

## Visit to vandalized Golden Rice field trial

On August 9 and 10, we traveled overland 320 kilometers to the Bicol region in Southern Luzon in the Philippines. The day before, a crowd of 300 had stormed the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Unit 5's (DA-RFU5) Bicol Experiment Station, overwhelming the police and guards, and vandalizing the research plots of Golden Rice.

The purpose of the trip was to learn first-hand about the act of vandalism, and to hear the views of the key officials on site. Joining me on the trip was Chief Science Research Specialist and Project Leader Dr. Antonio Alfonso of the Philippine Rice Research Institute, National Programs Relations Manager of IRRI Julian Lapitan, and Healthier Rice Project Manager Raul Boncodin.

**Read the full, original story here: [“Visit to vandalized Golden Rice field trial”](#)**