



## *Syrian Obstocks Program*

### What's happening?

- Madagascar training
- East & Southern Hub and SEARCH meetings
- Syrian ToT
- Ghana ToT
- CropLife Morocco approval
- Sahelian Pesticides Committee
- Linking SEARCH with COLEACP and SADC
- National Association activities in West Central Africa



The Minister of Agriculture in Syria has declared officially that the Syrian authorities have concluded Phase 2 of the repackaging and safeguarding exercise for 450 tons of obsolete pesticide stocks out of a total of 570 tons of obsolete pesticide stocks identified in Syria, within the national disposal project driven with the FAO aimed at final destruction of obstocks present in the country.

The repacked stocks which were stored in 45 depots in Tanaf and Gebrin districts have now been stored and safeguarded in 2 main depots pursuant to a coordinated environmental assessment exercise.

Phase 1 and 2 of the repackaging and safeguarding exercises have been funded and supervised by the FAO at a total cost of US\$380,000.

CropLife Syria have been approached by the MoA and have agreed to contribute to Phase 3 of the repackaging exercise.

Dr. Safar announced that the FAO is currently negotiating with potential donors to secure the required funding for final destruction of the stocks estimated to be approximately US\$1.5m.

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## Madagascar Training

CropLife Madagascar organised a training session on 25-June-2006, for the "Projet BV Lac", a CIRAD project funded by Agence Française de Développement (AFD) in Ambatondrazaka, the number one rice production region (Lac Alaotra) in Madagascar.

"Projet BV Lac" is a rural development project involved in the promotion of the "Semis Direct", minimum tillage system and the dissemination to rice farmers, of SE-BOTA, a variety of rice seed. Participants were 37 agricultural engineers and technicians who cover 2,780 farmers within the region.

After a technical presentation of the Bayer CropScience range, CropLife Madagascar provided information on several themes:

- Regulations on pesticides
- Basic knowledge on pesticides (categories of hazardous products, types of hazard, pesticide formulations)
- How to read a label



- Safe-use recommendations
- Protective clothing
- Causes of environmental contamination
- Pesticide store recommendations
- Safety in transporting pesticides
- Cleaning and disposing containers
- Poisoning (causes, symptoms and first aid)

Participants were pleased by the themes that were addressed and the project coordinator has committed to make efforts to comply with CropLife recommendations.

The overall expenses of this seminar were shared by Bayer CropScience and its local Distributor. This training session was organised to set an example for CropLife Madagascar members to include CropLife presentations in each of their future seminars.

Rivo Andriamanalina, CropLife Madagascar



## Sahelian Pesticides Committee

The 19th Session of the Sahelian Pesticides Committee (Comité Sahélien des Pesticides, CSP) was held July 24-28 at the Hotel Margot in Bamako, Mali. This was presided over by the Director, Plant Protection Department and President of the Pesticides Committee of Côte d'Ivoire. It was attended by members of CSP (delegates and experts from member CILSS countries), and partners, CropLife Africa Middle East, COLEACP-PIP, FAO, OMS. The agenda included the activities conducted by the Permanent Secretary; Training activities organised for capacity building and funded by COLEACP-PIP for 6 members

of CSP in laboratories (Versailles, France) and with registration bodies/authorities in and Belgium. The outcomes determined the following: a need for improvement of the submission dossier; the need to establish long lasting cooperation with hosts of recent training visits; the need to improve dossier study/analysis for registration; the consideration of including other CSP members in the training for capacity building. A closed session was organised for dossier study for products registration. Contact: [bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)

## *Syrian Training of Trainers*

Fourteen trainers from various sectors within the Ministry of Agriculture attended the Train-the-Trainer course in Damascus, Syria, between 6th and 10th August, 2006. The training is very participative and learners are required to do exercises, presentations, prepare lessons and deliver a training session. To receive a Certificate of Competence, learners must also pass a test and a lesson assessment. During their individual presentations, they are filmed and receive feedback on performance by watching themselves on TV. Further Training of Trainer courses are planned for 2007. Contact:

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## Capacity building: Master Trainers

## *Ghana Training of Trainers*



In Accra, Ghana fifteen Master Trainers from industry, government and NGO's, including FAO and GAABIC, received Certificates of Competence, from CropLife Ghana Chairman, William Kotey, in a certificate ceremony. This course, conducted between 18th and 22nd July, 2006, is the third Master Trainers course in Ghana, and there are now 43 competent Master Trainers based in Ghana. They will be used by industry and by IFDC to train members of national agricultural input dealers associations around the country. Contact:

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## ***CropLife East & Southern Africa Hub & SEARCH Meetings, Nairobi, June, 2006***

The East & Southern Africa, Hub and SEARCH meetings held in Nairobi in June were arranged in a somewhat different format to previous years with a number of outside presenters engaged to support the programme. This approach appeared to be well received and gave participants a much broader perspective to the aims and objectives of CropLife Africa Middle East.

The opportunity was taken to acknowledge the outstanding efforts made by certain of the National Associations in the core areas of our activities and a number of awards along the theme of "excellence" were presented. A special award was conferred on Dr Jack Aston in acknowledgement of his training successes, particularly in Somalia, not the easiest of countries to work in.

