

# APNAN NEWS 22(1)

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## Asia Pacific Natural Agriculture Network

APNAN is  
sponsored by



*“Natural disasters such as storms and earthquakes are created by humans, and they suffer from these calamities, which are considered natural. However, nature truly works in a wonderful way. Humans are often amazed in the way that the laws of nature operate. They follow the same principles, which take place when impurities accumulate in the human body, and purification comes in the form of illnesses. Thus we humans should as much as possible live our lives in accordance with the laws of Nature.”*

*(Mokichi Okada 1882 – 1955)*

*(Adapted from the Book – Foundations of Paradise)*



## **ASIA PACIFIC NATURAL AGRICULTURE NETWORK.....**

APNAN, the little network, huddled within the Kularb Apartment in Saphankhwai, Bangkok, Thailand, was first established in 1989 with 13 member nations, and funded by the International Nature Farming Research Center, Atami, Japan, through the generous support of the Sekai Kyusei Kyo, Japan and Thailand. The mandate given at its inception was to elucidate the scientific basis and validity of Nature Farming and the technology of Effective Microorganisms (EM), which was integrated into the concepts of Nature Farming.

From small beginnings, the network moved on to facilitate research, information, producing EM, advising all interested on Nature Farming and training people from all walks of life. The network helped organize major conferences on Kyusei Nature Farming in four continents and was instrumental in presenting the identity of Nature Farming at international forums such as the IFOAM conferences. The network was also responsible for planting seeds of interest on the technology of Effective Microorganisms in all continents of the world and today EM is being blended into even chemical systems to reduce pollution to help preserve the environment for future generations, as advocated by Mokichi Okada, the founder of Nature Farming principles.

The network also provides training on Nature Farming and EM Technology to interested groups, using the excellent facilities offered at Saraburi Kyusei Nature Farming Center, managed by the Sekai Kyusei Kyo of Thailand. Information is disseminated, and the Newsletter developed and circulated thrice a year among a readership spanning all continents.

The network is run by a few staff and volunteers and is very efficient in its management of resources. Today it is sponsored by the EM Research Organization of Okinawa, the INFRC of Japan and is supported by the Sekai Kyusei Kyo of Japan and Thailand.

**All interested in the work of the network – please contact its office at**

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**FROM THE PEN OF THE EDITOR.....**  
**STEPPING INTO OUR 22<sup>ND</sup> YEAR .....**

*"\Nature acts in a mysterious and wonderful way – It follows the same procedure as that of a human body cleansing its impurities in the form of illness"*  
Mokichi Okada (1882 – 1955).

The year 2011 – began in its usual form at our little network APNAN, located in the Saphan Kwai quarter of Bangkok. After wishing everyone a very happy New Year, we started our work; little realizing what was in store for our mother nation, Japan and also to our dear friends in Christchurch, New Zealand where partner is located. However, within a few weeks, natural disasters in the form of earthquakes and tsunamis hit Japan and New Zealand (the first being in 2010). Lives were lost – property destroyed and a significant number of people affected by the trauma. This was a shock and there were many a tense moments in our little office, not knowing if family and friends were affected. We do have members who have family and friends in the affected zones of Japan and New Zealand, and we were worried about them – as communications were difficult. These were indeed tense moments until reality dawned upon us – that our contacts and family were at least safe.

Reflecting on these natural calamities, one tends to look back on the words of wisdom stated by many philosophers – especially scholars such as Mokichi Okada, who clearly saw the virtues of nature. These sages professed that we humans are moving at a pace that go against the laws of nature and one day, just like the human body reaching limits of stress tolerance and falling ill, nature will hit back! Evidence now emerges that a part of these natural calamities could be due to this reason! In mid May, the Christchurch City Council stated that the buildings destroyed in the center of this garden city were actually built on natural waterways flowing into the Avon river that wind through this garden city! The blockage of such natural systems would naturally cause ill effects –just like humans changing their natural forms, lifestyles and diets for short-term gains and experiencing repercussions many years later in the form of incurable diseases!

Reading such news items brings back memories of what the sages and men of wisdom spoke of – and we need to respect the nature and its systems that we live in. In this venture, we at APNAN are proud that we advocate Nature Farming for food production and a healthy lifestyle. These principles are clearly supported by the technology of Effective Microorganisms, which from its humble beginnings of use in Nature Farming has now moved to

environmental management to develop a better lifestyle for humans – using microbes found in all environments and used in the food industry as well! We do know that these bugs or microbes help humans to lead a better quality life – they are the small machines of recycling and environmental purification and we at APNAN are very happy that we promote these technologies, which today are used in over 140 nations in all continents! This brings us great pleasure, as we at this little network firmly believe that it was us who started this movement internationally. One redeeming feature of these calamities was that the technology we promote was used in times of crises! EM was used for environmental management – where volunteers used EM to control smells, and cleanse the environment, which were the biggest problems due to the damages caused to waste management systems. As we say quite often, wastes are not wastes unless we smell them! EM helps to overcome these immediate problems as shown in the news snippets within this newsletter – and even for the management of human wastes as shown by Kiwi ingenuity! Thus, we do congratulate our colleagues in Japan and New Zealand for their diligent activity in making their damaged environments more habitable until normality is resumed.

In the long term – this again brings us to the reality of respecting laws of nature, as advocated by Mokichi Okada. Farming within the laws of nature brings sustainable and bountiful results – and this has been proven by example. The work of our sponsors INFRC in Japan, and the models that we are developing in the member nations show this clearly, where diligent farmers are achieving yields similar to conventional chemical systems – and in addition on a sustainable basis – and the quality of the crops is remarkable – being free of any contaminants! Our major sponsors, EMRO is using EM for environmental management – and these two in combination, which we offer to the world through our little network will certainly make this earth a better place for all of us and our future generations.

As we meander through our 22<sup>nd</sup> year, we at APNAN feel fortunate! This was clearly evident during these times of crises where our technologies showed their power – and were examples for future possibilities of calamities. We are happy that INFRC and EMRO sponsor us – and we owe them gratitude. Thank you our sponsors – The International Nature Farming Research Center in Atami, Japan, EM Research Organization in Okinawa, – and also the Sekai Kyusei Kyo of Thailand, and its President, Revd. Daiho

Kasahara, who supports us. We offer our thanks to Mr. Kanit Muangnil and his assistant Masanobu Sakurai, who help us with workshops, trainings and with visitors. Our little network humbly wishes to express its gratitude to the President of Sekai Kyusei Kyo and the Head of the EM Laboratory and Board members of Sekai Kyusei Kyo, for their guidance - As we promote Nature Farming as advocated by Mokichi Okada, we request them to help and support this little network.

