

citation by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo of the Philippines.

However, in spite of Dr. De Datta's monumental contribution in the identification of IR8-288-3 with the record yielding capacity in 1966, dry season, all the write-up on Green Revolution in rice failed to recognize Dr. De Datta's contribution to IR8 adequately and in most cases none at all. I came to know about this omission when I found an article published by The Better India recently where the credit for the Green revolution was given to others, and where Dr. De Datta's name was misspelled and merely mentioned in passing. That is when I started to think about the injustice of it all and thought about setting the record straight.

Dr. De Datta's quiet contribution to rice farming in rural Philippines and Haiti

I came to IRRI as a research fellow in 1974 and worked with Dr. De Datta who was then the head of the Agronomy Department. He became my mentor and sent me to the Bicol region to execute testing of a program that he had designed with other IRRI colleagues, called "yield constraint studies in lowland rice" where I worked with the rice farmers and obtained very good results. I measured the yield gap between what the research stations and the farmers got, and accounted for the constraints. Here again it was Dr. DeDatta and his pioneering research that was behind the success in the Bicol region of the Philippines.

Years later in 1984 I found myself working in Haiti and in search of strong rice varieties to improve local rice cultivation in the Les Cayes area. When no others would help, it was Dr. De Datta who sent me seeds of 10 High Yielding rice varieties from IRRI. Of the 10 that he sent me, one variety which I named Amina, gave high yield and was so liked by the farmers