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Seed Pathology in Thailand

James B. Sinclair

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May/June 1981

International Soybean Program, INTSOY

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International Soybean Program, INTSOY
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Trip Report - Thailand

- I. NAME: James B. Sinclair
Professor of International Plant Pathology/UIUC and INTSOY
- II. PERIOD OF TRAVEL: 29 May through 21 June 1981
- III. ITINERARY:
- Depart Champaign 0700 - 29 May
Arrive Bangkok 2230 - 30 May
- Depart Bangkok 0900 - 20 June
Arrive Hongkong 1130
- Depart Hongkong 1210 - 21 June
Arrive Champaign 2300 - 21 June
- IV. PURPOSES:
1. To respond to a request from the Royal Thailand Government and USAID/Thailand for assistance in the establishment of a research program in controlling seedborne microorganisms of soybeans, peanuts, mungbean, vegetables, corn, and sorghum.
 2. To conduct an informal seed pathology short course for members of the Department of Agriculture, Seed and Post Harvest Pathology Division.
 3. To visit seed processing facilities to collect and plan for the seed health testing of a variety of seeds.
 4. To discuss present and future cooperative efforts between various organizations of Thailand and INTSOY.
- V. ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS CONTACTED:
- Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives:
- Department of Agriculture
- Dr. Riksh Syamanonda, Deputy Director-General
Dr. Arwooth Na Lampang, Director, Field Crop Division
Mr. Amnuay Thongdee, Deputy-Chief, Oil Crop Branch
Mr. Preecha Surin, Head, Oil Crop Diseases Branch
Dr. Pornpod Thongmeearkom, Plant Pathology Division
Ms. Patra Achavasmit, Plant Pathology Division

Department of Agriculture, continued

Mrs. Dara Buangsuwon, Chief, Seed & Post Harvest Pathology Division
Mr. Nopporn Nabheerong, Ass't. Chief
Ms. Anong Nach, Seed Pathologist
Mrs. Ganjana, Seed Pathologist
Mr. Thanon Sookchareon, Post Harvest Pathologist
Dr. Uematsu, Bacteriologist, (Japan)

Department of Agriculture Extension

Mr. Petcharat Wannapee, Seed Division
Dr. Bill Gregg, Seed Division (USAID) (MSU)
Mr. George Dougherty, Seed Division (USAID) (MSU)

Kasetsart University, Bangkhen and Kampaendsan Campuses

Dr. Phaitoon Ingkasuwan, Rector
Dr. Chalermnarb Chuaiprasit, Head, Department of Plant Pathology
Dr. Thammasek Sommartaya, Department of Plant Pathology
Dr. Pairoj Buangsuwon, Plant Pathologist
Mr. Udom Pupipat, Department of Plant Pathology
Dr. Swarng Charwenying, Department of Entomology
Dr. Peersak Srinivas, Department of Agronomy (soybean breeder)

USAID

Dr. Sidney Bowers
Dr. Bill Gregg, Seed Technologist
Dr. George Dougherty, Seed Technologist

Mississippi State University

Dr. Howard Potts, Seed Technologist

CYMMT

Dr. Bobby Renfro, Maize Specialist (pathology)
Dr. Gene Saari, Wheat Specialist (pathology)

VI. RESULTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Conducted an informal seed pathology short course for members of the Seed and Post Harvest Pathology Division, DA. Members from the Plant Pathology Division also attended.
2. Visited seed processing stations in Chainat and Lopburi Provinces to collect seeds for assay.
3. Visited with personnel in the Seed Division, Department of Agriculture Extension.

4. Visited with personnel of the Department of Plant Pathology and the new research-office building on the Kasetsart, Bangkhen Campus.
5. Gave two seminars, one at the Kasetsart University, Kampaendsan Campus and one at the Department of Agriculture, Bangkhen.
6. Discussed possible cooperative program development with administrators, staff and faculty of several organizations.

VII. OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS:

1. Seed pathology is just beginning to be developed in Thailand. With the establishment of the seed processing facilities at several locations in Thailand, it is imperative that a core of well-trained people be available to assist the personnel at these stations to recognize and control pathological factors that will reduce seed quality. The core of trained people can assist in assays as well as in training personnel at these stations. I do not believe that a seed pathologist needs to be placed at each station.
2. The seed and post harvest pathology group was very responsive to the short course. Some of the members of that group should have additional training and updating in their specialties. Nondegree training might be considered.
3. The potential of building a cooperative program between the various institutions in Thailand and the UIUC is very great. There is a strong interest in beginning with program development between INTSOY and the Department of Plant Pathology. Faculty and student exchange should be considered. The Thai scientists would like to have any faculty member consider taking sabbatical leave in Thailand. With the new facilities at the Kampaendsan Campus (College of Agriculture), the Thais can provide excellent laboratory facilities.

VIII. FOLLOW-UP ACTION:

1. In addition to the large amount of material on seed pathology and control of seedborne pathogens delivered during this visit, additional material was requested. All of these requests have been filled.
2. Plans for a possible lecture-laboratory short course to be given in the Fall, 1981 are being developed and will be forwarded to the Seed and Post Harvest Pathology Laboratory.
3. Plans for additional consulting in the Fall 1981 are being considered.
4. Arrange for the mailing of a gift of books and journals dealing with the agriculture sciences to the Kasetsart University libraries at Bangkhen and Kampaendsan Campuses.
5. Prepare for the visit to UIUC campus of Dr. Riksh Syamanonda, Deputy Director-General, Department of Agriculture in November 1981. He will be accompanied by two other scientists.