Our sincere gratitude is extended to Rev. K. Amano, Chairman, Board of Directors of INFRC, Mr. T. Harakawa, Senior Managing Director of INFRC, Mr. J. Yuzuriha, Managing Director, Mr. A. Ito, Manager of Extension Division of INFRC and Mr. H. Okubo, Head of the International Section of INFRC for their continued support –We say Domo Arigato Gozaimasu to Mr. Katsuyuki Asato, President and Board of Directors of EM Research Organization support and advice – without this, we would surely close!! We also offer our respects and heartfelt gratitude to our dear President Professor Dr. Teruo and Madam Setsuko Higa for their omnipresence and support at all times, although we do not seem as much as we wish to. This little network is managed by the very capable Yasushi Nishibuchi, who with one or at times two staff shoulders the responsibilities of doing the work of APNAN. They do it well and in harmony like the microbes in EM and the components of a successful natural ecosystem. We also have the helping hand of Ms. Siriporn (Ms. O) the administrative assistant to do our job very successfully. We also have the support of EMRO Asia led by the dynamic Toru Koshoji, who makes life easy for us through support and contacts.

Hence in this 22<sup>nd</sup> year of existence we at APNAN state that we are with the world and humanity – we are proud to promote technologies that are effective in both times of tranquility and destruction.

We request humanity to join hands with us in this noble venture for humankind through Nature Farming and EM Technology and

**WISH ALL HUMANKIND – A VERY SUCCESSFUL FUTURE!**

**APNAN, Bangkok, Thailand**

**MAY 2011**

*The Cover page presents in a clockwise direction beginning from the top left – INFRC volunteer spraying EM after the tsunami, Participants at the Nature Farming Workshop doing practicals, EM volunteer cleans factories after the tsunami, and the International Workshop in session respectively.*

## VITAL NEWS IN THE FOUR MONTHS.....

### CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND USES EM TO MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

The garden city of Christchurch in New Zealand, home to over 400,000 people experienced a major natural disaster in the form of a 6.3 magnitude earthquake at 1251 Hrs on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2011. It was the most significant disaster in 81 years, and the newspapers recorded over 65 deaths, and an estimate of damage to the central city of over 1.9 billion US dollars. It was indeed a shock to the region, which had a 7.1 magnitude earthquake in September, which recorded only two deaths!



*Mike Daly extends EM for use in Christchurch*

The homes were battered and the central city was devastated. Sanitation was a serious problem, with no water and the sewage systems broken.

People were scared and helpless. In this situation, it was our counterparts, the New Zealand Nature Farming Societies and the company of our erstwhile colleague, Mike Daly, Naturefarm Inc., which swung into action. Although the house Mike and Marianne Daly live had some damages in the forms of broken windows, no lights, water or working sewage systems, they got off the ground to offer EM to the emergency services. This was purely on a voluntary basis, as the odor in the region was so bad due to the problems of waste management. EM was extended by Mike at the factory, which fortunately did not suffer any damage, and given to the organizations in a truck fitted with a tank and spray equipment. In addition, as residents were advised to dig a pit in the gardens to dump waste and sewage, bokashi was also made available through these organizations to control odor and wastes. In fact, Mike and Marianne also used this system (See family news for news and picture of their invention!).

APNAN was told that the use of EM controlled the odor in many parts where it was used. Due to the magnitude of the problem, the benefits of odor control was not similar in all places, as some used EM only in spots, which diluted the beneficial impact. Mike tells us that Bokashi was also in demand due to its benefits as a dry form to control odor from kitchens and other household wastes, including sewage. There had been many notes of appreciation – for the excellent work done by Mike and NZ Naturefarm at this time of crisis. The truck with EM and a board indicating the presence of EM had been a major attraction and people had been pleased to see it coming to help them in their time of crisis.

APNAN is so happy that a program launched by them in 1993 in a very small way has come up to meet the challenges of a natural disaster. The benefits have been significant and both EM and Bokashi used in an emergency to bring the systems back to order with microbes, which are the keys to environmental management. EM does this best – in a very cost effective and energy saving way – to give results within a very short time. We do thank Mike and all at NZNFS and at Nature Farm Inc for their broad outlook to help at times of need and emergencies to overcome the hazards on natural disasters and support humankind to get back to normal lives within a short time. We do know that this disaster changed the lives of many in Christchurch – but this is nature and we have to live with it. We at APNAN are only happy that our counterparts have risen to the need and we always will help to use the technologies we promote, both Nature Farming and EM Technology to provide a solution to humankind at times of need, disaster and also in our daily lives. We do wish that life in this garden city of New Zealand will be back to normal within the shortest period of time and that EM with its proven beneficial effects will become an integral part of the city in future years.

### **JAPAN DISASTERS HELPED THROUGH EM TECHNOLOGY**

The earthquakes and Tsunami that hit Japan shocked the whole world! The worst aspect was the repeated natural disasters that rocked this serene nation, with its gentle people. However, the consolation that the respected Japanese have is their behavior at this time, which was exemplary to humankind. We are told that the Japanese were more concerned about their fellow humans rather than themselves, sharing whatever meager resources, food, and water they had and lived lives of calm in the shelters until relief operations declared the safety of their destroyed

homes and offices. In this disaster, our sponsors, both INFRC and EM Research Organization played a leading role in helping in environmental sanitation. As stated in the next news item, INFRC used EM for environmental control in many areas. Similarly, the EM Research Organization used EM through volunteers to spray EM in Iwate and especially in Miyagi prefectures, the latter being the most devastated region. The volunteers sprayed EM in public utilities, in factories and schools – wherever the demand arose. We also know that one gentleman bought a bowser to spray EM – this was done in Miyagi.

The news we got is that all were happy with the impact of EM in controlling odor and making the lives of the affected people much more pleasant at this time of



*EM applied by volunteers to public utilities*

difficulty. All these point to the fact that EM is a wonderful technology – and useful both in times of normality and in disasters.

Thus, we do appeal all to use EM irrespective of the situation – as it will certainly help in times of disaster by developing a cleaner and better environment.

We do thank EM Research Organization for this activity and hope and pray that all the affected areas of Japan will become normal and much more developed than earlier – thanks to the use of EM Technology and the Japanese perseverance and ingenuity.

### **INFRC HELPS IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT AFTER JAPANESE TSUNAMI**

Japan, the host nation of our sponsors and staff was devastated by two major natural disasters on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March, i.e. Within 25 hours of each other!! The first was in the Miyagi region, where a massive earthquake unleashed a tsunami, devastating cities, towns, infrastructure and human life. The second was on 12<sup>th</sup> March in Fukushima, where even a nuclear reactor was damaged. Both these were greater than that in Christchurch! However, Japan as we know is a nation of heroic people who stand together

in times of disaster and build their nation with hope and vigor!



*INFRC Volunteers in the affected areas*

The environmental devastation that occurred gave an opportunity for our sponsors, both EM Research Organization and the International

Nature Farming Research Center to help out in mitigating environmental destruction – all using EM! We are told that the INFRC undertook many activities to help improve the environment with EM. Mr. Akio Ito, the Head of Extension Department of INFRC sent us pictures and snippets of events, where INFRC took part in Ishinomaki city by spraying EM to control smell and harmful bacteria. They treated wastewaters from spas and into drainage canals filled with sewage and wastewaters. They also used EM in a hot Japanese spa for women in this city. In Teizan, the elementary school was flooded with sludge from the tsunami, As the school housed little children, the parents were not willing to use lime for sanitation and thus EM was used. EM was sprayed around the school unit and into the buildings with much success. Many such programs were thus undertaken by INFRC and also by EMRO. We thank our sponsors for these activities and hope and pray that Japan does not experience such natural disasters again.

