

Truong Thi Bich Van – Kyoto Institute of Technology – Japan

Truong Thi Bich Van is conducting her PhD dissertation at the Department of Applied Biology – Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan.

Ms Van' research focuses on Bacterial Wilt Disease in crops caused by *Ralstonia solanacearum*. She aims to find out a method to biologically control this disease based on the similarities between bacterial genome and bacteriophage. *Ralstonia solanacearum* is negative-Gram bacteria causing Wilt Disease in many plants. Parasitic *R. solanacearum* can be found in more than 200 different plant species. Chemical methods are found to be insufficient to treat Wilt Disease. Bacteriophage, kind of virus can infect to and “feed on” the bacterial cells, is thus an effective and safe solution. Collected strains of bacteriophage were inoculated to *Ralstonia solanacearum*. Genome analysis is used to identify strains that are able to control the disease. Those strains can be further selected for high specificity.

Kyoto City is completely peaceful. Vietnamese students in Kyoto are safe as this City is very far from the place the previous earthquake and tsunami hit on. Japanese are bravely trying their best to monitor the radioactive disaster and the situation is getting better day by day.





Truong Thi Bich Van (the second from the left) and Vietnamese students studying at the Department of Applied Biology, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan.