

Meeting on RYMV was held

To confirm the present situation of Rice Yellow Mottle Virus Disease (RYMV) and discuss the things that have to be done to minimize the damage of the disease, a stakeholders' meeting was held on 17th October, 2013 at MIAD.

Staff of KARI Mwea, KEPHIS Embu, SCAO Mwea East, SCAO Mwea West, MIAD, and RiceMAPP participated. Farmers facing problems of this disease also were invited.

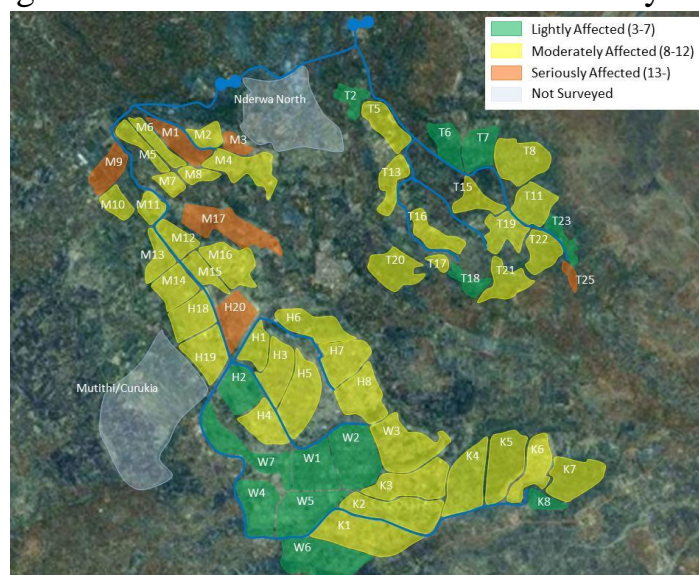
The meeting was commenced by an introductory lecture conducted by Mr. Seiji, a JICA expert of rice cultivation followed by discussion.

As results of meeting, Water Management section of RiceMAPP was mandated to make a map of damaged area. And KEPHIS Embu agreed to confirm RYMV in their laboratory.

After the meeting, in November 2013, the Water Management section made a map after their serious investigation works.

According to the map (*showed in right*), the disease was spread almost whole scheme.

KEPHIS Embu is still working with rice samples obtained from the area. The results of mechanical inoculations will come very soon.



Collaboration with SATREPS

SATREPS (The Project on Rice Research for Tailor made breeding and Cultivation Technology Development in Kenya) is another JICA project working for rice.



SATREPS, the project mainly handles research works. On the other hand, RiceMAPP has some advantages in extension works. RiceMAPP and SATREPS are expected to keep closer relationship. In near future, the appropriate techniques of rice cultivation developed by SATREPS will be introduced to farmers through RiceMAPP.

In left picture, RiceMAPP staff is explaining survey methods to an expert of SATREPS.

Long Rain Season 2014

Main production period of 2013 was over and sequential cropping season of 2014 was started. RiceMAPP is busily working for preparation of their experimental fields following quick harvest and post harvest activities of SR 2013.

For LR 2014, the RiceMAPP will pay more emphasizing the importance of levelling of the paddy field, line planting, and frequent weeding using push-weeder.

Experimental field D-8 was prepared with two (2) different levelling practices. One is conventional method with rotary tillage and levelling made by animal traction. Another treatment was with manual levelling done after the methods above. The field was transplanted in same density with distance between rows 30cm, which allow us to use push weeders.

In well levelled field, even growth and higher yield are expected.



A part of the field D-8 was levelled manually by using wooden levellers (left).

Push-weeders are used for weeding every two (2) weeks (right).

New Chief Advisor

Mr.Takahiro ANNO, the first chief advisor of RiceMAPP finished his contract and left Kenya for going home at the end of January, 2014. Thank you very much Mr.ANNO.



Mr.TAZAWA (left) and Mr.ANNO (Right)

RiceMAPP expresses her sincere thanks and wishes Mr.ANNO's success and a bright future. To replace him, Mr.Hiroyuki TAZAWA was dispatched as a new chief advisor. Mr.TAZAWA has rich experience in technical cooperation works in agriculture especially in Pakistan and Tanzania. RiceMAPP welcomes Mr.TAZAWA.