

## Seasonal Events

### 1. Sanaburi Festival

The NIAES Sanaburi Festival 2004 took place after work on 15 June. Sanaburi is a traditional ceremony designed to send the gods, who have stayed in the paddy fields over the rice-planting period, off to Heaven. It is also the time when farmers celebrate the trouble-free end to their hard rice-planting work. At the Festival, a rice-planting ceremony was performed and then staff members served a variety of foods and drinks to each other. The 200 participants had a good time, refreshing themselves and strengthening friendships. (Photo 1 )



Photo 1 The rice-planting ceremony.

### 2. Harvest Festival

The NIAES Harvest Festival 2004 took place after work on 7 November to thank the gods and workers for a bountiful harvest and to enhance friendships among staff members. At the opening address, the Director General expressed his appreciation for the staff's services over the year. After the rice-harvesting ceremony had been solemnly performed, the participants, who numbered about 200, had a good time, enjoying a variety of foods and drinks served by staff members. (Photo 2)



Photo 2 Staff members making rice cakes during the Harvest Festival.