



Open the Door to the Center's Future

It has been an intense, but encouraging week at headquarters. This year's Internal Review didn't just involve a retrospective view of the Center's activities and achievements over the past twelve months. With a Planning Workshop as an integral part of the program, the week explicitly offered a preview of the direction in which the Center is moving. Among the almost 60 participants from headquarters and the regions were also new and existing members of our Board of Directors and the four members of AVRDC's External Program and Management Review (EPMR), who will present their report later.

Vegetables play an increasing role on the international development agenda, and while the Center can claim a share in this trend, it must take up the new challenges and continue to develop its research and development expertise. "I am not afraid of AVRDC's future. The Center will continue to fill the role it has achieved and further expand it, building on its skilled and motivated staff to shape the future", says AVRDC's Director General Dr. Thomas Lumpkin. A future in terms of further institutional growth, but also a future with improved livelihoods for the millions of poor in the developing world who are at the center of AVRDC's mission.



Photos (clockwise, from left to right): AVRDC's Director General Dr. Thomas Lumpkin highlighting perspectives and challenges of vegetable research and development along the theme meetings in the conference room; Past, present, future: the presentations given by the Senior Management gave an overview over the Center's development and pointed out key issues of increasing importance; Dr. Guy Riba from INRA/France, newly appointed member of the Board of Directors, in discussion with Dr. Paul Sun, Board Chair, during a session in the Conference Room.

The complete set of presentations, a list of participants and photos have been compiled on a CD-ROM, and are available from Communications.

Latest Publications from the Center's Staff

Congratulations to Drs. Sylvia K. Green, Peter Hanson, Chin-hua Ma, Manuel C. Palada, Srinivasan Ramasamy, Jaw-Fen Wang, and Mr. Chih-hung Lin for their latest publications, recently received by the library.

Cheng, A.H., Wu, Y.F., Lin, C.H., Wang, J.F. (2007). Case studies on diagnosis of crop bacterial diseases. In: 植物重要防疫檢疫病害診斷鑑定技術研習會專刊(6). Taipei: Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine, COA. p.95-107.

Green, S.K., Shanmugasundaram, S. (2007). AVRDC's international networks to deal with the tomato yellow leaf curl disease: the needs of developing countries. In: Tomato yellow leaf curl virus disease: management, molecular biology, breeding for resistance./ ed. by Czosnek, H.; Dordrecht: Springer. p.417-439.

Ji, Y.F., Scott, J.W., Hanson, P., Graham, E., Maxwell, P. (2007). Sources of resistance, inheritance, and location of genetic loci conferring resistance to members of the tomato-infecting begomoviruses. In: Tomato yellow leaf curl virus disease: management, molecular biology, breeding for resistance./ ed. by Czosnek, H.; Dordrecht: Springer. p.343-362.

Lee, S.T., Srinivasan, R., Wu, Y.J., Talekar, N.S. (2007). Occurrence and characterization of a nucleopolyhedrovirus from *Maruca vitrata* (Lepidoptera, Pyralidae) isolated in Taiwan. BIOCONTROL. v.52:801-819.

Ma, C.H., Houn, K.H, Palada, M.C., Lin, Y.H. (2007). Using simplified kinetic model of fertilizer-P availability index to monitor soil available P in vegetable field. In: New challenges for agricultural science – harmonizing food production with the environment - ; Conference 8th: abstracts. Tokyo: JSSSPN. p.282.

Tamo, M., Goergen, G., Agboton, C., Srinivasan, R. (2007). Putting agro-biodiversity to work: the cowpea story. In: XVI international plant protection congress. p.354-355.

Selections from the Mungbean SDI Bulletin Produced by the Library

Copies of other SDI bulletins for different crops can be found on the library website

Ahn, S.J., Kim, Y.S., Park, W., Ku, Y.G., Min, K.S., Whang, T. (2007). Aluminum-induced root growth inhibition and impaired plasma membrane H⁺-flux in mung bean. KOREAN JOURNAL OF CROP SCIENCE. v.52(2):213-219.

Chaitieng, B., Kaga, A., Tomooka, N., Isemura, T., Kuroda, Y., Vaughan, D.A. (2007). Development of a black gram [*Vigna mungo* (L.) Hepper] linkage map and its comparison with an azuki bean [*Vigna angularis* (Willd.) Ohwi and Ohashi] linkage map. THEORETICAL AND APPLIED GENETICS. v.113(7):1261-1269.

Chopra, J., Kaur, N., Gupta, A.K. (2007). Sustained activities of carbon metabolizing enzymes determine seed size in *Vigna radiata* (mung bean). CURRENT SCIENCE. v.92(1):1420-1424.

Kulsum, M.U., Baque, M.A., Karim, M.A. (2007). Effects of different nitrogen levels on the morphology and yield of blackgram. JOURNAL OF AGRONOMY. v.6(1):125-130.

New Popular Magazines Now Available in the Library

The Economist: Time's Up, Mr Musharraf - 10th-16th November 2007

Time: Best Inventions of 2007 – 19 November 2007



- Source: Fang-chin Chen/Communications

Indian Trial Highlights Virus Resistant Tomatoes



Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus (TYLCV) is one of the worst diseases affecting tomatoes in India – but a solution is well underway. On 29 October a field day for plant breeders featuring trials of TYLCV-resistant tomato varieties was held in Karnal, India to highlight progress in combating the disease. The event was part of the DFID-funded Tropical Whitefly Project and the trials hosted by Syngenta India.

