DIANA CAROLINA SANCHEZ-MENDEZ: Colombia

Enhancing Mutagenesis and Biotechnology

Diana Carolina Sanchez-Mendez, a visiting scientist from the Proteoma's Group, Universidad Distrital Francisco Jose de Caldas, Bogotá, Colombia, is currently on a 9-month, IAEA sponsored training Fellowship in Dr. Thomas H. Tai´s laboratory (U.S. Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service and the University of California) in Davis, CA, USA. Dr. Tai's laboratory conducts research on induced mutations in rice generated by chemical (e.g., NaN_3, MNU, and EMS) and gamma-irradiation using DNA sequencing technologies, microarray analysis and TILLING (targeting of induced local lesions in genomes) by sequencing. Ms. Sanchez-Mendez is learning applications of various PCR-based markers, next-generation sequencing of DNA/cDNA, and TILLING.

Ms. Sanchez-Mendez is actually participating in an IAEA funded project "COL 5023: Enhancing Mutagenesis and Biotechnology Used In the Improvement of Rice" The objective of this project is to increase the genetic variability of rice in Colombia through radiation induced mutagenesis for use in the national Programme for the Genetic Improvement of Rice. After training, Researcher Sanchez Mendez will return to Colombia to apply her new knowledge during the execution of the IAEA project COL 5023.

In Colombia, Ms. Sanchez Mendez is part of the research group PROTEOMA, within the agreement FEDEARROZ (National Rice Found) – Universidad Distrital – AIEA.

Trained 5/3/2010—2/3/2011