

Trip Report

Name and Designation of the Traveler: R. Muniappan, Director, IPM Innovation Lab

Duration of Travel: October 27 – November 3, 2018.

Country Visited: Ethiopia.

Purpose of the Trip: To attend the International Conference on “Fall Armyworm Research-for-Development – Status and Priorities for Africa”.

Description:

October 25th: I left Blacksburg at noon. Traveled from Roanoke via Washington, DC to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

October 28th: Reached Addis Ababa at 7.15 am. At 1.00 pm attended the FAW USG Implementing Partner Meeting at the Hilton Hotel called by Regina Eddy. It was attended by Regina Eddy, Joe Huesing, Bryan Sobel, Gregg Nuessly, Adam Silagi, Seydou Samake, Jason Sandahl, Chris Peterson, Luis Sugiyama, Daniella Maor,

October 29th: Attended the International Conference on “Fall Armyworm Research-for-Development” at the African Union building. It was organized by CIMMYT, IITA, Africa Lead, USAID, and CABI. In the morning, after inaugural presentations, there were presentations from East, West, South, and Central Africa and Brazil, Mesoamerica and Florida. After lunch, there were presentations on FAW biology, host plant resistance, biological control, cultural control, pesticide safety, and impact assessment. Then I attended the breakout session on Biological Control. At dinner, chemical companies presented their products.

October 30: I was sick and could not attend the meeting

October 31: Participated in the FAW conference and FAW Consortium meeting. There were presentations on policy and at the end, it was agreed that IPM is best way to tackle FAW.

After lunch, I participated in the FAW International Consortium.

November 1st: Tadele Tefera, Malick Ba, and Tadele’s graduate student traveled to maize fields to collect FAW eggs and to check for parasitoids. We also found FAW infesting cabbage in the fields.

November 2nd: I met with Malick Ba in the morning and discussed different possible areas of research on pearl millet for preparation of a concept note for the recently released RFA from the Sorghum and Millets Innovation Lab. Left Addis Ababa at 11.15 pm.

November 3rd: Reached Blacksburg at 6.30 pm.