A total of 49 varieties were entered by 11 Indian seed companies, the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore, and AVRDC. TYLCV disease incidence was high and differences among varieties in resistance and fruit set were evident.

Two AVRDC entries possessing two different TY resistance genes performed relatively well and highlighted the importance of pyramiding resistance genes for sustainable TYLCV control.

After viewing the trials, the breeders discussed the results and breeding strategies to develop better TYLCV-resistant varieties. The project has led to the development and promotion of improved technologies for TYLCV control to help tomato farmers and has also strengthened collaboration between the Indian public and private sectors in variety development.



- Source: Dr. Peter Hanson/Tomato Unit

ARC Director Addresses the 22nd Anniversary Celebration of PHILRICE

At the invitation of the Executive Director of PhilRice of the Department of Agriculture, Republic of the Philippines, Dr. Peter Ooi shared with the science community at Munoz on “Bringing Science to Farmers: A Development Imperative” at the 9th Santiago R. Obien Seminar Series on Research Management and Institution Building on 7 November. This seminar series coincided with the 22nd Anniversary of PhilRice.

The presentation focused very much on the recognition that for scientific advancement, there is a need to share the science behind the technology with farmers. Involving farmers as research partners will enhance adoption through adaptation. Indeed, bringing science to farmers can be achieved through Public-Private Partnership programmes.

*- Source: Dr. Peter Aun-Chuan Ooi/
Regional Director/AVRDC-ARC*



New Staff — Ms. Ronia Tanyongana, vBSS Seed Health Specialist



Ms. Ronia Tanyongana has been appointed as vBSS Seed Health Specialist, for an initial period of two years, effective 1 December 2007.

Ronia received her Master of Science Crop Protection from University of Reading, UK. She has over twenty one years of professional work experience in commercial grain storage, handling and marketing, working with wide range of farmers in the purchasing and logistical movement of their grain to depots. Ronia will be based in the Republic of South Africa and will report directly to Jan Helsen, vBSS Project Administrative Manager.

Ronia will support the program to develop and release new vegetable varieties by ensuring the health status of program seed which is distributed both nationally and internationally, as well as ensuring the quality of the propagated improved seed. Priority will be given to varietal development of tomato, chili pepper, sweet pepper, onion, cabbage, and locally important indigenous vegetables. Her specific duties include (1) supporting the activities of the National Breeding Units

(NBUs) in seed health activities; (2) supporting the establishment or improvement of seed health testing facilities in the target countries to assure health of seeds distributed nationally and internationally; (3) establishing and/or updating lists of quarantine pest lists of the target countries by linking with IAPC; (4) compiling, analyzing, storing and publishing data on seed-borne/seed-transmitted pests in the target countries; (5) developing protocols to store quarantine pest-free seed in the target countries; (6) developing a training curriculum for short term courses in seed health and related fields; (7) training project seed specialists and other scientists in seed health; (8) backstopping the seed health activities in the NBUs of the target countries; (9) collaborating closely with staff of the four NBUs, AVRDC staff at the Regional Center for Africa in Tanzania, the Sub-Regional Office in Mali, and AVRDC's headquarters; (10) developing cooperative linkages with contract seed producers, and NARES; and (11) monitoring program activities in the different countries with respect to seed health issues.

Welcome to AVRDC and good wishes, Ronia.

- Source: Lilia Tan Habacon/ Human Resources Manager

Participants in the AVRDC Internal Review and Planning Workshop 12-14 November 2007, AVRDC HQ



Travel

Dr. Katinka Weinberger, 19-26 November, to Arusha, Tanzania, to attend and participate in the EU-IndigenoVeg Integration meeting.

Dr. Jackie Hughes, 21-27 November, to Patancheru, Hyderabad, India, to attend and make a presentation on "Improving Vegetable Productivity in a Variable and Changing Climate" at ICRISAT's 35th Anniversary Symposium on, "Climate Proofing Innovation for Poverty Reduction and Food Security."

Dr. Thomas Lumpkin, 22-27 November, to Portland, Oregon, USA, to attend the 2007 USDA Pacific West Area Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Leadership

Conference, and to give the keynote speech on "Specialty Crops – A Global Perspective from the World Vegetable Center"; 28 November-8 December, to Beijing, China, to attend the 2007 CGIAR Annual General Meeting (AGM07). During this period, Dr. Lumpkin will host friends of AVRDC Meeting and Join the 2nd Meeting of AVRDC's Board's Executive Committee in 2007 from 3 to 7 December; and attend the meeting of Global Horticulture Initiative (GlobalHort) Board of Directors on 5 December.

- Source: Yvonne Ting/ASU

Closing of Books by 7 December 2007

It is requested that all the units and offices arrange their requests for payment of 2007 expenditures as soon as possible, and not later than 7 December 2007.

For special projects either to be terminated at the end of 2007, or to be continued in 2008, requests for payment of 2007 expenditures should also be made before 7 December 2007.

Purchases other than for emergencies will be closed on 7 December 2007 for this calendar (fiscal) year. Your cooperation will be highly appreciated.

- Source: Nancy Chai/Financial Services Office