Notable achievements were made at the conference specifically in the area of "self sustainability" on the part of the National Associations whilst the Regulators within SEARCH used the opportunity to modify their thinking in terms of harmonisation. In future there will be three distinctive country groupings.

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Patrick Khembo Chairman  
of CropLife Malawi



Fulasa Sory representing  
CropLife Ethiopia



Rivo Andriamanalina Chairman  
of CropLife Madagascar



Cosmas Matanda representing  
CropLife Tanzania



Fred Muduuli, Chairman of  
CropLife Uganda



Graeme McPhail representing  
CropLife Zimbabwe

**Representing the Plant Science Industry**



Fred Muduuli (left) received the award on behalf of CropLife Uganda for "Excellence in Partnerships"



Rudolf Guyer presented Gitau Macharia (right) with the award to CropLife Kenya for "Excellence in Training Activities"

### Scenes from the East & Southern Hub and SEARCH meetings



Gitau Macharia Chairman of CropLife Kenya welcoming delegates to the conference



Serge L'Ecluse received the award on behalf of CropLife Mauritius for "Excellence in All-Round Performance"



Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Romano M. Kiome formally opening the conference



Björn Neumann (above) in discussion with Permanent Secretary Agriculture, Romano Kiome



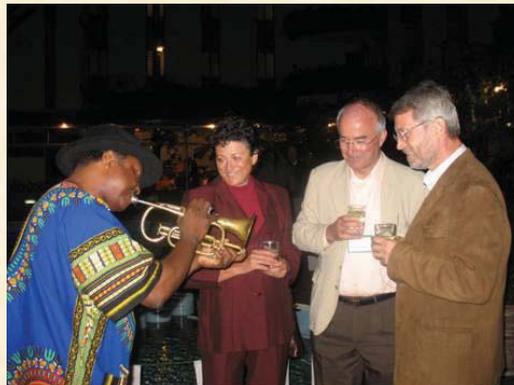
Left: Peter van den Hoek, Akiya Takesako and Bama Octave Yao enjoying a tea break



Above: Lindiwe Sibanda, Les Hillowitz and Ali Mohd Ali discussing the day's events



Richard Sikuku with Jack Aston



Left: Dr. & Mrs. Rudolf Guyer & Wolfgang Roesch enjoying pre-dinner entertainment

## News Snippets

### STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

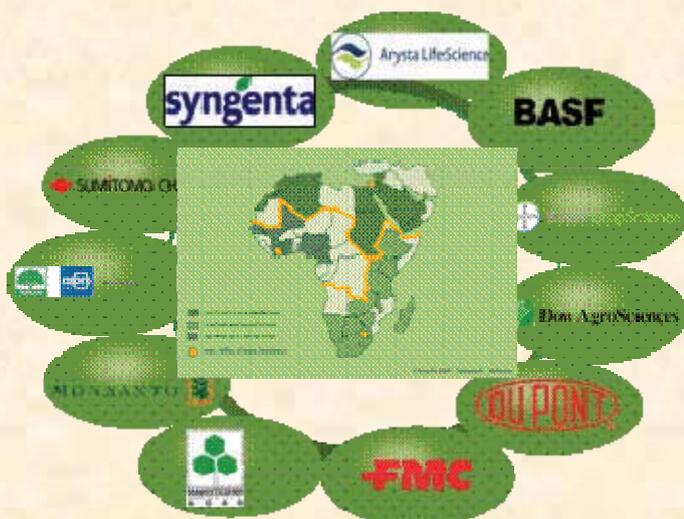
Bama Yao, Area Coordinator, CropLife Africa Middle East, West Central Hub, CropLife Africa Middle East has been busy strengthening National Associations. In workshops with CropLife Mali and CropLife Côte d'Ivoire executive committees, he has been able to set up the following: workable annual actions plan based on country priorities; training needs analysis; conducting and report on training activities; building alliances and partnerships; evaluation and subsequent actions for the FAO Code of Conduct; participation in ASP Mali activities; cooperation with MINAGRI/DNA for regulatory issues; communication activities and report on stewardship activities; preparation of upcoming ToT sessions; registration and launching of the National Association. Contact: [bama-croplife@avis.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@avis.ci)

CropLife Africa Middle East representatives attended a meeting with representatives of the "Delegation of the European Commission" in Botswana for the purpose of linking both the CropLife Africa Middle East SEARCH initiative and COLEACP directly to the SADC MRL Project. A communications platform has been established. Contact: [les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)

Mr. Boubker Elouilani has announced that the Moroccan authorities have officially given the green light for the incorporation and launch of the local Moroccan association in the name of CropLife Morocco.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Training of Trainers for CropLife Tunisia: 04 to 08-September-2006.
- Training of Trainers for CropLife Morocco: 11 to 15-September-2006.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Executive Committee meeting, Cairo, Egypt: 23-November-2006.
- Secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, in Cairo, Egypt: 11 to 14-September-2006.
- North Africa Middle East hub & regulatory meetings, Cairo, Egypt: 21 to 22-November-2006.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Executive Committee Meeting 3/2006, Cairo: 23-November-2006.



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