

Opening Address

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Distinguished guests and participants;

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the International Symposium on Virus Diseases of Tropical Crops, I would like to express words of appreciation to all participants of this meeting.

Virus problem on tropical crops such as rice plant, bean, vegetable and citrus, has been and will be one of the most important matters of concern to the persons who have responsibility for producing foods.

Rice plant, which is fundamental food crop in Asian countries, has been suffered from many virus and virus-like diseases and production is reduced by these hindrance. In this symposium, 9 technical reports on virus diseases of rice plant will be presented and also many problems awaiting solution on these diseases will be instituted in country reports. Tungro, one of virus diseases of rice plant, is considered to be an urgent question to be solved. In this symposium, it is expected that many useful information will be offered on the causal virus, its epidemics and control measures.

During the period of this meeting, lively discussion and exchange of information will be expected not only on this problem but also on the other items.

It is unlooked-for gratification that opportunities for some joint research practice are ripen through these discussions.

If necessary, TARC shall prepare to give shape to these international research programs, such as co-ordination of research enforcement, exchange of research workers.

Not a few members in this meeting seemed to be acquainted with each other and you may be able to find new friends in this meeting.

I hope that this meeting will contribute to the development of research and promote better friendship among participating countries.

Thank you.