

Changing World – Environment, Agriculture and Society (11 June – 23 June 2018)

A 13-day summer school program, the “2018 Kyoto Study Program for Kasetsart University (Changing World – Environment, Agriculture and Society)”, began on 11 June with 14 students taking part from the Thai university. The program was a part of the international seminar, “Changing Southeast Asia – Environment, Industry and Society”, offered by the Graduate School of Agriculture (GSA) under the Wild & Wise Collaborative Learning Program. The 14 participants were enrolled in the Faculty of Agriculture as the short-term international students for the duration of the summer school.

The Kasetsart students attended a lecture by GSA Professor Motoki Akitsu on “Agri-food World in Japan: Present and Future”, and went on field trips to locations such as GSA’s two experimental farms, private farms in Shiga Prefecture and Kyoto suburbs, Kyoto Prefectural Tea Industry Research Division, and the Kitayama Japanese Cedar Center, gaining insights into the country’s agriculture, forestry, and natural environment. In addition, they visited the Lake Biwa Museum and Mizunomori Water Botanical Garden to learn about local ecosystems and eco-preservation efforts.

The program also offered cultural experiences: after attending a lecture on “Japanese traditional culture”, delivered by Associate Professor Shikiko Yukawa of the Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Education Center for Japanese Language and Culture, the participants experienced Yuzen dyeing, tried on kimono, visited the Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum, and, dressed in yukata, toured Kiyomizu-dera Temple and other World Heritage sites.

There were also numerous opportunities for the students to interact with their Japanese counterparts, with a number of Kyoto U students -- who have enrolled, or plan to enroll, in an international course partially hosted by Kasetsart -- joining some of the summer school activities.



Special lecture on Agri-food World in Japan : Present and Future



Special lecture on Japanese traditional culture



Visiting Kinkakuji-temple



Yuzen dyeing



Final presentation