



Right decision, right strategy and right people: Keys to rice cultivation management



A public and private partnership initiative trains over 15,000 rice farmers, pesticide retailers and extension officers in Viet Nam to work in collaborations to overcome an inappropriate use of chemicals in the agricultural sector.

In recent years, outbreaks of such pests as brown and white-backed plant-hoppers caused by inappropriate agricultural practices, particularly the overuse and misuse of pesticides, have been reported in Viet Nam. The country needs to find alternative yet environmentally friendly solutions to the current pest management scheme including the safe use of pesticides.

Concept

With an aim to strengthen knowledge and skills of government extension staff, farmers and pesticide retailers in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to make mindful decisions for the responsible and safe use of pesticides, over 15,000 farmers, 500 pesticide retailers, and 39 extension officers in Dong Thap, Hau Giang and Kien Giang provinces are trained in sustainable rice practices. It comprises three main cooperation activities: Training of Trainers (ToT); Direct Farmer Training and Farmer to Farmer (indirect) Training; and Retailer Training

Promotion of Integrated Pest Management to address plant hopper outbreaks in Rice



Country Viet Nam, Cambodia

Partner

- Plant Protection Department (PPD), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
- Croplife International
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Implemented by ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems



Contact

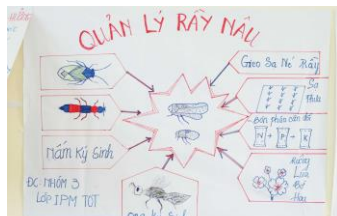
Dr. Matthias Bickel

Project Director, ASEAN Sustainable Agrifood Systems

M: +66 81 938 8130

E: matthias.bickel@giz.de

W: www.asean-agrifood.org



Approach

Starting with the Master Trainers

Staff from the local Sub Plant Protection Department in the three provinces receive the training and become Master Trainers to train groups of small-holder farmers and retailers. The training provides knowledge skills about IPM, learning material development and facilitation skills through adult education training methods.

Transforming farmers to researchers and analysts

The training for farmers consists of 12 weekly modules based on various stages of rice growing from seedling, development, growing and ripening focusing on rice ecosystem analysis, farming technology, main pests and disease management, pesticide application and spraying techniques, and personal protective equipment.

Making retailers as plant doctors

The training engages the retailer participants in the context of farmers' rice production and in discussions on how to identify good advice for farmers in the responsible application of pesticides. It is carried out in a four-day block between the end of the old and the beginning of the new rice growing season.

Message from Farmer

“Pesticide application must be based on rice field ecology and pest injury levels. During the training we learned about ecological cycles and how to make the precise field decisions at every rice stage. And because of this, I can save money through reduced applications of pesticides and fungicides in my rice field,” said Mr. Nguyen Van Yen, rice farmer in Truong Xuan Village, ThapMuoi District, DongThap province.

Mr. Van Yen said he was very happy with the rice yield and input savings at the end of this pilot season and would apply his new knowledge and skills in the IPM model in his next cropping season while also transferring it to other colleague farmers.

Message from Agriculture Retailer

“The IPM training provides recent updates, new knowledge, and approaches to pesticide application in terms of different active ingredients and how they relate to insect resistance management. I will use these experiences and knowledge for my business after completing the training course,” said Mr. Ho Ngoc Liem, an agricultural retailer in Long Binh Village, Long My Town, Hau Giang Province

Message from Sub Plant Protection Department

“The training helps retailers to make responsible business in pesticides and guides them to become doctors for plants. Retailers can give good advice to help farmers make better decisions in the rice fields. They will also gain greater benefits for their business by providing the good advice to the farmers,” said Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy, Deputy Director of Hau Giang Sub Plant Protection Department.

