The Impact of Training

The trainee, trainer and their countries

A focus on Laos (Lao PDR)
Farmers First
Farmers First

Club Root
Cabbage
Farmers First

الزراعة للأول في

Les agriculteurs d'abord

المزارعين أولاً

لا يوجد نص في اللغة الفرنسية بعد.
Farmers First

• A motto that I display at the beginning of training programs to highlight that:

• Farmers are central to the development process

• Emphasises the importance of trainees engaging with the farmer

• Provides a focus for designing the program’s curriculum, and trailing activities
Continuity – An Essential Ingredient

• Broad-based capacity building to improve productivity is a long-term exercise > 20 years

• Long-term commitment by the lead trainers

• Farmer ownership and input is essential for success
Crawford Training Activities

• Mentoring at all levels – a continuous activity

• Workshops In-Country or In-Australia

• Master Classes

• Individual training in Australia

• Long-term broad-based capacity-building
Crawford Program in Lao PDR
Long-term Broad-based Capacity Building
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM

• With support from:

• Mentors and trainers in Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Netherlands, Vietnam

• Australian Volunteers for International Development – An Australian Government Initiative

• ACIAR
Crawford Program in Lao PDR
Long-term Broad-based Capacity Building
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM

• With support from:

• NGO’s: Helvetas, GAPE, Sai-Nyai Eco-School

• Companies: BIOMIN (Australia), Agrichem, Ironbark Citrus, Macadamia Plantations

• Australian Embassy Development Assistance Program (DAP)

• American Phytopathological Society (OIP Global Experience Program)
Lao PDR

Landlocked

Population
~ 6 M
Most in rural areas

C. Vote, CSU
Capacity Building in the Lao PDR
Crop Disease Diagnostics and Integrated Disease Management (IDM)
2009 - continuing

• This program was initiated by an Australian AYAD volunteer, Dr Jillian Walsh, at the Plant Protection Centre (PPC) in Vientiane

• The PPC plant pathology team had four graduates but with no prior training in plant pathology or laboratory practice
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2009

- First National Survey of Crop Diseases
- Training in survey procedure and sampling
- Training in laboratory procedures
- English training

Durian Dieback
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2009

Whiteleaf in Sugarcane

- First National Survey of Crop Diseases
- Training in survey procedure and sampling
- Training in laboratory procedures
- English training
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2010

- Second National Survey of Crop Diseases
- Sugarcane Survey Dr Rob Magarey (BSES)
- Farmer Workshops on IDM in Durian
- English training
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2010 - 11

- Second National Survey of Crop Diseases
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‘Guest House Laboratory’
On survey
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2010 - 11

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Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2010 - 11

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Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2010

First Workshop on Durian Dieback
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2010

Farmer Workshop Injecting Durian with AgriFos 400
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2010 - 12

Madame Kaysone – key durian farmer
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2012

• Training activities shifted to Pakse in southern Lao PDR - second diagnostic laboratory established

• VSO Volunteer, Susan Turner joined the program for 2012-13

• Susan obtained Embassy (DAP) and Helvetas support to construct two greenhouses

• AVID Volunteer Dr Kylie Ireland began in May 2013
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2012

Helvetas Training Greenhouse
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM 2013

• Dr Ireland commissioned main greenhouse facility for durian production, initiated regular disease surveys and laboratory diagnostics

• Intensive survey of vegetable diseases led by Dr Len Tesoriero, EMAI, August, 2013

• Citrus Survey in northern Lao PDR led by Dr Nerida Donovan, EMAI, and Dr Tahir Khurshad, Feb 2014
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2013

Embassy (DAP) Greenhouse

Potting Shed
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM

2013

Embassy (DAP) Greenhouse
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM
2013

Vegetable Disease Survey
Crop Disease Diagnostics and IDM

2014

Citrus Survey – limes and mandarins - northern Lao PDR
Huanglongbing in Citrus
(Chinese: 黃龍病 – Yellow Dragon Disease)
Future Plans
Crop Health and Food Safety Network
Champasak and Savannakhet Provinces
2014 -

• Network established on 6 March

• Two Australian volunteer entomologists start in May

• Three more volunteer assignments under consideration

• All current assignments are likely to be renewed
Impact – some examples

• Eight trainees now with basic laboratory diagnostic skills + field survey experience in over 50 crops

• Fifteen most serious diseases identified

• Putative checklist of over 75 diseases (SPS and Trade)

• IDM programs adapted to Lao

• Farmer Workshops initiated
Impact – some examples

• Key farmers identified

• Three diagnostic laboratories established

• Three greenhouses established

• Volunteer plant pathologist with considerable Lao and an excellent network

• For me – opening new horizons and challenges and doing well by doing good with limited resources
Plating – Black (Purple) Maize

Fusarium 100%