#### **APNAN PRODUCES THE NEW MANUAL.....!**

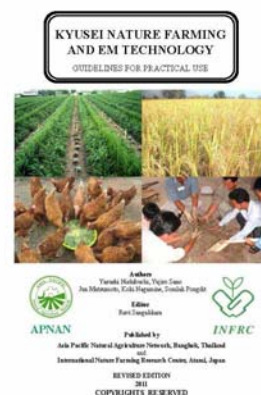
APNAN, the little network, huddled in Kularb Apartments for the last 18 years is not asleep! We are active as ever, burning midnight oil!! Our aim is to provide information on both Nature Farming and EM Technology to the world – not only to our mandate region.

The first big step in this direction came with the first manual on Nature Farming and EM Technology, written by our Senior Technical Officer (now Dr.) Masaki Shintani, way back in 1985! This was copied by some who professed that they know the technology better than we do, and even duplicated the manual with the mistakes!! However, we updated the manual in 2000 and after 10 years, our technical officers, from 2010, developed the latest version. It

contains updated information on both Nature Farming and EM Technology – and has been authored by our present and ex staff – namely Yasushi Nishibuchi, Yujiro Sano, Jun Matsumoto, Koki Nagamine and our dear old colleague Madam Somlak Pongdit. They have put together an excellent version on Nature Farming with EM Technology and the manual contains many case studies on EM from different regions. The manual has been edited by APNAN and thus is a good handbook for practitioners to gather basic information and adopt the technologies to suit their natural and ecological situations.

We are very happy and grateful for the INFRC, Japan for sponsoring this manual. All our partners and colleagues, who wish to have this lovely printed version, please contact via email – [apnanmail@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:apnanmail@yahoo.co.jp). We will send them to you at a nominal cost, which would include postage charges as well.

Dear Readers – we offer this with our hearts to promote Nature Farming and EM Technology - as we found that the interest in our old manual on the web is generating much interest, with hits of over 5000 per month. We are also happy to state that we will develop another manual on EM for



#### *The new Manual*

environmental management in the foreseeable future to have a holistic mass of information for using both Nature Farming and EM Technology to provide safe food in sustainable systems using principles of Nature Farming and EM Technology.

All interested please do contact us – we will send the manuals by AIRMAIL!!

#### **APNAN AND INFRC HOSTS FIRST INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP IN KYUSEI NATURE FARMING**

Our sponsors, the INFRC had been planning in promoting Nature Farming in our mandate region for many years. Thus on their instructions, we have established Nature Farming models in at least 4 nations and are planning to expand this in the future. However, one big problem that faced both INFRC

and us was the lack of documentation of the technology – i.e. The doing aspects – of Nature Farming. Thus from the latter half of last year, INFRC got its act together and developed two manuals on Nature Farming – one for rice and the other for highland crops – both in English, based on Japanese texts. INFRC got the basic translations done and we at APNAN edited them. Thereafter we at APNAN planned our annual February workshop based on training and exposure to Nature Farming.



*Participants learn food recycling*

The call went out in December and the response was huge!! This clearly indicated that the world is waiting for information on Nature Farming – the actual methods of Nature Farming. Thus, APNAN selected a total of 57 participants from 15 nations – The biggest workshop we ever held! The resource persons were from INFRC Japan – namely Mr. Akio Ito, Head of the Extension Department and Managing Director, Mr. Hidehiko Okubo, Head of the International Section and our long standing liaison officer and an old friend, Mr. Kentaro Sakakibara, who is the Director of Nature Farming Extension Office in Shikoku region in Japan, who advises farmers on the techniques of Nature Farming. The workshop was held from 21 to 24 February, 2011 at Saraburi Nature Farming Training Center. On arrival at Saraburi, the participants were introduced to the concepts and practice of Nature Farming by the expert – Mr. Sakakibara, who was only given one month to prepare his presentations!! He did all in his good English and all present appreciated his efforts. The introductory speeches by Mr. Ito were also very invigorating and encouraging to all present – and they all realized that Nature Farming is a very useful and appropriate technology for the present humankind – to produce food economically and in a sustainable manner.

One of the biggest problems that the workshop faced was with nature! The heavy rainfall restricted practical classes - which hampered demonstrations. However, we are sure that the excellent presentations by Kentaro san made the facts clear to all participants!

On the final day, the usual field trip was held to the Center of Harmony Life, managed efficiently by Mr.

Oga. He is a really successful farmer using EM and his unit is a paradise on earth! In addition, he also runs an organic restaurant Sustaina in the posh Sukhumvit area in Bangkok.

The participants really enjoyed the visit and exchanged many ideas on Nature Farming and EM. Thus, all the practical aspects that were not possible due to rain at Saraburi were explained and shown to them. This alone was an educational experience.

We do thank the INFRC and its senior members, Mr. Ito, Mr. Okubo and also Mr. Sakakibara, and our dear friends, Mr. Kanit Munagnil and Mr. Masanobu Sakurai and all at Saraburi Training Center and especially Rev. Kasahara, President of Sekai Kyusei Kyo for granting us permission to hold these workshops. We also thank the participants for a lively experience and hope that they will keep in touch with us and raise pertinent questions on Nature Farming, which we hope they will practice in their homelands. We look forward to hearing from them and working with them – whenever our staff visits the nations to make EM and offer guidelines on Nature Farming.



*The participants of the Nature Farming workshop*

## **DEVELOPMENTS OVER FOUR MONTHS.....**

### **NATUURBOERDERE PROMOTED BY ZZ2**

Natuurboerdere is Nature Farming in Afrikaans!!! This is a great way of promoting Natural Farming in South Africa, and this is what ZZ2 does!!! They adopt the principles of nature to promote crop production outdoors under extensive conditions – and the success of natuurboerdere is well presented by this dynamic organization! The concepts of natuurboerdere as stated by ZZ2 are: - long term improvement and stabilisation of the soil; optimum and sustainable yields; nutrient-dense fruit; promotion of human health; practise resulting in an ecological balance and conservation of natural resources. These are nearly identical to those of

Nature Farming advocated by Mokichi Okada and promoted by INFRC, our sponsors and us! It was an experience for APNAN to see this in operation on a very large scale when they visited South Africa – and be aware that what we advocate is really being used for agriculture. The vital thing was that EM is an essential component used by the processes of Natuurboerdere to enhance microbial life in soils and composts. Thereafter APNAN also saw the effective control of nematodes with EM FPE made with weeds and EM – and this again is now used extensively by ZZ2 to overcome one of the biggest problems of tomato culture in the region.

These events and experiences were processes that were education to us – We do congratulate ZZ2 on their success – we offer them all the possible assistance even if they are not in our mandate region – and we look forward to reporting their successes in our newsletter to our readers and friends. We also appreciate the role taken by Prof Koos Prinsloo in promoting these technologies amidst many difficulties and scepticism and also to Mr. Yoshida and EMROSA proving EM to the projects. We do look forward to the future success stories.

