

Vegetables :

From Seed to Table and Beyond

Course Objectives

The 30th International Vegetable Training Course of AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center aims to enhance technical, scientific and managerial skills of the participants to be able to contribute to sustainable development of their countries through increased production and consumption of health-promoting vegetables. The training emphasizes advanced and sustainable vegetable production and postharvest technologies, farmer education, marketing and human health and nutrition. In addition, the training will enhance awareness and understanding of emerging global development issues and technologies.

Who should attend

Researchers and extensionists from national and international agricultural research institutes, universities, non-governmental organizations, and policymakers to improve their knowledge and management skills through three separate but interrelated one-month long modules.

Training method

Lecturers and presenters hail from AVRDC, Kasetsart University, Thailand's Department of Agriculture and Agricultural Extension as well as from various local and international organizations. Learning will be through a balanced mix of lectures, hands-on exposure, group discussions, laboratory sessions, and field trips. Because the modules will be presented in English, a certain level of oral and written English proficiency is required to fully benefit from the course.

Training venue

AVRDC Research and Training Station, Regional Office East and Southeast Asia
Kamphaeng Saen, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

Fellowship

AVRDC does not provide any scholarships. Interested applicants without funding may seek financial support from other agencies.



Kasetsart University International Dormitory

Accommodation

Participants will be accommodated at the International Dormitory of Kasetsart University Kamphaeng Saen campus. The single rooms are air-conditioned and equipped with own bathroom, TV and internet connection.

Course fee

The course fee is USD 6,600 per person for three modules. Individual modules cost USD 2,200 each. Fees cover tuition, board and lodging, course materials and local transportation.

Comments from previous participants

"The topics in Module I are excellent and focus on the realities for achieving sustainable vegetable production." - **Dembo Dibba (Gambia)**

"The approach is very practical and the concepts of postharvest, marketing and nutrition were clearly presented in Module II." - **Rajiv Ahuja (India)**

"This training has given me more information and ideas than other trainings I have attended" - **Torialay Sherzad (Afghanistan)**

"The practical training will be helpful for my work as an agricultural extension worker." - **Zin Ko Win (Myanmar)**

For further information and application forms, please contact:

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12 September
to
2 December
2011



30th International Vegetable Training Course

Vegetables : From Seed to Table and Beyond

AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center
East and Southeast Asia
Bangkok, Thailand



AVRDC

The World Vegetable Center



Module I: From Seed to Harvest

12 September to 7 October 2011

Module I focuses on the essentials of integrated vegetable production within the framework of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Relevant technologies on seed production, seed health and seedling management will be shared to the participants. An overview on how to facilitate and manage farmer education programs is included.

Week 1: Seed Health and Seedling Management

Topics cover seed production, role of private seed companies in the vegetable industry, and a two-day intensive seminar entitled "Seed Health Testing." This seminar includes hand-on laboratory practice and lectures on identifying seed-borne diseases for seed quarantine, production, and storage purposes. Participants will attend a Vegetable Farmer Field School.

Week 2: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Vegetable Breeding

The essentials of vegetable production following GAP protocols will be discussed with field trips to GAP certified farms. There will be lectures on vegetable breeding and seed production. A session on statistics relevant for agricultural research and development purposes is also included.

Week 3: Integrated Disease Management

The whole week is dedicated to lectures, laboratory and field exercises on vegetable diseases. Experiences from academia as well as research and development projects related to vegetable disease management will be shared to the participants.

Week 4: Integrated Pest Management

Activities will focus on managing insect pests and weeds of vegetables using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies through lectures and field/laboratory exercises.

Application deadline: 15 August 2011



Module II: From Harvest to Table

10 October to 4 November 2011

Module II aims to create awareness of efficient harvesting and postharvest technologies within the framework of Good Agricultural and Manufacturing Practices (GAP/GMP). A better understanding of the economics of vegetable production and marketing is part of the curriculum.

Week 1: Good Agricultural and Manufacturing Practices (GAP/GMP)

Lectures will focus on the essentials of good agricultural and manufacturing processes (GAP/GMP). Field trips to retail and wholesale markets will be arranged to enable the participants to interact with market vendors, buyers, and vegetable farmers.

Week 2: Vegetable Postharvest Technologies

Lectures and hands-on exposure (laboratory and field) will focus on both low cost and advanced vegetable postharvest technologies. This includes appropriate packaging and design. As regards food safety issues, a lecture and practicum on the rapid methods for pesticide residue analysis is provided.

Week 3: Vegetable Economics and Marketing

Lectures and exercises on the economics and market analysis of vegetable production and marketing systems will be the main topic. A field trip will expose participants to successful vegetable production and marketing sites in Thailand. This will include visits to private seed companies.

Week 4: Human Nutrition

Lectures and exercises will emphasize improved nutrition and health of rural and urban consumers through increased awareness, access, and consumption of nutritious, diverse, and safe vegetables. Special attention will be given to the importance of indigenous vegetables.

Application deadline: 12 September 2011



Module III: Vegetables for Sustainable Development

7 November to 2 December 2011

Module III will provide information on how vegetable research and development can contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. It will outline how vegetables link with other sectors and complement different development initiatives. Participants will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to conceptualize and implement research and development activities.

Week 1: Sustainable Development Issues and Community Organizing

An overview of different development issues will be presented and discussed. Participants will be introduced to the fundamentals of effective leadership, community organizing, cooperatives, microfinance and gender.

Week 2: Environment and Natural Resources

Appropriate approaches that will enhance the climate resilience of vegetable growers and conserve natural resources will be presented. Additional topics include ecological sanitation, participatory planning approaches, GIS and remote sensing as well as urban and peri-urban horticulture. Lectures on disaster preparedness, mitigation and risk management complement this week.

Week 3: Proposal Writing, Project Monitoring & Evaluation

Essentials of proposal writing, project monitoring & evaluation and appropriate presentation to different stakeholders will be provided in lectures and practical exercises.

Week 4: Development Action Plans/Closing

Participants will prepare and present their development action plans for possible implementation once they return to their duty stations. A closing and farewell program is scheduled on the last day.

Application deadline: 10 October 2011

