

Now is the Season for Farmers to Consider Rice Seed Selection

November 12, 2009

Dr. Yang Saing Koma, CEDAC's president, recently participated in a live talk show on Mlub Baitong (Green Shade) Radio Program on Environment. The discussion topic for this special show, which ran from 14:00 – 15:00 pm, was the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and Dr. Yang Saing Koma was the guest speaker.

During the show, many questions were asked regarding the principles of SRI, natural fertilizer, or compost, production and the economical value of practicing SRI. In his response, Dr. Koma said that there are many crucial principles to practice in order to get the best results from SRI including good rice seed selection, young seedling transplanting, spacing, weeding, using compost and efficient water management.

He stressed that rice plays a crucial role in feeding the people, but that farmers often forget to feed the rice. Finally, Dr. Koma said that, as it is the harvest season now, the two important principles that farmers should be currently focusing on are **rice seed selection** and building up the **humus of top soil** by protecting the **rice stubble**, and not to burn it after harvesting.

CEDAC is proud to report that there are now more than 100,000 families applying SRI methods throughout 24 provinces of Cambodia. It is expected to reach every village in Cambodia between the next five to ten years.