PLANT PROTECTION PROFILE 2009-2010

VIETNAM

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Overall Executive Summary

Outstanding Issues

During the last two years (2009-2010), Vietnam continued to strengthen and improve its plant health system. Great attention is paid to the reform of pesticide management regulations on food safety and pesticide trading and use at the commune level. Esepcially, the Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine is being drafted and will be submitted to the Assembly in 2013. This Law provides for prevention and eradication of pest outbreaks to plant resources, for plant quarantine, management pesticides, practicing of plant protection and quarantine and State management of plant protection and quarantine.

Great efforts have been made in controlling pest outbreaks on rice, particularly the Southern Black Streaked Dwarf Virus Disease (SBSDVD) in the North and Rice Ragged Stunt virus (RRSV)/ Rice Grassy Stunt Virus (RGSV) in the South… As a result, rice production in 2009 and 2010 continued to increase to 38.9 and 39.8 million tonnes respectively, and the national food security was maintained.

For capacity building purpose, a lot of programs were carried out in different fields. Farmer and trainer training courses on plant protection and pesticide application were organized nationwide, both by State budget and international supports. In quarantine sectors, training focussed on quarantine officers and fumigation companies…

Plant Protection

Vietnam has developed a plant protection network from the Central level to the commune level to have timely direction and guidance for production. Especially, the country is making efforts to empower the commune authorities in managing the pesticide use and trading, and the farmers in managing the pests and crops based on IPM principles. In order to fulfill the plant protection tasks, besides the regular activities a lot of projects and programs were implemented in 2009-2010.

In 2010, various pest outbreaks happened at higher level than some previous years. In the North, SBSDVD, transmitted by white back plant hopper, spread to 52,800 ha in 33 provinces; brown plant hopper (BPH) infested around 1,082,000 ha; and small leaf folder affected 1,189,434 ha… In the South, the area influenced by stunt virus diseases RGSV and RRSV was reduced to 420 ha. To control the disease infestation various measures were taken, including IPM, field cleaning, migratory avoidance, seedling protection... At the same time, technical cooperation with neighboring countries and international organizations were strengthened (China, IRRI, FAO…) to exchange and share the experiences on sustainable management of the pests. As a result, the loss was much reduced in comparison with 2009.

The National IPM Program has IPM trainers in 63 provinces and cities. In 2009-2010, with the supports from FAO, Norway, Oxfam Quebec, Oxfam America, Oxfam…, 4 IPM courses for training of trainers were conducted for 120 trainers of 22 provinces, and 2,333 farmer field schools (FFS) for

87,800 farmers. In the IPM training curriculum, field studies on variety selection, fertilizer and pesticide application… were carried out. The IPM also promoted the application of VietGAP and the market access for farmers' products.

To adapt the climate change, Biodiversity Use and Conservation in Asia Programme (BUCAP) was actively maintained in 200 communes of 13 provinces, involving 67,834 rice farmers. The program also utilized FFS approach to promote the Plant Genetic Resource Management. The farmers could learn how to rehabilitate, multiply and breed rice varieties. Notably, farmers in some provinces bred new rice varieties which were certified and multiplied to supply seed for seed companies and other localities.

Apart from the above mentioned programs, some others were also implemented, including SRI, 3 Reductions – 3 Gains, 1 Must-5 Reductions, and potato production with minimum tillage technique… Specifically, in 2010 (two cropping seasons), SRI - introduced as a follow-up of IPM FFS - was applied in 286,053 ha in 22 northern provinces and participated in by 781,282 farmers. Remarkably, SRI has been recognized as a technical advance by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The potato production by minimum tillage technique which utilized rice stubble was developed in 2009 in the North of Vietnam and quickly became an effective solution to minimize the stubble burning. This helped to mitigate the harm to the environment and reduce the production costs (labor, water…). Estimatedly, it increased the yield over 10% in comparison with the conventional practices. In 2010, the technique was applied in 14 Northern provinces. Briefly speaking, all the conducted programs helped farmers reduce seed, fertilizers and pesticides and, therefore, increase the profit.

Plant Quarantine

Pest record/identification

During 2009-2010, 248 cases of quarantine pest interception were reported, including:

- In 2009: 59 cases, particularly:
    - Bacterial wilt of maize (*Pantoea stewarii (*Smith) Mergaert et al) intercepted on maize imported into Vietnam from Thailand.
    - Potato tuber moth (*Phthorimaea operculella* (Zeller 1873) intercepted on potato imported from China.
    - Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium* Everts) intercepted on coconut oil-cake of Indonesia, wheat bran of Srilanca.
- In 2010: 189 cases. Especially, since August 2010 *Khapra beetle (Trogoderma granarium)* intercepted on corn, soya bean means, bailey and millet imported from India into Vietnam.
- In 2011, to 16th February 2011, *Khapra beetle (Trogoderma granarium)* intercepted on 104 consignments imported from India into Vietnam.

New regulations/decisions

- Decree.02/2007/ND-CP of the government on plant quarantine dated 5 January 2007.
- Decision No.34/2007/QD-BNN of 23 April 2007 publishing the list of regulated articles subject to pest risk analysis before importing into Vietnam.
- Decision No.48/2007/QD-BNN of 29 May 2007, Regulation Procedure for issuance of the phytosanitary import permit for articles subject to pest risk analysis before importing into Vietnam.

- Decision No.89/QD-BNN of 29 October of Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development promulgating regulations on state management on fumigation practice for regulated articles.
- New Law on Plant Protection is being drafted and will be submitted to the National Assembly in 2013.

Projects/program cooperation

- Improvement of Plant Quarantine treatment against Fruit Fly on fresh fruits (JICA), finished in 2008
- Dragon fruit has been approved and entered into US market since October 2008
- Two irradiation treatment facilities established in ABC Company and Son Son Company
- One vapor heat treatment facility established by Yashaka Company
- Vietnam Methyl bromide phase out plan: ongoing with WB funding
- NZAID phytosanitary capacity building in the Mekong region: going to terminate (NPD development is ongoing).