

IPM IL Trip Report

Country(s) Visited: Cambodia

Dates of Travel: 29 Nov – 5 Dec 2016

Travelers Names and Affiliations: Douglas G. Pfeiffer, Corey S. Riedel. Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech

Purpose of Trip: Attend planning meeting for EPIC project (Ecologically-based Participatory IPM Packages for Rice in Cambodia), associated with the IPM IL program in Southeast Asia.

Sites Visited: The conference was held in Phnom Penh. Field visits in Prey Veng Province, to learn about a student research project. We also visited CARDI facility south of Phnom Penh, and nearby rice plantings in Takeo Province. Prey Veng and Takeo are major centers of rice production in southeastern Cambodia, in the Mekong/Bassack River system.

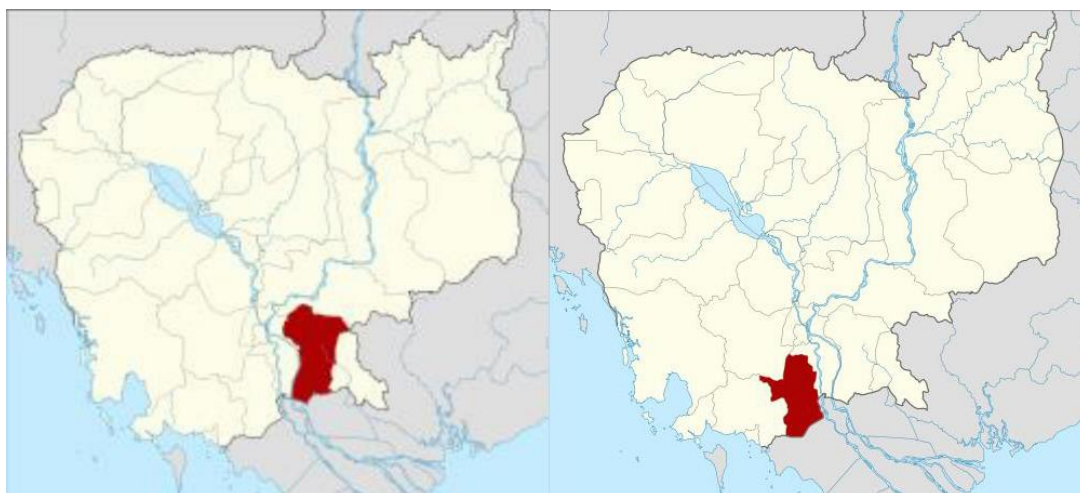


Fig.1. Prey Veng (left) and Takeo (right) provinces, centers of rice production visited during Dec 2016 trip.

Description of Activities/Observations:

We attended the planning meeting and learned about the design of the project, and first year results of project research. We met others involved with Cambodian rice production, and specifically with this project. There were fruitful discussions on the nature of our graduate research project, with exploratory discussions with potential members of a Graduate Advisory Committee. On the afternoon of Dec 2, we visited a project research site in Prey Veng, and observed a replicated trial incorporating relevant rice varieties, and *Trichoderma* amendments. Rodent management was also a subject of research at this site. The day following the planning meeting, we visited rice plantings in Takeo, on the west bank of a lake, Boun Cheung Loung, guided by Samoul Oeurn, a CARDI staff member. At this site, we observed an infestation of rice stem borer. En route back to Phnom Penh, we stopped at the CARDI research lab southwest of

the city. We saw rice pests in both field and greenhouse, including rice stem borer and rice leaffolder. Initial explorations were made on living arrangements for Riedel in the summer of 2017. While two of the contacts were known to Pfeiffer, valuable introductions and discussions were possible for Riedel. The trip was extremely valuable to both travelers, in orienting to this new project.



Fig. 2. Pfeiffer and Riedel at IPM IL research site in Prey Veng



Fig. 3. Rice stem borer and its injury in a rice planting in Takeo.

Training Activities Conducted: n/a

Suggestions, Recommendations, and/or Follow-up Items:

Additional funding should be sought to provide needed support for this project on rice insect pest management/biological control. This would assure adequate supplies and travel to research sites, with the possibility of travel to IRRI-Philippines to carry out controlled studies.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
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