

SEK YEE TAN

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EDUCATIONS

- 2006–present PhD degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Major: Insect Toxicology
- 1999–2003 Master of Agriculture Science from Universiti Putra Malaysia
Major: Biological Control
- 1996–1999 B.Sc. Bioindustry from Universiti Putra Malaysia
Major: Horticulture
- 1996 Associate Performer's Diploma in Pianoforte, Trinity College London

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2006-present Graduate research assistant at the Department of Entomology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 2003-2006 Three years as a field biologist in Dupont at Malaysia
- Performed local and regional insecticide research programs for Rynaxypyr™ and Indoxacarb™ in comparison to existing compounds. Conducted field, greenhouse and laboratory tests
 - Coordinated insecticide baseline susceptibility monitoring programs at selected ASEAN countries (Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines) and AP countries (China, India, Japan and Korea)
 - Test insects: rice stemborers, leaf folders and hoppers; diamondback moth; *Spodoptera litura*; *S. exigua*; aphids; leaf hoppers
 - Participated a two-weeks business training at Stine-Haskell Research Center, Delaware, US
 - Research station management: Purchasing; exportation and importation of research samples
- 1999-2001 Three years as a graduate research assistant at the Plant Protection Department, Universiti Putra Malaysia
- 1998 Ten-weeks internship with Norsk Hydro at Cameron Highlands, Malaysia
- Measuring the growth rates of commercially grown specialty crops such as vegetables, fruits and ornamental plants
- 1996 Six months as a piano teacher at Yamaha Music School, Malaysia
- Preparing students for piano exams administered by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, UK

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2006-present **Pursuing a PhD degree, specializing in insect toxicology**
- Research title: *Bacillus thuringiensis* toxin receptor binding in the Asian and European corn borers
 - An international collaboration with the Pioneer Hi-Bred International, University of the Philippines at Los Banos and Universiti Putra Malaysia
 - Funded by the United States of America International Development and Pioneer Hi-Bred International.
- 1999-2003 **Obtained Master of Ag. Sc. specializing in biological control**
- Research title: Mistblowing and fogging application of *Bt* against the bagworm, *Metisa plana* (Lepidoptera: Psychidae) in oil palm
 - Funded by Sumitomo Chemical Singapore and Valent Biosciences corporations
 - Well trained in laboratory bioassays, field application technology and insect rearing.
- 1998-1999 **Final year project completed for B. Sc. Bioindustry**
- Research title: Life Table Study - Sublethal Effect of Abamectin on the Predatory Mite, *Neoseiulus longispinosus*

AWARDS

- Milton E. Mohr Graduate Fellowship - \$1000 (USD) for academic year 2008-2009
- Swenk Fund, UNL Travel Support Award to attend the 2008 Annual Entomological Society of America Meeting at Reno, Nevada - \$300 (USD)
- Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the Agricultural Research Division, UNL - \$5,000 (USD) for each academic year from 2006-2007 and 2007-2008
- Swenk Fund, UNL Travel Support Award to attend the 2007 North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America Meeting at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada - \$250 (USD)
- Scholarship from the Norsk Hydro (Malaysia) - \$5,000 (RM) per academic year from 1997-1998 and 1998-1999

PUBLICATIONS

- Crespo, A.L.B., T.A. Spencer, **S.Y. Tan** and B.D. Siegfried 2009. Fitness Costs of Cry1Ab Resistance in a Field-derived Strain of *Ostrinia nubilalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae). Journal of Economic Entomology. (Under Review)

Tan, S.Y., Y. Ibrahim and D. Omar 2008. Efficacy of *Bacillus thuringiensis* Berliner subspecies *kurstaki* and *aizawai* against the bagworm, *Metisa plana* Walker on oil palm. Journal of Bioscience. 19(1): 103-114.

Tan, S.Y., Y. Ibrahim, D. Omar and K.C. Khoo 2006. Rearing protocol for *Metisa plana* (Lepidoptera: Psychidae). Agro-Search Research Bulletin. 11(2): 9-14.

Ibrahim, Y. B. and **S.Y. Tan** 2000. Influence of sublethal exposure to abamectin on the biological performance of *Neoseiulus longispinosus* (Acari: Phytoseiidae). Journal of Economic Entomology. 93(4): 1085-1089.

PRESENTATIONS

Tan S.Y., B.D. Siegfried and Y.B. Ibrahim 2008. Susceptibility of European and Asian Corn Borers (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) to *Bacillus thuringiensis* Toxins. Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Poster presentation.

Tan S.Y., Y. Ibrahim and B.D. Siegfried 2007 Susceptibility of the Asian Corn Borer, *Ostrinia furnacalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) to Activated *Bacillus thuringiensis* Toxins. Malaysian Plant Protection Society Annual Meeting. Poster presentation.

Tan S.Y. 2007. Risk Assessment of Bt Corn Cultivation in the Philippines: Bridging the Information Between Two Corn Borer Species. North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America Meeting. Invited speaker of the Student Symposium.

Portillo H.E., J.T. Andaloro, B.H. Stanley, R.A. Cameron, C.J. Williams, E.B. Lang, R.W. Williams, W.J. Steele, D.W. Sherrod, R. Garces, P.C. Marcon, F. Foesser, A. Bassi, V. Kumar, S. Sharma, K.E. Ooi, **S.Y. Tan**, and S.H. Chang. 2004. Development and validation of Dupont's global indoxacarb baseline and susceptibility monitoring program. Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Poster presentation.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2007-2008 Entomological Society of America

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2008-2009 Graduate Student Representative of the Department of Entomology in Graduate Student Association, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2008 (Sept.) Entomology Open House, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2007 (Sept.) Entomology Open House, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2007-2008 Secretary, Bruner Club (Entomology Graduate Student Association University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

2007-2008 Rotaract Club, University of Nebraska-Lincoln