

Fellowship Profile

IAEA PROGRAMS
AT ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Dosimetry and Medical Physics

TRAINING SUMMARY

I participated in a 2 week training program on Food Safety at the Daniel K. Inouye U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center in Hilo, Hawaii. The visits to the Pa`lna Hawaii irradiation facility, Kea`au irradiation facility and USDA- ARS Research X Ray Equipment provided useful illustrations on the applications, benefits, limitations, and challenges of the different types of irradiators and the types of produce being treated. It was interesting to visit these relatively small-scale treatment plants since their use appear more comparable and achievable for small countries like Mauritius as compared to large-scale treatment plants.

Dr. Peter Follett, Research Entomologist, has significant expertise and experience in phytosanitary treatment using irradiation and provided valuable insights on the decision-making process for the list of fresh produce to be treated. The visits to the USDA laboratories were inspiring and an eye-opening in the role of applied research in the transfer of technology.



WHATS NEXT?

At my workplace we had a preliminary list of produce to be potentially treated which was prepared before the Scientific visit. We will be reviewing it considering the new information obtained during the Scientific visit.

These data will change the direction of a feasibility study. Further partnerships with the host/ host institution will be sought for expert advice on the list of suppliers of irradiators, for the formalisation of documents and decision matrix for the feasibility study



“The Scientific visit was an inspiring and eye-opening experience and provided a live illustration of how scientists reach out in kindness to meet people’s needs, change livelihoods and impact lives.”

Christine Ip Kiun Chong- Mauritius

January 15th - 26th 2024

Hosted by: US Department of Agriculture