

# Research Directions

Office of Research Services

## SQUEEZING OUT MORE CITRUS FOR VIET NAM

**Citrus is an important fruit crop in Viet Nam, but production is low because of the serious crop damage by pests and diseases.**



To enhance citrus yields, researchers with extensive experience in citrus integrated pest management (IPM), from the Centre for Plant and Food Sciences, will be working with staff from the Plant Protection Department, Research Institutes and Can Tho University in the Mekong Delta and Central Coast regions of Viet Nam .

The project will assess the effectiveness of Farmer Field Schools for Implementing citrus IPM in Viet Nam.

Previous farmer participatory training and research has taken place for rice, vegetable, cotton, tea, soybean, peanut and sweet potato crops. Because of limited capability in specific citrus research in Viet Nam, no prior training has been conducted in citrus IPM.

Dr Debbie Rae explained that: "farmer field schools have been highly effective in empowering farmers to make knowledgeable decisions about their annual crops. "Our work with citrus crops is an exciting venture because it is the first attempt to adapt these techniques to perennial tree crops. If successful, it can then be extended to a range of tropical fruit".

**The project "Assessing the effectiveness of Farmer Field Schools for Implementation of Citrus IPM in Viet Nam" has been funded through AusAID and managed by Hassall & Associates International.**

**Funding has been set at \$185,778.**

**Web Site**

<http://www.uws.edu.au/research/researchcentres/chaps>

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