

IPM Innovation Lab Trip Report

Country Visited: Egypt

Dates of Travel: November 2nd to 14th, 2017

Travelers Names and Affiliations: R Muniappan, Director, IPM Innovation Lab

Purpose of Trip: To attend the 12th Arab Congress of Plant Protection

Sites Visited: Hurghada, Luxor, and Cairo

Description of Activities/Observations:

I left Blacksburg on Nov. 2, 2017 and reached Cairo on Nov. 4th at 6:45 pm.

I took a bus on Nov. 4th from Cairo at 7:00 am and reached Hurghada at 4:00 pm.

On Nov. 5th, the 12th Arab Congress of Plant Protection inaugural session took place. At 11:00 am, I gave my keynote address, “Building Bridges between Disciplines for Sustainable Crop Protection.” In the afternoon, I co-chaired the symposium on *Tuta absoluta* with Dr. Ahmed Heneidy. The congress continued until Nov. 9th with an one day field trip to Luxor on Nov. 7th. In addition to four days of oral presentations, there were 100 posters.

There were 300 participants from Albania, Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and the USA.

On Nov. 10th, I traveled from Hurghada to Cairo by bus. On Nov. 11th, I met with Dr. Shobhy Ahmed Temerak and discussed his work on parasitoids in Egypt. He gave me a copy of his booklet “Historical Records of Parasitoids in Egypt.”

On 13th at 8:30 am I met with Dr. Walid Salaam, Country Representative of the ACIDI VOCA value chain project on horticultural crops in Egypt. At 9:45 am I met with Dr. Ahmed Heneidy and Ms. Annie Steed. All three of us visited the Biological Control Laboratory at Cairo University where Dr. Asraf Arnaouty gave us a tour. The laboratory is culturing *Trichogramma*, coccinellids, *Chrysoperla*, *Opius*, and other natural enemies and supplying them to farmers.

I left Cairo on Nov. 14th at 2:00 am and reached Blacksburg at 7:30 pm.