you that we have appointed Ms. Kartini (Iin) Luther as Assistant to the Deputy Director General-Research (DDG-R), for an initial period of one year, effective 10 May 2007.

Iin received her Masters of Science degree in Environmental Microbiology from the University of Hawaii in 1995. She has been working with us as a part-time Research Assistant in the Bacteriology Unit for more than two years. She is also the current Chair of the Center's Recreation and Social Committee. Iin will report directly to Jackie Hughes, DDG-R.

Iin's major responsibilities are (1) developing, with the DDG-R, and with the Theme Coordinators, documentation on the Center's research and development themes including logframes, staff time, project activities and project reports; (2) designing draft

matrices for rolling plans; (3) assisting in the preparation of reports and presentations (4) working with the DDG-R and the Grant Development Office to assess and monitor project proposals and monitor project progress; (5) developing proposals for procedures for monitoring the quality of science; (6) working with the DDG-R on scientific and programmatic review processes and planning; (7) working with the DDG-R in planning and organizing workshops and other meetings; (8) identifying opportunities for team building and for training needs; and (9) perform other duties as assigned by the DDG-R. Iin can be contacted at ext. 123, <[kiluther@netra.avrdc.org.tw](mailto:kiluther@netra.avrdc.org.tw)>. We wish Iin every success in her new appointment with AVRDC.

- Source: Lilia Tan Habacon/HR Manager



The Center extends a warm welcome to Mr. Wu Chiu-hsien 吳秋弦, Technician at Technical Services Office. Mr. Wu reported for duty on 7 May 2007. He can be contacted at ext. 228.

- Source: Felisa Wang/HR

## ARC Holds Final Activities of SDC/AVRDC-ARC HRDP IV

The Asian Regional Center is actively preparing for the final activities of the Human Resource Development Project for the Mekong Region Phase IV (HRDP IV) sponsored by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and managed by AVRDC-ARC. The activities will all be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 14 to 17 May 2007.

An Impact Assessment Workshop will be held on 14-15 May 2007 which will gather the economists and project staff from collaborating NARS to discuss, present and finalize the results of the impact assessment activities done in 2006. This will be followed by a one-day Regional Seminar with the theme – Beyond Capacity Building: Promoting Sustainability. The seminar will include presentations from the collaborating partners

on the development, promotion, adoption and adaptation of vegetable growing techniques and the impact of the HRDP IV interventions in the project areas of HRDP IV. Guest speakers from extension agencies in Thailand and Myanmar will also share their experiences in working with resource-poor farmers.

HRDP IV will then conclude with the Final Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) on 17 May 2007 which will enable all HRDP IV collaborators, SC members and partners to review and discuss the impact and major lessons learned from the implementation of HRDP IV.

- Source: Dr. Peter Ooi/AVRDC-ARC

## Positions Announcement

### Secretary – Training, Communications Unit

The Center is seeking a secretary to support its Communications services and to help manage the head office training programme

**Job Responsibilities:** Organizing all correspondence related to trainees and training; Working with scientists and trainees to arrange traineeships; Managing contracts with communications consultants; Maintaining and analyzing training records, assisting in organizing training courses. **Qualifications:** BA in Business Administration or related field; At least three (3) years working in administration or with trainees; Fluency in English; Knowledge of MS Office, especially Access, Meticulous work quality and attention to detail; A high level of interpersonal skills.

### 新聞與訓練室徵秘書

**主要負責：**(1) 處理受訓學員及訓練室所有往來書信；(2) 協同專家與學員安排訓練課程；(3) 協同處理新聞組顧問合約事宜；(4) 維護與分析學員訓練檔案資料。**應徵資格：**大學企業管理或相關科系畢業。三年以上行政或訓練學員工作經驗。英文說寫流利。熟悉MS Office, 須精通Access。處事態度細心謹慎，擅長人際關係。

### Research Assistant (Project based), Mycology Unit

**Job Responsibilities:** Screening for host plant resistance of pepper anthracnose and Phytophthora blight; Developing integrated disease management strategies; Molecular characterization of fungal pathogens; Drafting annual reports and manuscripts on research results.

## Transfer of Assignment

Mr. Lin Chong-zheng 林崇正, Principal Research Assistant, will be transferred from the Biotechnology Unit (Project) to the Cucurbit Unit (Regular) effective 15 May 2007.

