



**Crawford  
Fund** FOR A FOOD  
SECURE WORLD



Photo: Ms Phetdavanh Sounthonnavong

## From Field to the Lab

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**Crawford Fund Annual Conference, 13<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**



Department of  
Primary Industries



# Crawford Fund Pest and Disease Program in Lao PDR

Since 2009 the program in Lao PDR:

32 volunteers, mentors and students

55 cash crops

2 laboratories and 1 green house



<https://www.ecoi.net/en/countries/lao-peoples-democratic-republic/maps/>



# Banana in Lao PDR

Food and cash for poverty alleviation  
(local varieties e.g. Kuay Nam)

Culturally significant

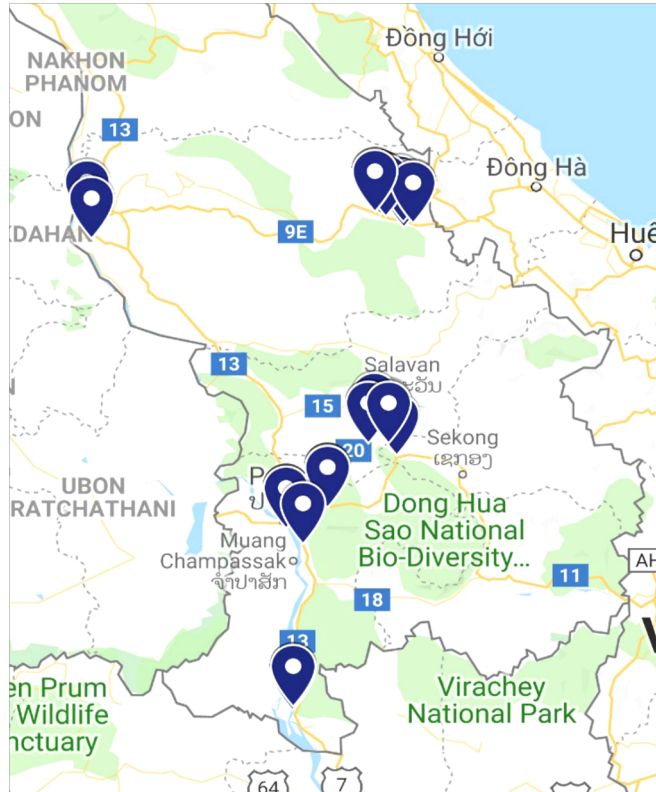
Large concessions from foreign  
investment (Cavendish-types)

Disease issues not well documented  
(Pests - Vansilalom, 2016)





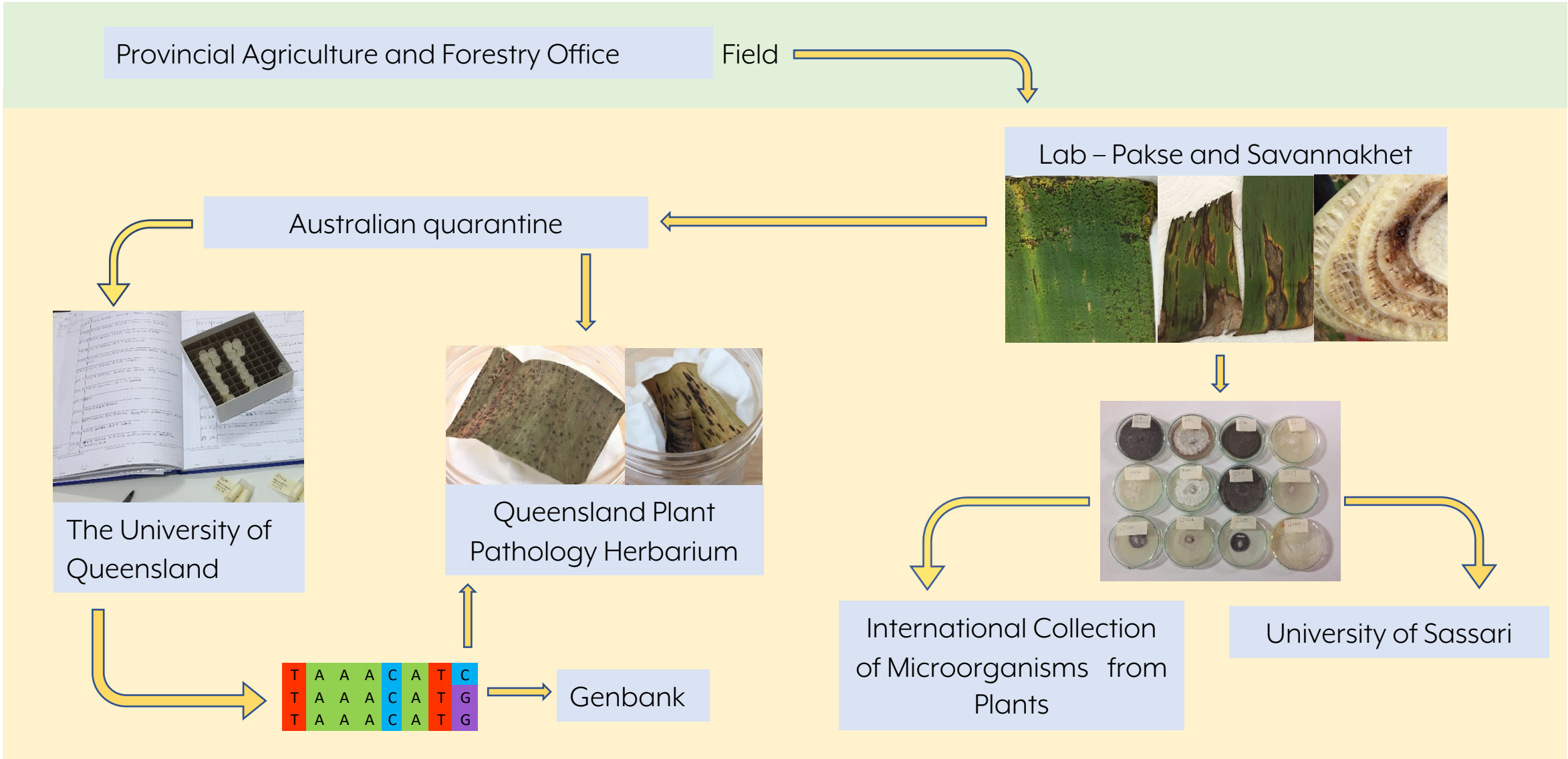
# Banana leaf disease survey





Dr Juliane Henderson (UQ/BQ)  
Ms Kathy Grice (QDAF)  
Dr Madaline Healey (USC)

# From the Field to the Lab



# Outcomes:

- Growers – no major change to practices
- Verifiable records of freckle pathogens and leaf streak pathogens present
- Lao colleagues - skills

Australasian Plant Disease Notes (2021) 16:29  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13314-021-00442-y>



First report of *Phyllosticta* spp. associated with banana freckle disease in southern Lao PDR

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Ms Kaisone Sengsoulichan



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