

Fellowship Profile

IAEA PROGRAMS
AT ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Food Safety

TRAINING SUMMARY

A couple colleagues and I attended a training at the U.S Department of Agriculture in Honolulu and Hilo Hawaii on Crop Production from July 22nd to August 2nd 2024. We trained under the guidance of Dr. Peter Follet and had the opportunity to meet lead researchers and experts in the field like Dr. Marisa Wall, Director of the Center, and Dr. Nicolas Manoukis.

In Honolulu, we explored APHIS preclearance operations, plant inspection, phytosanitary irradiation at Pa'ina Hawaii LLC, and pineapple germplasm at Dole. In Hilo, we engaged in seminars and tours covering topics like molecular ID of Asian citrus psyllid predators, fruit fly rearing, IPM for macadamia nuts and coffee, X-ray and irradiation equipment, and insect genomics. We also visited a commercial x-ray facility and participated in hands-on exercises, such as harmonic radar for insect dispersal and nematode-based pest management. The visit emphasized advanced pest control, irradiation techniques, and agricultural research.

WHATS NEXT?

The goal of my scientific visit was to boost the skills and expertise of researchers in Phytosanitary Irradiation (PI). First, I'll strengthen research collaboration by connecting Indonesian researchers with international experts to enhance our PI capabilities. I'm also focused on fostering institutional partnerships, working closely with the Indonesian Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), the Indonesian Quarantine Authority (IQA), and the International Atomic Energy Agency to support PI in Indonesia. I aim to strengthen the government's commitment, ensuring key bodies like the Ministry of Agriculture, IQA, BRIN, and universities are aligned in tackling fruit flies with advanced technologies. I'll also build effective teams to implement PI techniques and strategies, and I'm eager to share our research findings with stakeholders, exporters, and farmers to encourage widespread adoption. These follow-up activities will ensure that the insights from my visit lead to real progress in PI research and its application in Indonesia!



“It is very important to enhance self-competence. With the competence we develop [during our visit] we can help many people in need.”

Murni Indarwatmi- Indonesia

July 22nd to August 2nd 2024

Hosted by: U.S Department of Agriculture