

Feed the Future: Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management Trip Report

Country(s) Visited: USA to Kenya and back

Dates of Travel: 05/16/2018 to 08/16/2018

Travelers' Names and Affiliations: Denis Nyamu, Ohio State University

Purpose of Trip: Traveling to Kenya to conduct on site experiments associated with MS degree

Sites Visited: Farms in tomato regions in Kenya, including Kirinyaga, Embu and Nyeri counties

Description of Activities/Observations:

Denis Nyamu traveled to Kenya to work during the summer in his field experiments. This was the first of two summers where he will do field work in Kenya.

The work Denis did was part of our East Africa Vegetable IPM Innovation Lab project. Denis Nyamu, who started as a graduate student at The Ohio State University in autumn 2017, conducted research work in Kenya during the summer of 2018. His research concentrated on the management of *Tuta absoluta* on tomatoes as part of our IPM package. Denis was supervised by Dr. Jesca Mbaka during his stay in Kenya.

During this year, Denis was able to develop protocols to collect *Tuta absoluta* larvae from field tomato and then move them to new plants in the greenhouse. The larvae successfully survived and will be used to develop the laboratory and field protocols for trials that will be used in the summer of 2019. He was able to collect larvae from the field and from his greenhouse tests and brought them back to the US for further molecular analysis. Denis was able to obtain samples from larvae reared in a colony that has not been exposed to insecticides. The colony is maintained by Dr. Samira Faris from ICIPE in Kenya. Denis has spend several months processing the samples he brought during the summer of 2018 and we expect to have results by autumn 2019.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Dr. Jesca Mbaka	KALRO	+254 722 882422; Jesca.Mbaka@kalro.org
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