

# MEDIA RELEASE

## AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VIENTIANE



### **Rice Seeders are well attractive in NAFRI's agricultural exhibition.**

The National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) recently celebrated the 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of its establishment. An exhibition of agricultural products, research achievements, and other publications was part of the event.

Rice Seeders were displayed as part of the event. The seeding machines were the subject of interest by a number of visitors, with inquiries about how they work, and their capacity, according to Mr Bounxou, a machine-using farmer from Thouat village, Champhone district, Savannakhet Province.

Seeding machines were introduced in two research projects implementing by NAFRI, Savannakhet Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO), and Australian scientists under a cooperative funding agreement from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). The projects aim to improve productivity under variable climate conditions such as droughts and floods in order to ensure food security, to release unnecessary labourers to other sectoral activities, and to save production costs.

These cultivation tools have been widely used in Savannakhet. Farmers in other districts who had been told from project participating farmers about how well the machines work also bought their own machines to improve their rice production, according to project implementers from PAFO.

For more information  
please contact:

Australian Centre for In-  
ternational Agricultural  
Research (ACIAR)

C/o: Australian Embas-  
sy, Vientiane

Tel.: +856 21 353800



Minister of Agriculture and Forestry (left) talked to the farmer from Savannakhet at ACIAR booth