**APNAN GETS NEW STAFF**



*Our new officer Hisanori Asami*

Our little network – APNAN is really short of staff! Both our sponsors, INFRC and EMRO use us as a training ground, and as soon as they see a young member developing, they pull him or her

back!! Now we hear that our boss Yasushi Nishibuchi is earmarked to return to Okinawa to EMRO Headquarters! Thus, we howled in protest, and EM Research Organization has now sent us a member – Mr. Hisanori Asami.

Asami san hails from the Aichi prefecture, which houses the new Chita farm. He had read the books by our dear President, Professor Teruo Higa, was impressed and studied under his tutelage at the University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, with many of our staff, namely Sano chan, Nishibuchi san and Matsumoto san and etc. His research project for the Masters degree was on non-tillage culture of vegetables with EM Technology. Thereafter, he joined

our sponsors EMRO and worked in many locations in Japan before coming to us in April this year.

We are happy that this handsome 31-year-old married youngster is with us – he brings a wealth of experience and we do welcome him with open arms. We will train him in the EM and Nature Farming ways of life – so that he will also follow in the footsteps of his predecessors to becoming a full-fledged Nature Farming and EM expert! Welcome to our midst Asami san – we hope you will be very happy with us and we wish you a long stay in Bangkok!

**INFRC ACQUIRES NEW FARM FOR PROMOTING NATURE FARMING**

The International Nature Farming Research Center, in Atami, Japan, which provided all the funds at the beginning to promote EM and Nature Farming in the region of our little network and establish our network in 1989, is promoting Nature Farming as advocated by Mokichi Okada through publications and developing models and helping Nature farmers throughout Japan. In this venture, they have a modern well-equipped research center in Matsumoto at Hata Machi, and had a demonstration unit in Chiba, near Tokyo. However, with the expansion of Nature Farming in Japan, where it was first advocated by Mokichi Okada, a shift from Chiba was required. Thus, now they have acquired land in Chita, located in the Aichi Prefecture, north of the excellent Nature Farm of Korin, Japan, managed by the dynamic Mr. Kumazaki. APNAN visited the Korin Nature Farm of Mr. Kumazaki and was amazed at the success. Thus, we are sure that this model research and extension farm in Chita will also be a real model!

The farm in Chita will be developed by Mr. Yamada of the Matsumoto research unit, with the able assistance of our dear friends Ishiko san and Suzuki san, along with Yasuno san and Kanie san. We look forward to the developments – as APNAN wants such models to show the world.. and we at APNAN would not mind a working holiday in the salubrious climate of Chita, eating good organic food and live for a few days or weeks working on the farm in its pristine environment!

We look forward to reporting the developments of this farm and hope that we could also provide information on research and extension of Nature Farming to our readers through this newsletter.

**APNAN PLANS NEXT WORKSHOP IN JULY**

The International workshops held twice a year by APNAN are really popular! This year the first one held in February concentrated on Nature Farming



and we are told that all who attended evaluated it very highly! Thus, the second one for 2011 is planned for the third week in July – and this will concentrate on the basics of EM Technology.

Thus all interested – please contact APNAN. However there is a change – due to the rising costs – we are requesting our participants to contribute to the expenses – and there will be a small charge of Thai Bhat 2000 (US Dollars 70) per head for the four day program, which will include accommodation and food in Saraburi.

Please contact us as soon as possible for this event, which most people look forward to and apply through the respective in country counterparts for your place in the workshop. We assure you that you will not be disappointed.

We look forward to your emails and participation.

### **INDIAN UNIVERSITY HOSTS CONFERENCE ON AQUACULTURE WITH EM TECHNOLOGY**

The EM program and that of Nature Farming is expanding in India – and the latest addition is organic aquaculture with EM Technology. Thus, there is a growing interest in using EM in this field and that



*Dr. Dengel and Mrs Somlak at the conference*

too in Southern India. Due to this interest, the Satyabama University of Chennai, India hosted a three day conference cum workshop on Dissemination of innovative technology titled” Organic aquaculture through EM Technology – economically and ecofriendly solution”. The University and its Center for Ocean Research held this event, which was sponsored by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology.

On the first day (10<sup>th</sup> January 2011), the meeting got underway – with two keynote speeches by Dr. Lucas Dengel of Auroville and our dear Mrs. Somlak Pongdit. Somlak san, who has been known to us from the beginning of this network has studied aquaculture with EM and is considered an expert, having even traveled to South America to train students. On the second day, they visited an EM

shrimp farm and on the third day, which had many students in attendance, Somlak san presented another paper titled Experiences of Eco practices in other parts of the world. The students who attended this session had raised many questions as they were keen to learn EM. Our dear technical officer Yujiro Sano also attended and he stated that the interest generated was really unexpected and the students will surely follow up on this issue.

APNAN thanks the Satyabama University, Chennai and its Center for Ocean Research for hosting this event, and for Dr. Lucas Dengel of Auroville for attending this and presenting the fundamentals of EM to the audience. We also thank Madam Somlak for helping us. We are sure that the interest will be raised and our technical officers will be busy traveling to supply EM to these units of aquaculture using EM!!

We thank all those who attended and request them to contact us – we will help as we have always done. Thank you and we look forward to a greater aquaculture program in India and the neighboring nations.

### **EMRO ASIA PROGRESSES WITH EM IN THAILAND.**

EMRO Asia, which was formed to promote the real EM in the Royal Kingdom of Thailand in June 2009 is making headway in promoting the technology. The dynamic head of EMRO Asia is Mr. Toru Koshoji, who also speaks, reads and writes Thai fluently, due to his stint as a JOCV volunteer in the Kingdom. Thus, he has the advantage – of being able to communicate to people in times of crisis!

EMRO Asia thus helped many farmers during the recent floods by donating EM through the Royal Thai Army. They applied EM to rice fields and rubber lands affected by floods and the farmers were really happy that the crops recovered. This was especially evident in the Southern regions of Thailand – In places where rice plants were damaged by floods, they cut the stubble and added bokashi and EM to their fields. This gave rise to new plants which were harvested to give 60% of the normal harvest from these flood affected fields without any cost except that of bokashi and EM! This was clearly evident in the fields of Khun Sumarin of the Northeast region. Rubber and oil palm plantations were also sprayed with EM, thus the damage due to floods was minimal, and the soils improved, with happy farmers thanking EMRO Asia, who initiated this project with the Royal Thai Army. We also thank EMRO Asia and its staff for this diligent activity – and further details of all

these activities of EMRO Asia could be found at the website <http://www.emro-asia.com/news/67.html>



*EM sprayed to damaged rice field*

Thank you Koshiji san – we are proud of your achievements to promote Nature Farming and EM Technology!

### **MALAYSIANS PREFER EM TECHNOLOGY!**

The swine farmers of Selangor using EM were a worried lot! A large swine unit, costing 200 million Ringgit was planned with all modern technologies and chemicals for environmental management. The smaller units were not happy and they complained! The State Agriculture Committee Chairman of Selangor however listened to these EM users – he stated that the introduction of EM had helped to reduce pollution and that it was a proven technology. The investment of large sums of money was not required stated the chairman, who also promoted the use of our technology for poultry, goats and also cattle. The statement also indicated that instead of expensive chemicals farmers could obtain activated EM for a small sum of 1 Ringgit per liter, and thus the State will take measures to promote the technology.

