



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siwaret Arikit**Director of the Rice Science Center, Kasetsart University, Thailand

Dr. Siwaret Arikit is an Associate Professor and Director of the Rice Science Center at Kasetsart University, Thailand. His research focuses on rice functional genomics, molecular breeding, and climate-smart agriculture, with an emphasis on gene discovery for important agronomic traits such as tillering, methane emission, salinity tolerance, and pest resistance. He has extensive experience in utilizing advanced genomic tools, including QTL-seq, GWAS, and genome editing, to accelerate rice improvement. Beyond rice, he also leads projects on high-value crops such as coconut, particularly in the areas of genomics and trait improvement for aroma, sweetness, and *makapuno*. Dr. Arikit has established broad international collaborations with leading institutions such as IRRI, CIRAD-IRD, and the University of Tokyo. He also serves on editorial boards of international journals including *RICE* and *Horticultural Plant Journal*.