Fruit Fly Wide-Area Control
Interview with Farmers
(Produced by Pupuk Alam (Cambodia) Co. Ltd. - 2012)

PA Narrator   Village 4 is one of the 7 villages in Treng Tra Ying Commune, Phnom Srouch District In Kampong Speu Province.

Like in other villages, the mango plants are the important fruit plantations, and also one of the main income sources for those villagers...With financial assistance in the form of the matching grant from AusAID, Pupuk Alam (Cambodia) Co. Ltd., has introduced the good agriculture practice, including the sanitation of plantations, the use of hormone traps, and especially the application of protein baits to destroy the flies that sting the fruits.

PA Interviewer   Today, the staff of Pupuk Alam (Cambodia) Co. Ltd will be interviewing the chief of the village, in Treng Tra Ying Commune, Phnom Srouch District in Kampong Speu Province, who has been using the protein baits to destroy the flies that sting the fruits.

PA Interviewer   Hello Uncle, what's your name?

Village Chief   My name's Long Kun.

PA Interviewer   Long Kun. How are you doing?

Village Chief   I'm doing fine.

PA Interviewer   Today, it is the harvest of your mangoes... How long have you been planting mango trees?

Village Chief   For over 11 years.

PA Interviewer   How many mango trees have you planted?

Village Chief   Over 400.

PA Interviewer   Over 400!...on how many hectares?

Village Chief   On 2.5 hectares.

PA Narrator   Based on the research, the mango plants have been damaged from 25 to 40 percent by the groups of flies that sting the fruits. They punch holes in the mangoes and lay their eggs in the fruits, therefore causing damage to the fruits, and making the fruits unsalable.

Farmer   For each harvest, before using these [protein baits], eight to nine tons [of mangoes] were damaged, that is, 35 to 40 percent were spoiled. And after we have used these - protein baits and fly traps - the amount of damage were dropped down to only 15 to 20 percent. So, the reduction from 40

percent to 20 percent is quite big amount.

And, look at our mangoes. Previously, when they were going to be ripe, the Monkey flies came and punched holes.

PA Interviewer   And, what happed after the use [of protein baits and fly traps]?

Farmer   Yes, after the use, we have seen much reduction of damages...

PA Narrator   Previously, the farmers used to leave the spoiled mangoes that fell from the trees to scatter around. But now they clearly understand the consequence from leaving the spoiled fruits to scatter here and there.

They now have begun to collect all these spoiled fruits, then put them in the bags or bury them or dry them under sunlight to kill the worms.

These are the spoiled fruits that were collected and put in the bags and covered to kill the worms in the fruits.

PA Interviewer   Will you try to encourage the other farmers to use them [protein baits and fly traps] to help reduce the fly population that sting the fruits?

Farmer   Yes, we need to encourage them to use, as we want them to join in reducing [the flies] together. We want good harvest, and If I use them alone, it is impossible to cope with them [the flies], and that's why we need to persuade the other farmers to use them.

PA Interviewer   Have you encouraged the other farmers to use?

Farmer   Yes, I have encouraged two or three farmers. But I haven't met the PA agents yet.

Now, I want to ask the PA agents. Can I introduce them to join?

PA Interviewer   For the next seasons, will you continue using the protein baits and fly traps?

Farmer   Yes, of course, I will.

PA Narrator   Protein baits are the best fragrant baits for attracting the flies that sting the fruits. Unlike the use of other insecticides, they practice a method, that is called, the "spot spraying" of protein baits. This makes it easy and requires less labor.

After spraying, the flies that are attracted by the baits will eat the baits on the leaves of the trees, then are poisoned and die there. Simply, it is just the mixture of a very small amount of insecticide in the baits.

As a result, the farmers expressed their happiness and smile.