We do thank our counterparts in Malaysia for their diligent efforts in promoting EM as an easy low cost technology, which is beneficial to the environment and humans. We in turn offer all our support to our neighbors to develop EM Technology as a process that will be adapted by the whole nation! We look forward to reporting the results of greater projects in the future issues of this small newsletter!

### **KENYAN EM PROJECT DEVELOPS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.**

The visit by our boss Nishibuchi to Kenya gave us at APNAN an insight into the activities. Nishi san tells us that Mr. Shiojiri, who is our counterpart is a director of a NGO called Africa Children's Education Funds (ACEF), which has many projects in Kenya. One big project is caring for HIV positive patients – where EM fermented fruit drinks are provided to enhance their appetites and enhance immunity. The results show that patients using EM fermented juice have significant improvements in their immune

indicators. The NGO also has an organic agriculture school to teach the young kids the concepts of Nature Farming and EM. This was started after a visit by Mr. Shiojiri to Saraburi – and thus will go all out to develop this as the Saraburi of Africa.

We do congratulate Mr. Shiojiri on his achievements and look forward to visiting these units in the near future to help with their programs – We at APNAN have the experience of 22 years and please call us – we will help out while holidaying in the hustle and bustle of Kenya!

### **RESEARCH FROM TURKEY SHOWS THAT EM PROMOTES GERMINATION OF TIMBER SEEDS**

A research paper titled Effects of Microorganisms, hormone treatment and stratification on seed germination of Goldenrain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) by a scientist in the Department of Silviculture, University of Bartin, Turkey highlights the benefits of EM in germination of seeds of timber trees. The abstract states that using EM at a dilution of 1:100 and the seeds stratified for 45 days promoted the best germination, when compared to conventional hormones. These results published in the International Journal of Agriculture and Biology – Volume 13 in 2011 in pages 38 – 42 confirms many earlier studies that EM helps seed germination and seedling growth of many species.

We thank the scientists involved and hope that they continue these projects – we need such results published in SCI and Web of Knowledge cited papers – and hence are pleased that independent research is highlighting the success of EM!!

The full paper can be located at:

International Journal of Agriculture and Biology, (2011) Vol 31 – pages 38 – 42.

### **TRAVELS OF OUR STAFF.....**

#### **OUR DEAR PRESIDENT DOES NOT REST AT ALL!**

Our President, Professor Dr. Teruo Higa, who has advised and guided the destinies of our little network for the last 22 years is certainly a busy man! Although retired from the University of the Ryukyus, where he was a very distinguished professor of Horticulture, he has not given up active service. As the Director of The International Institute for EM Technology of the Meio University, he is promoting EM Technology worldwide, in addition to tending his fruit garden, which is his hobby and experimenting with the technology that he developed – Effective Microorganisms! In the period January – April, 2011,

he left his home in Okinawa to travel to the mainland at least 12 times. In January it was to meet Dr. Tanaka, his colleague working on EMX gold and also to the Nihonbashi river project, where EM is used for pollution control. In February, it was to the Shizuoka prefecture to attend the meeting of EM Cleaning Association and deliver a lecture and then to Nagoya for meetings with an NGO using EM. Later that month, the visits were to Tokyo for lectures and visiting Dr. Tanaka at the EMX preventive medicine center. In February, Prof Dr. Higa also traveled to Atami for a meeting with our sponsors, INFRC and again back to Tokyo for meetings. The month ended with a visit to Nagoya to visit the Fukui prefecture and attend a meeting of the Sekai Kyusei Kyo.

March, was again busy with visits to Nagoya and Tokyo, The visit to Tokyo was important as it was to meet Mr. Tsurunen, a member of the Japanese parliament, and deliver a very important seminar titled "The future of Effective Microorganisms". The last month of April was again to Tokyo to meet the U Net group, attend seminars of Mr. Tsurunen and also attend a conference of the SPC, an organization of hair salons, which are very keen to use EM in developing shampoo and hair cleaners, while doing many environmental activities with EM! This will certainly be a boon if they can prove that EM encourages the covering of bald heads with natural hair, which has not happened ever since EM was developed!! The last meeting in April was with Dr. Tanaka – and also meetings for using EM in the tsunami affected regions.

All this must leave him tired – as age catches on.. However when working with EM, our dear Higa sensei is like an enthusiastic child.. bursting with energy – just like activated EM fortified with EMX Gold!! However, we do request Higa sensei to take things easy as the EM world needs him fit and fine – he is the phototrophic bacteria of the EM world and thus is the icon of us all – hence we do request him and also our dear Mum, Mrs. Setsuko Higa to take care and guide us for many many more years to come. Within this context, we also thank them for their work – this is stimulating to us top work harder and more diligently to promote Nature Farming and EM in the world.

### **TRAVELS OF OUR APNAN BOSS – YASUSHI NISHIBUCHI**

Our APNAN boss is certainly running around the region and beyond! This is principally because our dear sponsors do not give us staff and we do manage despite all the inconveniences! Thus in the period

of review (January - April, 2011) Nishibuchi san traveled to seven nations – excluding Thailand, our base – all in the name of EM! – Poor Nishi san!!

In January, it was to Malaysia for two days – to make EM and hold discussions with our counterpart Mr. Sawada. The demand for EM is ever growing in this neighbor – and one day we may need a shuttle aircraft to fly to and from Johor, Penang and Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok. This is the scale of operations and things are getting bigger in this nation, which is hell bent on increasing the use of EM!!

In February it was to India – To Kolkata to our friends



*Farmer using EM in India*

at Maple Orgtech, which handles EM in this great nation. He took the opportunity to visit the developing model farm in Midnapore, and even to a village using EM to develop integrated

farming systems. The report filed by Nishi san states that the farms have one or two cows which are fed with EM treated grass and forage. The health of animals has improved and the milk yields enhanced by 50% (1 liter to 1,5 liters per day!!) and the farmers are happy! The manure is used for vegetables. Due to this success Maple will be organizing a farmer's day soon to promote the technology. Our boss also made EM and checked quality within the 4 days spent in Kolkata.

Later that month, it was the usual 14-hour flight to New Zealand, to make EM seed, meet Mike Daly, visit the Biological Husbandry Unit of Lincoln University, where a model nature farm is established, and also meet with Tim Chamberlain and also Neville Burt of Bokashi Zing fame. Nishibuchi san had been impressed by the developments in Harts Creek farm of the Chamberlains, where EM is now sprayed using expensive spray equipment for irrigation and inoculation purposes. The travel to the Bokashi factory of Nev Burt had also been an eye opener – where kitchen and organic waste management is promoted with the use of EM Bokashi. Discussions had been held on quality maintenance and we are told that the program is successful.

The last trip in this short month was to Vietnam, taking with him his possible successor, Asami san. They made seed at the Vina Nichi Center with Dr. Le Khac Quang and also visited a swine farm using EM, located near the Hanoi airport, which one day

could be a good model. The farm has been using our EM for some time and there is no odor, the biggest problem in these units – the pigs seem well fed as they use EM in feed and in the bedding. The bedding unlike in other conventional systems last for over 12 months and ends up as a good manure for his vegetable garden. This progressive farmer is now trying the same with chicken.

The month of March saw Nishi san flying away to the Philippines – to meet up with Mr. Ono and to travel to the Negros island to advise a cassava factory to use EM for waste management and recycling after making alcohol. Thereafter it was to a swine and sugar cane farm, and to Manila to meet up with the new partner of EM Research Philippines, Harbest Inc. After a seminar and visit to the factory of Harbest for making samples of Bokashi, and to the EM unit, it was back home to Bangkok - not to rest but complete office work!

April was a heavy month again – first to India to make EM to meet the ever increasing demands and then off our limits to Kenya in Africa to cover up for the lack of staff at EMRO Headquarters – the man in charge of Africa is the new Overseas boss of EMRO!! On arrival in Kenya Nishi san met with the dynamic Mr. Shiojiri, and moved to Embu, where EM Technology Inc. is located. He checked the EM there and met with other companies in Nairobi, before flying back to Bangkok via Dubai!

The final visit of Nishi san was to Russia – to the



*Nature Farming plots in Embu*

National Science Institute. Thereafter it was the Ulkusuk University to discuss EM in agriculture and Nature Farming. After a successful seminar, Nishibuchi was invited to the city hall for discussions on wastewater treatment. Nishibuchi san came back to Bangkok via Korea – tired but happy – filled with Vodka and meat!

We thank our dear Boss for taking these very tight schedules – and hope that he will continue to do this and manage the office and not be taken back to Okinawa in the near future!!

## APNAN VISITS SOUTH AFRICA

APNAN always has the interests of Nature Farming and EM in the African continent, although it does not belong to our mandate region. South Africa is so special in that we organized the very successful 6<sup>th</sup> Kyusei Nature Farming Conference in Pretoria in October, 1999, with the able assistance of Prof Koos Prinsloo of the University of the North located in Pietersberg. Thereafter most contact with South Africa was via emails, although Prof. Prinsloo, along with EMROSA and Mr. Yoshida spread EM and Nature Farming in the country slowly but surely. With increasing interest in Nature Farming and EM Technology, there were demands that APNAN and EMRO visit this great nation. However, the time was not available and finally APNAN and our ex boss, Mr. Takashi Kyan, who heads many units at EMRO visited South Africa in February, 2011 to review the

progress made and deliver seminars to some important stakeholders and academics, who are still rather skeptical about EM!



*EM compost windrows at ZZ2*

On arrival in Johannesburg on the 19<sup>th</sup> February, after an overnight flight from Japan and Bangkok, the delegation was met by Mr. Yoshida of EMROSA, and discussed the progress made. Thereafter they visited the EMROSA unit and had an early evening due to the long flights of both members.

The next morning – after “Rise and Shine” as the South African counterparts stated in the program, the delegation drove to Mooketsi, to visit the ZZ2 farming unit, which is considered the largest tomato farm in the southern hemisphere, which uses EM in a big way in many facets of their activities and is advised by Prof Prinsloo. The delegation, which now included Mr. Yoshida, were parked at the Sanga Lodge, situated in a game park managed by the ZZ2, just on the periphery of one of their tomato farms!

That evening, the delegation met Mr. Piet Prinsloo, for discussions over a typical South African Barbecue (Brae as they call it) in the company of Prof Koos Prinsloo as well. It was a very early night for the APNAN delegation, which is used to burning midnight oil in Kularb Apartments, as there was no power and no internet or phones on the game farm – although the only wild life seen by them was a frog!!

The next day was spent at the ZZ2 farm with its Chief Executive Officer Mr. Tommy van Zyl, who was very enthusiastic about the EM and its success in making compost and in the control of nematodes, developing their own EM FPE with South African weeds! Mr. van Zyl presented their activities, which included organic tomatoes, and apples, avocados, mangoes, pears, onions and potato, and was interesting to hear. APNAN presented what they do and the success of EM in many nations, which was appreciated by the CEO and Mr. Piet Prinsloo.

After a sumptuous lunch at the ZZ2 restaurant, the delegation visited the research unit, where presentations were made by the delegation to the members of ZZ2. Mr. Kyan stated the status of EM globally. The participants were surprised that 3500 tons of EM is produced worldwide, and this over a period of 22 years with no major funding for research and development! APNAN talked about the basis of EM and Nature Farming, connecting the two and experiences of using EM internationally, along with scientific data of available research. What was amazing was that the CEO, Mr. van Zyl, who had a pressing appointment stayed on for the whole session!!! Many questions were asked and the research programs being done by ZZ2 by Dr. Bombiti and others were discussed. EMROSA talked about the philosophy of nature.

After a break, the delegation left for the unit which extended their EM for ZZ2 use, their compost tea units, to which we suggested using EM for greater efficacy, and then to the large composting unit, which uses EM for making all the organic fertilizer requirements aerobically using windrow systems. They use EM in significant quantities and there was no odor or any flies in the large unit!

The next day was a visit to the University of Limpopo, which was the original University of the North, where we had our field day in the 1999 conference. The first meeting was with the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, followed by a seminar for academics and students. There were over 30 people present and the concepts of Nature Farming and EM were presented, along with scientific basis of its actions. The need to conform to nature was stressed upon and the role of microbes in this venture. After a lively discussion, where much interest was shown by the academia and students in furthering research, specially as ZZ2 supports such students, the delegation visited the ex aquaculture unit, which was the center point of our field day in 1999. This unit has been closed after the retirement of Prof Prinsloo, who headed the unit and is now leased by ZZ2 for

their research. The research unit has now a well-qualified scientist and staff and tests soil properties in farms and promotes organic farming with EM. It will surely become a major unit for EM research and we hope that they will blend Nature Farming concepts to it as well.



*EM tomatoes at EMPRI*

The 23<sup>rd</sup> February was for travel to Johannesburg, with a stop at the family farm of Prof Prinsloo, which is now called

the EM Research Institute (EMPRI). The objective there is to demonstrate scientifically the benefits of EM and the tomato trials in the green houses at EMPRI were really great. Prof Prinsloo lives on the unit and does the research. This will again be an ideal place for training in the future! Thereafter it was to Pretoria, where Mr. Yoshida left the delegation. Prof Prinsloo, Piet Prinsloo and the two overseas members then left for Cape Town by the afternoon flight.

The 24<sup>th</sup> February was spent at the University of Stellenbosch presenting EM and Nature Farming for the staff and student. Although the academics were skeptical as usual, and many questions asked for the scientific data, we could convince them that EM works!! Some as usual disagreed and one even did not want to check the websites for EM and Nature Farming Research!! Another international scientist stated that EM does not work after observing its effects in Europe and Indonesia!! When the reply was given that all these places have very successful programs with EM and that he has not seen the real scene of EM, he was not pleased!! However, the lively discussion was a stimulus for us as well and the need for research was really emphasized upon!