**Qualifications:** MS/BS in Plant Pathology or related field; knowledge of plant pathology, disease management and molecular biology; and command of laboratory techniques in plant pathology and molecular biology.

植物真菌組徵計畫研究助理乙名。負責工作：番椒炭疽病及疫病之抗病性檢定；研發植物真菌性病害綜合管理技術；病原真菌的分子生物學研究；及協助撰寫研究成果報告。應徵資格：植物病理或相關科系畢業之碩士或學士。熟悉植物病理學、病害管理及分子生物學，具植物病理及分生技術實務經驗者。

Applicants should submit a letter of application and CV, with names, and contact addresses (phone number and e-mail) of three referees to Ms Felisa Wang, Human Resources, PO Box 42, Shanhua, Taiwan 74199. The deadline for both positions is 1 June 2007, e-mail: [jobapply@netra.avrdc.org.tw](mailto:jobapply@netra.avrdc.org.tw). Full details can be found on the Center's website: [www.avrdc.org](http://www.avrdc.org)

意者，請於96年6月1日前，將中、英文申請書、履歷表及三位推薦人(包括：姓名、地址、電話、電子郵件帳號) 寄至：亞洲蔬菜研究發展中心台南縣善化鎮郵政信箱42號人事室。

或電子郵件：[jobapply@netra.avrdc.org.tw](mailto:jobapply@netra.avrdc.org.tw)

詳見本中心網站：[www.avrdc.org](http://www.avrdc.org)

- Source: Felisa Wang/Human Resources

- Source: Felisa Wang/ Human Resources

## Visitor

**Dr. Mohammad A. Rahim**, Professor of Horticulture at Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh visited the Center from 5 to 10 May. The purpose of his trip was to discuss collaborative project work and the

potential for his PhD students to study here. Dr. Rahim gave us a seminar about the vegetable and spice situation in Bangladesh.

- Source: Communications

## Indian Lunch Fundraiser for AVRDC Goodwill Club

The Goodwill club is having a fund raiser on Wednesday June 6. An Indian lunch will be available for NT\$180 for those who order in advance.

Two set meals are available:

1. Curried chicken, spiced chickpea, tomato soup, chapathi, papadam OR
2. Saffron rice, spiced chickpea, tomato soup, chapathi, papadam (vegetarian).

A selection of cakes will also be available for sale but must be ordered in advance. Please fill out the attached order form before Wednesday May 23 and email it or give it to Lydia in the Cafeteria.

Payment will be collected on June 6th. A proportion of the proceeds from the lunch/cake sale will go to the AVRDC Goodwill Club.

The Club was established in 1998 to provide financial assistance to worthy humanitarian causes and to assist AVRDC staff in times of emergency. Over the past year it has donated NT\$ 140,000 to support 5 needy children through World Vision, provided desks and benches to a school in India and provided emergency funds for school lunches at two Shanhua elementary schools.

Any AVRDC current staff (at Headquarters or Regional Centers), their dependents, relatives, or friends, or a former staff of AVRDC may join the club. There are three types of membership:

- A. Sustaining Members (Life time members) who pay a lump sum of NT\$5000
- B. Annual Members who pay the annual membership fee of NT\$1200
- C. Honorary members who donate irregularly, but don't apply for membership.

Sustaining or annual members vote for, and are eligible

to join the club's steering committee. These are currently Kathryn Hamilton, Eugenia Chang, Lydia Wu, Gloria Kuo, Srini, Peter Hanson, Kartini Luther, Ray-yu Yang and Tina Yang. Please contact Lydia Wu to renew your membership or to become a Goodwill Club Member.

The Goodwill club depends exclusively on its membership fees and your donations to fulfill its goals. Please help support the club by becoming a member and actively participating in our fundraisers

