

IPM Innovation Lab Trip Report

Country Visited: Nepal

Dates of Travel: January 24 to February 4, 2018.

Travelers Name and Affiliation: R. Muniappan, Director, IPM Innovation Lab

Purpose of Trip: To meet with Tribhuvan University, Agriculture and Forestry University faculty, graduate students involved in the Climate Change and Biodiversity project, and to attend the annual meeting of the Vegetable Crops IPM project for Asia.

Sites Visited: Kathmandu and Nepalganj in Nepal.

Description of Activities/Observations:

I left Blacksburg at noon on January 24th and reached Washington DC in the evening. On January 25th, I attended a meeting to review proposals of the Western IPM Center at the USDA building. I traveled to Kathmandu on January 28th at 10.30 am. On January 26th, I traveled to Nepal via Newark and New Delhi and reached Kathmandu at noon January 28th.

January 28th: Drs. Amer Fayad and Elvis Heinrichs joined me in the afternoon. Three of us met with Dr. Pramod Jha, Professor Emeritus, Tribhuvan University in the evening.

January 29th: Drs. Amer Fayad, Elvis Heinrichs and I attended presentations of thesis topics by the graduate students of the Tribhuvan University and Agricultural and Forest University organized by Drs. Pramod Jha and Mohan Sivakoti. Five PhD and 12 MSc students were in the project. We interacted with the students and provided constructive suggestions. There were 12 men and 8 women in the meeting.

January 30th: We discussed with Drs. Pramod Jha and Krishna Poudel on re-orienting the Climate Change and Biodiversity project to collect information on the effect of climate change in Nepal on migration of invasive and native flora.

January 31st: Attended review meeting of the Nepal aspect of the Vegetable Crops and Mango IPM for Asia project at the iDE office.

February 1st: Traveled to Nepalganj and visited vegetable fields where IPM IL experiments were conducted.

February 2nd: Traveled to Kathmandu from Nepalganj. Because of the flight delay, the appointment with the USAID mission was cancelled. In the afternoon, I attended a planning meeting of the Nepal part of the Vegetable Crops and Mango IPM for Asia project at the iDE

office. In the evening, I met with Dr. Pramod Jha for further planning to restart the Climate Change and Biodiversity project.

February 3rd: I left Kathmandu in the morning and returned to Blacksburg the evening of February 4th.

Contacts made:

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