After a relatively quiet evening the delegation left for the ZZ2 farms at Ceres the next day, where use of EM was again discussed. The delegation visited fruit orchards using EM and showed the impact of organic matter and EM on soils – which were evident. The visit also included discussions and a tired four people returned to Cape Town after some long long drives after posing for video clips and talking to Journalists! The final day was for discussions and the interviews and the flight back to Johannesburg, where the delegation had time to digest all that were seen. The

delegation left South Africa on 26<sup>th</sup> February, after the last discussions. The requests from ZZ2 and all present at meetings and discussions were – Please do come annually – ZZ2 will host the delegations, please give us scientific data, visit them on an annual basis and also requested the APNAN member to stay one year doing research in ZZ2!!

The delegation expresses its gratitude to ZZ2, especially Mr. Tommy van Zyl, the CEO and Mr. Piet Prinsloo, and Mr. Yoshida for their arrangements and gracious hospitality and we promise that we will help out in all aspects to promote EM and Nature Farming in this nation.

**APNAN STAFF SANO TRAVELS ACROSS ASIA.**

The dearth of staff at APNAN makes our officers run around the region, making EM and helping our counterparts. Thus in the period under review, our dear Sano got the opportunity of traveling to many nations, making EM, checking up on earlier initiate projects on EM and Nature Farming and also enjoying the food of these nations – especially the desserts! In January, it was trip to India to attend the EM aquaculture conference – with Somlak san and Dr. Dengel. After successful participation in India, he also visited the Nature Farming model at Auroville, managed by Mr. Jeff. Sano chan tells us that the farm has been developed to a significant extent, when compared to the time when it was initiated late last year. In February, it was a trip to his favorite nation in the region, the Lao PDR, where he started the Nature Farm. The objective of the visit was to make EM and visit Nature and organic farmers in Vientiane. Sano chan had been highly impressed with the expansion of EM in Vientiane, as they now get their molasses from EMRO Asia based in Thailand, at a very reasonable price. The report presented by Sano chan to us state that the EM and Nature Farming project in Lao PDR is expanding from Vientiane, where it all began in the 1990's to other provinces. The projects have now gone to Borikhamxay province also. Sano also visited the latter province to see EM and organic farmers, all of whom want this handsome



*Nature Farm in Lao PDR*

bachelor to visit them! The workshops held by him and also our partner in Thailand, Toru Koshoji of EMRO Asia, who is again a bachelor boy, attracted so

many farmers and now EM and Nature Farming is spreading – thanks to the diligence of Sano Chan! Today EM is popular, and farmers use EM in their units and bring their produce to the organic market in Vientiane, which is a big attraction in the city! The model farm on Kyusei Nature Farming is also drawing much attention. The facilities provided by INFRC and we help them develop the unit. We do thank all involved for their diligence and promise to help out to greater extents, as Lao PDR needs EM Technology to help their resource poor farmers develop a sustainable lifestyle with food security both household and village levels.

In late March, Sano chan traveled to the headquarters in Atami, Japan for the end of fiscal year activities. After his normal activities,



*Nature Farming in Shikoku*

Sano chan visited the Shikoku region, where our guest at the workshop, Mr. Kentaro Sakakibara heads the Nature Farming unit. Sano chan accompanied Kentaro san on two visits to Nature farms in Ehime prefecture, 5 units in Tokushima prefecture and 1 Nature farmer in Kagawa prefecture. The report we got indicate that Sano chan has been taught by the farmers. The lead farmers had advised him that Nature Farming is successful if we follow the principles of nature and not handbooks or manuals!! Most farmers wishing to practice Nature Farming fail as they do it as per chemical units! This has been the secret of success of these Nature Farmers, who are guided by the weather, climates and soils to practice farming! Sano chan also tells us that vermin compost and EM is fast becoming popular in the Shikoku region due to its promotion by the dynamic Kentaro san! In overall terms, it seems that Nature Farming and organic farming are fast becoming very popular in Japan – which is a very good piece of news for us. We need this data to promote Nature Farming in the mandate region and globally, as we did for EM! We do thank the INFRC for these efforts and also its dynamic field staff for helping us with visits and data to promote Nature Farming in the mandate region and beyond.

## **SOME SNIPPETS OF THE FAMILY.....**

### **VRM VISITS APNAN**

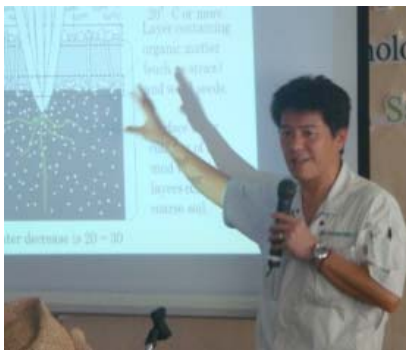
Ken Bellamy of VRM is a busy man – thus he has no time to relax – due to his ever-expanding program of activities related to EM in Kangaroo land – Australia. However, in March, he was in Penang, Malaysia for a holiday cum work related program and thus hopped over to Bangkok for the day with a member of Staff from VRM, whom we call TJ!

They came on the morning flight – and discussed many things about EM, Nature Farming and the use of EM in a diverse range of products. We also discussed possible seminars in Australia by APNAN to promote the sale of EM. Thereafter it was lunch at our favorite Thai restaurant in Soi 13 of Phaholyothin Road and off they went shopping – and back to Penang in the evening! It was very very pleasant to see Ken and TJ, whom we knew via emails etc and discuss the future. We do request all our partners to do this.. and see us if in Bangkok.

Thank you Ken – we wish you and VRM the best for the future and lots of luck with your programs including the carbon credits through EM Technology.

### **APNAN WORKSHOP GREETSS AN OLD FRIEND**

The international workshop brought to Bangkok an old friend – Mr. Kentaro Sakakibara. Kentaro san first met APNAN staff in 1992, when he was doing his Masters degree together with our first boss (Dr.) Masaki Shintani and Mr. Atsushi Higa, under the supervision of our dear President, Professor Higa, at the University of the Ryukyus. Thereafter, while Shintani san joined APNAN Kentaro san joined INFRC and was posted to different regions. In 1997, he was back again in Bangkok to assist us in the International Conference on Kyusei Nature Farming. He now heads the INFRC unit in Shikoku, training farmers in Nature Farming. Thus he was one of the



*Our friend Kentaro Sakakibara*

best experts and practitioners that we could get – and we are grateful to him for having prepared all his presentations

in English and doing them all in English too!

It was nice to have him with us – and we hope the INFRC will send him again to us to conduct these workshops. Thank you Kentaro san – we look forward to having you again with us in Bangkok soon.

### **CONGRATULATIONS – TERAGANIX Inc of USA..!**

The EM program in the United States of America is handed by TeraGanix Inc, which was formed from EM America Inc, and is based in Texas. This company is the sole distributor of EM products certified by EMRO, and handles only the real EM developed by our dear President, Professor Higa. The company works closely with EMRO USA, which is now managed by our ex boss Takashi Shimoji, who is kept pretty busy making the EM required for America. Recently, due to the excellent green outlook of TeraGanix, they were recognized by the Green America Business Seal of Approval. As stated in the internet “TeraGanix is proud to announce that it has been awarded the Green America Business Seal of Approval. The seal is presented to businesses that go beyond product and service quality to set the highest standards in environmental sustainability and social justice, and work to solve, rather than create, environmental and social problems”

We are very pleased of this recognition in the USA, which will also help others using EM – for the registration and acceptance in the respective nations. We do congratulate them on their success and further details can be found at

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/Teraganix-Earns-Green/America-Business-Seal/prweb5006874.htm>

Well Done.. The team at TeraGanix!!!!

