

Rural Training Center – Thailand (RTC-TH)

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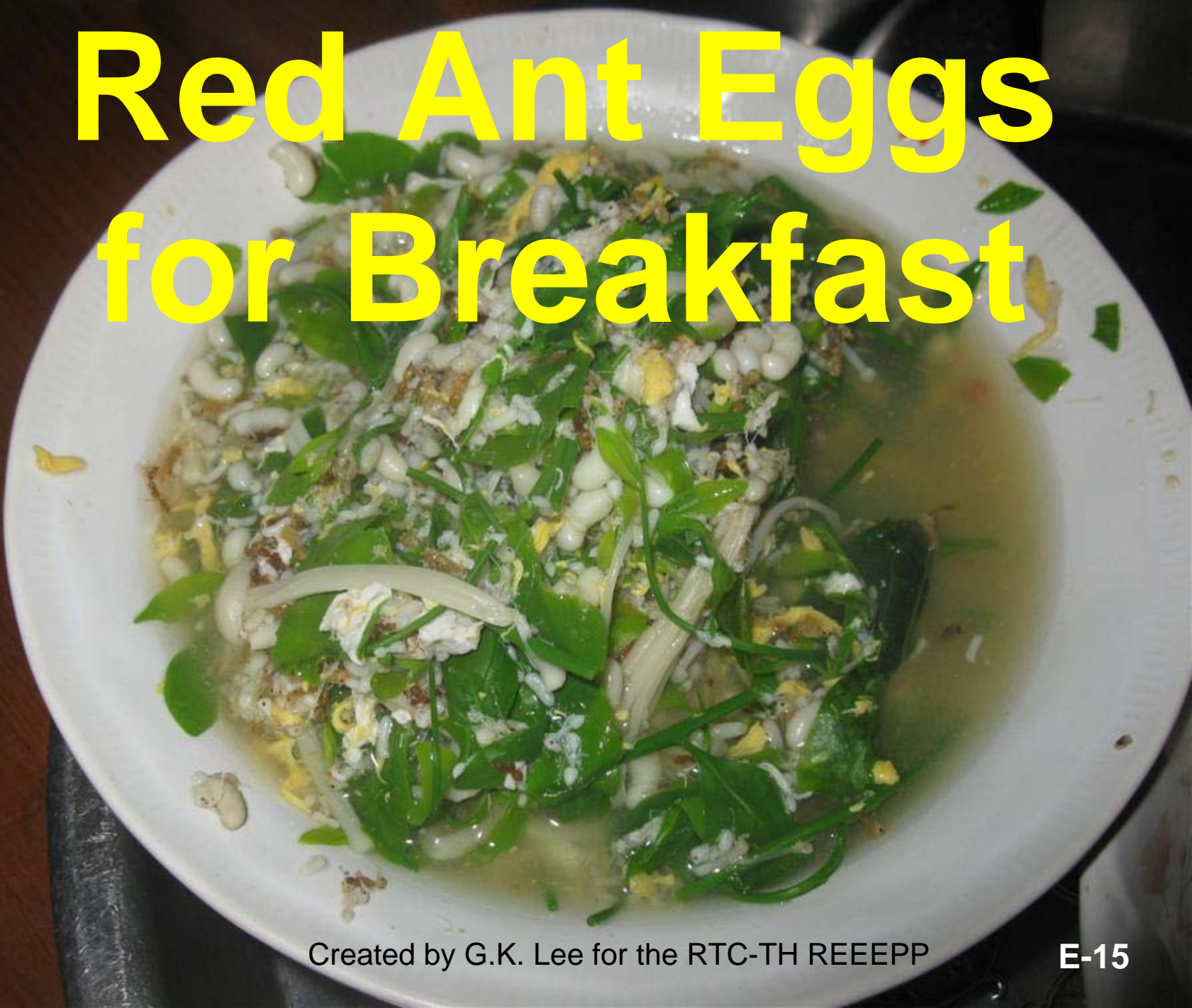
The logo is circular with a blue border. Inside, there's a globe with a green leaf and a golden trophy. Text around the globe includes 'R.E.E.E.P.P.' at the top, 'RTC-THailand' in the center, and 'Rural Training Center-Thailand' and 'Rural Environmental Education Enhancement Pilot Program' around the bottom.

REEEPP

**Rural Environmental Education
Enhancement Pilot Program**



Red Ant Eggs for Breakfast



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Created by G.K. Lee for the RTC-TH REEEPP

E-15



This is an English Language Training module of **REEEPP**

Rural Environmental Education Enhancement Pilot Program
presented by
The Rural Training Center-Thailand



E-mail: rtc2k5@gmail.com

www.neighborhoodlink.com/Rural_Training_Center-Thailand

It is the dry season. Mom sees something in the mango tree.



Do you see it? Some Thais like to eat young mango leaves.



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But she sees something else.
Do you see it?



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Yes! The red weave ant nest.
She's been watching it for a few days.



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She's prepared a sharpened bamboo pole with a bag slung on the end.



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She put some flour in a clean empty bucket.



A sharp jab makes a hole in the nest. Twisting and shaking makes the red ant eggs drop into the collecting bag.



It is hard to
hold on to the
long pole
reaching so
high into the
tree



You have to make sure the eggs drop
into the bag.



When the nest is empty, Mom empties the bag into the bucket with the flour.



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Watch out! The red ants crawl fast and bite trying to save the eggs and larvae.



Mom shakes the bucket to mix the eggs and flour. Ants have trouble picking up eggs covered in flour.



She set the bucket in the sun for a few hours to get rid of the ants.



A few hours later, she empties the bucket onto a tray.



Some ants are still mixed in with the eggs and flour.



