



Workshop on recent advances on *Tuta absoluta* management

Justification

The new, rapid introduction and spread of the South American tomato leaf miner, *Tuta absoluta* (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae), an invasive species into Taiwan, threatens tomato production and has important consequences for the country's environment, ecology, and economy. *Tuta* has a high reproductive potential; larvae feed on tomato plants producing large galleries in leaves, burrowing in stalks, and consuming apical buds and fruits. This invasive pest can destroy tomato plants during all growth stages, leading to 100% loss if timely control measures are not taken. To manage this pest on an immediate basis, farmers are primarily relying on chemical pesticides. However, the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides to manage *Tuta* could result in the rapid development of resistance, harmful pesticide residues on fruits, and other concerns. Studies on integrated pest management strategies for *Tuta* have been conducted by WorldVeg in different geographical regions, and this information has been successfully used to develop and pilot an integrated pest management (IPM) package in major tomato producing regions. Given the successful efforts in controlling *Tuta* in other countries, the World Vegetable Center sees as a high priority the sharing of our results with Taiwan government agencies, academia, seed and biopesticide companies to promote safe, environmentally sound strategies when controlling this new invasive insect pest across the country.



50 participants



May 19, 2021



9:00-16:30 hrs

Who should attend:

Professionals working in agricultural extension, research and development who want to enhance their knowledge on *T. absoluta* management, early to mid-career staff from government agencies (TARI, TACTRI, DARES, BAPHIQ, etc.), universities in Taiwan, seed and biopesticide companies.



World Vegetable Center



PROGRAM

Time	Topic	Speaker
08:30-9:00	Arrival of participants / Registration	
09:00-9:10	Welcome remarks	Marco Wopereis, Director General, World Vegetable Center
09:10-9:20	Opening remarks	Shyh-Shyan (Dennis) Wang, Director General, Dept. of Science and Technology, Council of Agriculture
09:20-9:30	Brief introduction to the World Vegetable Center	Maureen Mecozzi, Director, Communications and Information, World Vegetable Center
09:30-10:00	Coffee break	
10:00-10:10	Group photo	
10:10-10:50	General overview: origins, distribution, spread, host plants, damage, and economic impact	Srinivasan Ramasamy, Flagship Program Leader for Safe and Sustainable Value Chains & Lead Entomologist, World Vegetable Center
10:50-11:30	Insect resistance / Consideration of breeding aspects for <i>Tuta absoluta</i>	Peter Hanson, Global Plant Breeding Lead Scientist, World Vegetable Center
11:40-13:00	Lunch buffet	
13:00-14:00	Field visit	Srinivasan Ramasamy/Peter Hanson/ Paola Sotelo-Cardona
14:10-15:00	<i>Tuta absoluta</i> IPM research at WorldVeg (Chemical control, host plant resistance, biological control, biopesticides)	Paola Sotelo-Cardona, Scientist – Entomology, World Vegetable Center
15:00-16:00	Plenary / Open discussion with participants	Srinivasan Ramasamy
16:00-16:20	Coffee break / Networking / Free meetings	
16:20-16:30	Closing remarks	Yann-rong Lin, Deputy Director General – Partnerships, World Vegetable Center
16:30	Departure of participants	

Venue: Multipurpose Hall



World Vegetable Center