### **CRISES DEVELOPING INGENUITY!**

The recent natural disasters in both New Zealand and Japan called for some drastic measures to be adopted by people to overcome the hazards of daily living – and EM played a significant role in this adaptation. However, one development through Kiwi ingenuity caught our attention recently.

In Christchurch, the earthquake cut water and electricity and thus the normal flush toilets could not be used. The people were asked to dig pits in gardens like in the good old days – and our dear friends and Naturefarms Inc. advocated the use of bokashi for odor control. However, this was also a problem and the rains and chilly weather did not help out! However, Christchurch is a city where recycling wastes using Bokashi buckets of Naturefarms Inc are very popular. The good old Kiwi



*Kiwi Ingenuity for emergencies!*

using flush toilets are scarce, this could be a possible solution to recycle human wastes!!!

ingenuity adapted these Bokashi buckets as temporary odor free toilets that could be used in the washrooms – and later used for making good compost, using the real EM Bokashi!!! Congratulations the inventors – and this invention could become a landmark in times of natural disasters all over the world - and in regions where the usual water

where the usual water

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC EVENTS IN 2011

The 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Animal Agriculture for Developing Countries (SAADC 2011)  
2 to 3 July 2011  
Hong Kong, China

The 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Animal Agriculture for Developing Countries (SAADC 2011)  
26 to 29 July 2011  
Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand  
<http://www.saadc2011.com/home.php>

*Third World Congress on Research and Development*  
3 to 4 August 2011  
University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria  
<http://www.irdionline.org>

International Conference on Asian Food Security  
10 – 12 August, 2011  
Singapore.  
<http://www.rsis.edu.sg/nts/article.asp?id=163>

EAAE 2011 Congress: Change and Uncertainty; Challenges for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources  
30 August 2011 to 2 September 2011  
Zurich, Switzerland  
Contact name: Conradin Bolliger  
Website: <http://www.eaae2011.ch/>

*17th IFOAM Organic World Congress in Gyeonggi Paldang, South Korea.*  
**29.08.2011 to 01.10.2011**  
Location: Gyeonggi Province, South Korea  
<http://www.isofar.org/kowc2011/>

3rd ISOFAR Scientific Conference at the 17th Organic World Congress  
28 September 2011 to 1 October 2011  
Gyeonggi Paldang, Gyeonggi Province, Korea (South)  
Contact name: Dr. Daniel Neuhoff  
Website: <http://www.isofar.org/kowc2011/>

International Conference on Sustainable Development  
5 to 7 December 2011  
Putrajaya, Malaysia  
Website: <http://www.ontariointernational.org/ConferenceMalaysia2011.htm>  
Contact name: N. Hewage, H. Pallard, C. Guan, Conference Co-chairs

### DEAR READERS.....

#### PLEASE NOTE!!!

The next Scientific Conference of IFOAM will be held in Gyeonggi Paldang, South Korea in late September 2011! This is the first time in the history of IFOAM, that the world congress is held in our continent – ASIA!! APNAN hopes that all our readers and friends have submitted abstracts of research and experiences for possible presentation as Oral or Poster sessions at either the scientific sessions of ISOFAR or the World Organic Conference. Please contact us for further details – But we do request you in earnest to attend the conference if possible and support Nature Farming and EM Technology. We do look forward for your cooperation!! Please contact us at APNAN for details or check the IFOAM/ISOFAR websites for further details!!!!

**APNAN T SHIRTS** – OF VERY HIGH QUALITY ARE AVAILABLE WITH US AT A MODEST PRICE OF ONLY 250 THAI BAHT (US DOLLARS 9) PER SHIRT!! The colors are – Black and Blue with our special Logo mark! Please send us your requirements – We will reserve them for you!!

#### APNAN WORKSHOP!!

Dear Readers – Please note that the next workshop on Nature Farming and EM will be held in 18-21 July 2011 at Saraburi. This will be EM based workshop, where emphasis will be on EM Technology and Nature Farming. Please send your applications through the in country contacts! We assure you a good training with new staff and new programs!!!

*The term EM, Effective Microorganisms and EM Technology refer to the specific technology developed by Dr. Teruo Higa of Okinawa, Japan. These trademarks are exclusively owned by EM Research Organization, Inc. of Okinawa, Japan*





## **THE INTERNATIONAL NATURE FARMING RESEARCH CENTER, ATAMI, JAPAN**

The International Nature Farming Research Center, located at Atami, Japan, was established in 1985 with the objectives of enhancing economic stability of farmers and producing nutritious and good quality food for humankind through the promotion of Nature Farming. Thus, the INFR undertakes research and extension programs on Nature Farming based on the principles of Nature Farming advocated by Mokichi Okada, who stated the importance of respecting nature and conforming to its laws. The importance of allowing soils to exhibit their inherent potential is also a key to the principles of Nature Farming, which is promoted by the INFR.

Today, the INFR supports over 1900 Nature Farming units in Japan – both in crops and livestock operations. It also has a research farm at Matsumoto, Nagano where scientists are diligently working towards the validation of Nature Farming. The INFR also promotes the use of EM Technology to stimulate the soil biota and enhance productivity.

The international activities of INFR range from being associated with the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), supporting the Asia Pacific Natural Agriculture Network (APNAN) and also research and development in many nations such as China, Laos and Myanmar.

In the recent past, the INFR has been accredited to certify organic agricultural products and organic agricultural processed food under the JAS Organic Certification scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture of Japan, which is now promoting Organic Agriculture. Thus, the INFR is a very dynamic organization working diligently to provide a sustainable system of producing food through Nature Farming, based on principles of Mokichi Okada.

### **The INFR can be contacted at:**

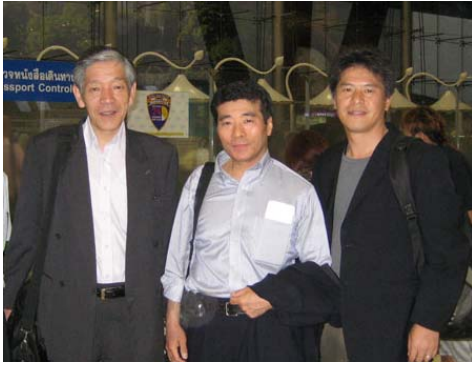
**International Nature Farming Research Center,  
8F, Atami Daiichi Building, 9-1 Taharahoncho,  
Atami, Shizuoka 413-0011 Japan.**

**Phone: +81 557 85 2001**

**Fax : +81 557 85 3156**

**Email : [overseas@infr.or.jp](mailto:overseas@infr.or.jp)**

**Website : [www.infr.or.jp/english](http://www.infr.or.jp/english)**



*INFRC leaves after a successful workshop*



*Takashi Kyan discusses EM with ZZ2*



*Mr. Kanit speaks at the workshop*



*Nature Farmers in Lao PDR*



*Shin Higa with the donor of truck for EM*



*INFRC volunteers spray EM*



*Nature Farm in Auroville, India*



*EM seminar in Vladivostok*