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Some ants are large and have wings.



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She winnows the mixture by gently tossing the eggs and ants in the tray.



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This uses gravity to separate the eggs and ants on the tray.



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The red ants are lighter and get shifted to the far side of the tray.



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The heavier eggs settle to the back of the tray.



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Mom gathers up the inactive ants.



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She puts them in a plastic bag to take to the farm to use as fish food.



You can see large ants with wings with the eggs.
These ants are heavier than the other ants.



Mom repeated tosses the tray, stops, picks out ants, and tosses the tray again.



It is tedious work to clean out the ants.



It is a simple but effective way to separate the eggs from the ants.



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At the same time we are getting free fish food as well as food for ourselves.



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She will stop when she is satisfied (or tired).



She empties the tray into a bowl.



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There are still some large ants with wings mixed in with the eggs.



She puts the bowl of ant eggs on the washed tray and fills the tray with water.



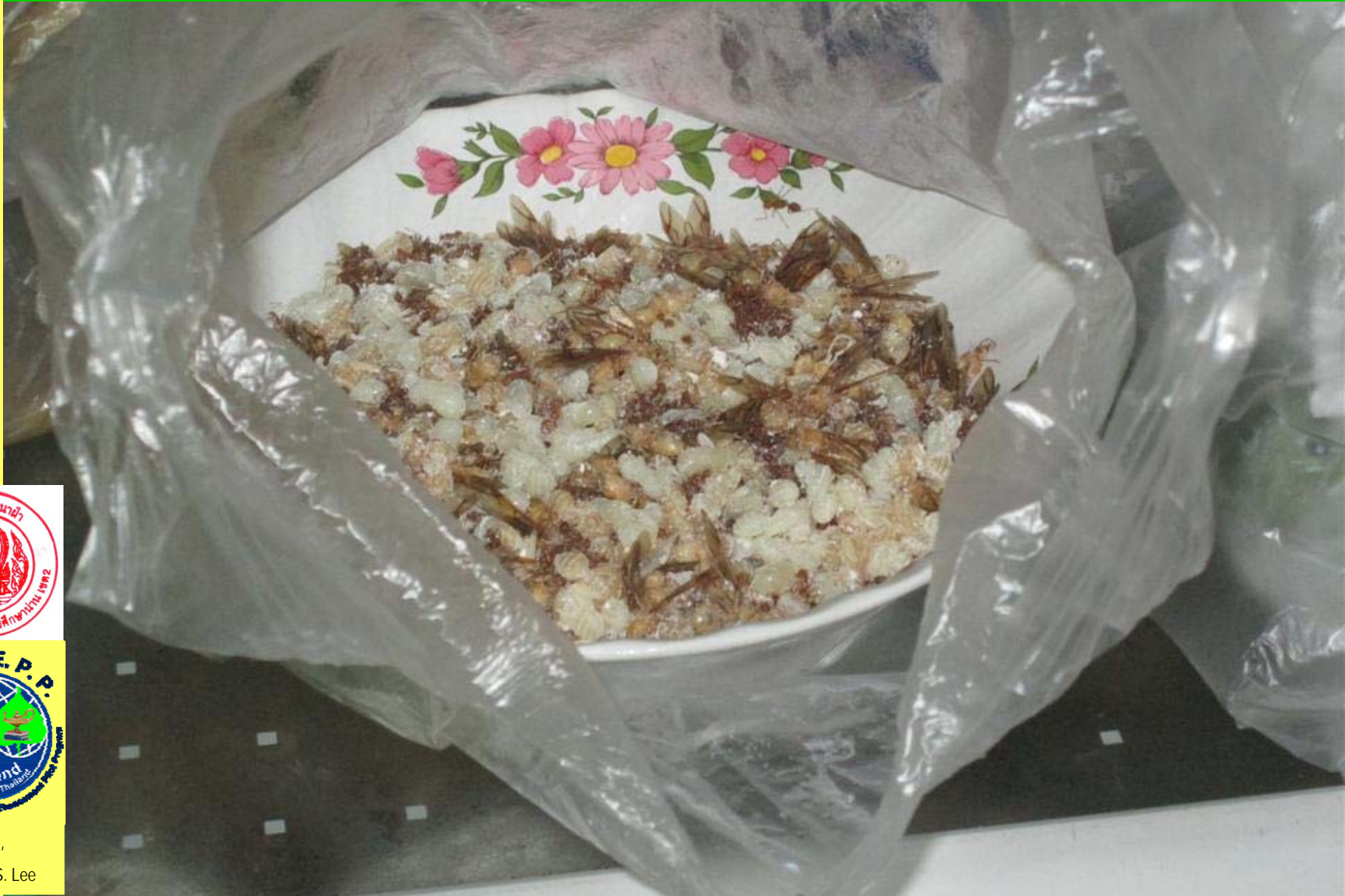
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The bowl is set aside to cool. The water barrier stops black ants from stealing the red ant eggs.



She is busy and cook them now. So she covers the bowl and puts it in the refrigerator.



The next day, guess what we have for breakfast?



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Look close and you can see red ants, eggs, and larvae mixed in with the vegetables.



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The RTC-TH was created to honor the memory of Mr. Tang Suttisan, a father, a farmer, and a man who valued education and used it in starting his family farm applying the King's Theory.



REEEPP

Rural Environmental Education Enhancement Pilot Program



An innovative, non-traditional community-based environmental education program integrating math, science, geography, English language, and technology lessons for environmental stewardship using interactive experiential learning in outdoor settings at Ban Na Fa Elementary School, Nan Province, Thailand..



The End



To see our other lessons
Visit www.neighborhoodlink.com/RTC-TH_Tech/pages