愛心社擬與餐廳合作於6月6日(星期三)中午舉辦印度美食特餐及蛋糕義賣募款會。印度美食套餐每份180元，有兩種選擇— 1. 咖哩雞、香料扁豆醬、番茄湯、烙餅、薄酥餅。2. 香飯、香料扁豆醬、番茄湯、烙餅、薄酥餅(素食)。本次活動採預訂方式授理以保障訂購者權益，每單項食品售出將提出50元交愛心社。請填妥訂單於5月23日(星期三)前電傳或逕交餐廳吳穗芳辦理，並於6月6日付款即可。愛心社自1998年成立以來已給予多次中心內外人員的急難救助、透過世界展望會捐贈新台幣140000認養貧童、捐贈課桌椅給印度的學校、善化地區兩所小學的營養午餐費等等。所有亞蔬中心總部及分部的同仁、眷屬、朋友、離職員工都可加入會員。會員有三種：終身會員(一次繳交5000元會費)，年度會員(年繳1200元)以及榮譽會員(不定時繳交捐款，不加入會員)。終身會員及年度會員具投票、審查委員資格，目前的審查委員包括：凱薩琳、張副主任太太、吳穗芳、郭鴻蘭、施瑞霖、韓森、盧卡婷、楊瑞玉、楊雅婷。想要加入會員者可向吳穗芳接洽。愛心社的運作完全是依靠會員繳交的會費及大家的捐款，因此，誠摯邀請大家共襄盛舉，並感謝您大力支持。

- Source: Dr. Kathryn A. Hamilton/AVRDC Goodwill Club

## What's New in the AVRDC Websites?

**Internet:** <http://www.avrdc.org>

- ∇ News & Events: Last Opportunity to Register for the Training Course on Screening for Resistance to Vegetable Diseases
- ∇ Publications: Managing Heavy Metals in Vietnamese Agriculture

**Intranet:** <http://www.avrdc.org/intranet/home.html>

- ∇ 2007 Fun Games at <ftp://ftp.avrdc.org.tw/upload/>
- ∇ Seminar Series Presentations:
  - The Vegetable and Spice Situation in Bangladesh by *Dr. Mohammad A. Rahim*
  - Efforts for Integrating Research at AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center by *Mrs. Kartini Luther*
- ∇ Grants Development Office: 7 May 2007 Funding News and Guidelines on Small Grants for International Agricultural Research

- Source: Communications

## News from Recreational and Social Committee

### Sports Day

The R&S committee will organize an AVRDC – Sports Day for its May activity. It will be held on Wednesday, 30 May from 1500 to 1630 hours. We will have matches/competitions in tennis, table tennis, basketball, volleyball and a fun-run (a much shorter version of the marathon, around AVRDC's ground). Because of time limitations, the coordinators will limit the number of participants for each game who will be selected on a first come/first served basis! We will have another Sports Day in September, so you will have another chance to try out different games.

康委會五月份的活動是運動會，將在5月30日下午3點至4點30分舉行，比賽項目有網球、桌球、籃球、排球及趣味競跑（繞著中心跑一類似短程的馬拉松），因時間侷促，各項競賽都有名額限制，有意參賽者請

盡速報名，以免向隅！不過如果抱不上名，也別太失望，9月份康委會將會舉辦另一次不同項目的比賽！

For those interested, please register with the following coordinators (各項比賽報名專線)：

- Tennis (網球) – Vicky Easdown, ext. 809  
(尹士東太太，分機809)
- Table tennis (桌球) – Christian Genova, ext. 462  
(希天敏，分機462)
- Basketball (籃球) – Jean Lin, ext. 363  
(林貞余，分機363)
- Volleyball (排球) – Chong-zheng Lin, ext. 363  
(林崇正，分機363)
- Fun run (趣味競跑) – Dr. Zhanyong Sun, ext. 390  
(孫占勇，分機390)

### Happenings Around AVRDC Headquarters

Classical Swan Lake and Nutcracker ballet performances, will be performed by the Russian Festival Ballet in Tainan and Kaohsiung.

- ∇ Time: Monday, 14 May, 1930 hours
- ∇ Place: Kaohsiung City Cultural Center, Chih-The Hall
- ∇ Time: Tuesday, 15 May, 1930 hours
- ∇ Place: Tainan City Cultural Center
- ∇ Ticket: NT\$2500/1800/1400/900/700/500

經典芭蕾舞-天鵝湖及胡桃鉗將由俄羅斯明星節慶芭蕾舞團在台南及高雄演出。

- ∇ 時間：5月14日(星期一) 晚間7點30分
- ∇ 地點：高雄市文化中心至德堂
- ∇ 時間：5月15日(星期二) 晚間7點30分
- ∇ 地點：台南市立文化中心
- ∇ 票價：2500/1800/1400/900/700/500元

- Source: R&S Committee