



## East & Southern Africa Hub and Regulatory Workshop: Umhlanga, South Africa – 20 & 21 August

Following the “welcome address” by Tom Mabesa of CropLife South Africa and the “keynote address” by Rudolf Guyer, the “opening address” was undertaken by John Purchase, CEO of the Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa. This focused on “Developing Value Chains in Southern and Eastern Africa.

The plenary session comprised of the following topics:

- The importance of Protection of Regulatory Data and Confidential Business Information (PRD / CBI) – Bernhard Johnen
- Stewardship and Resistance Management – Keith Jones
- Update on Plant Biotechnology in Africa – Industry’s Perspective on the way forward – Wally Green
- Advocacy and Outreach: The Crop Protection Industry Approach – Robert Hunter

This group was later joined by John Purchase, who as a panel addressed the many questions from the audience.

Later in the day participants split into two groups namely; the National Associations and the Regulatory Group which was ably led by Bernhard Johnen. The National Associations were exposed to “advocacy” in a workshop conducted by Robert Hunter.



Above: Dr John Purchase undertaking his opening address.



L-R, John Barnes, Rudolf Guyer and John Purchase

For the National Associations the following areas were covered:

- The Spray Service Provider Concept
- IPM & IRM Training
- Container Management
- Anti-Counterfeiting
- Information Resources
- Partnerships
- Training programs

The Regulatory Group focused on the following:

- PRD / CBI workshop
- The Gap Analysis covering South Africa and Kenya

During the formal dinner recognition was made to several of the National Associations who had made significant progress over the past 12 months, these included:

- CropLife Uganda – Excellence in Partnerships
- CropLife Mauritius – Excellence in Container Management
- CropLife South Africa – Excellence in Advocacy
- CropLife Madagascar – Excellence in Anti-Counterfeiting
- CropLife Zambia – Excellence in Container Management

Les Hillowitz



Above: Panel Discussions



Right: The "Dow Team": L-R Nolwazi Mkize, Rod Foran and Pamba Everlyne.



Group Photo

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Mukesh Rughoo accepting the award on behalf of CropLife Mauritius



Chola Kamaki and Perry Ngoma accepting the award on behalf of CropLife Zambia



Working Group<sup>®</sup> in serious discussion

## Stewardship

### CropLife Cameroon: IPM/RU Training Workshop

Two IPM / RU training workshops took place in Cameroon; the first in Deschang on 25 - 26 June, with the second in NGaoudéré on 19 – 21 August.

There were 42 participants at the Deschang training and 54 at the NGaoudéré intervention.

The sessions were organized as part of the annual joint activities under the MoU between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and CropLife Cameroon. The objective was to provide knowledge and tools to the participants for the safe and effective use of pesticides in vegetable production. The sessions were conducted using the participative approach and were facilitated by Gisèle Etoundi, Master Trainer and also officer at the MINADER. She was supported by other trainers of the MINADER and by CropLife Cameroon. The following topics were covered:

- Identification of the major constraints in vegetable production and subsequent protection methods
- Pesticides recommended in vegetable production
- Pesticide formulations and risks related to misuse
- Stewardship to maximise the benefits of pesticides and the reduced risks attached
- IPM in vegetable production
- Risks associated with counterfeit and other illegal pesticides

Bama Yao

### Pesticide Use and Sustainability in Cotton Production: Côte d'Ivoire

On 26 August, in Bouaké, 40 participants representing the Ministry of Agriculture, the cotton companies, cotton farmer organizations, CropLife Côte d'Ivoire, and the local authorities got together to discuss pesticide use and sustainability in cotton.

The workshop was organized by the regulatory authority of cotton and cashew (Autorité de Régulation du Coton et de l'Anacarde, ARECA) and the Competitive Cotton Initiative (COMPCI) to sensitize participants on the responsible use and handling of pesticides to ensure the sustainability of cotton production. The presentations, including that by CropLife Côte d'Ivoire focused on:

- The importance of pesticides for sustainable cotton production, the risks associated with misuses of pesticides, the illegal trade of pesticides, the responsibility and the need for a coordinated approach among stakeholders for capacity building in safe and responsible use of pesticides.
- The contribution of research and the extension services for promoting and implementing IPM programs and other stewardship activities for sustainability.
- Promoting and implementing IPM programs in cotton.
- Conducting training for major stakeholders of the value chain on stewardship activities.
- Considering the possibility of the SSP concept in cotton production.
- Combating the illegal trade of pesticides through various deterrent measures.

Bama Yao



## Launch of the WCF-ACI SSP Project in Côte d'Ivoire

On 14 August, in Abidjan, more than 100 participants including the following got together for the launch of the WCF-ACI SSP Project:

- The Café-Cacao Council of Côte d'Ivoire (Conseil Café-Cacao) with the Director General and 10 close collaborators and managers of the Department of the Conseil Café-Cacao.
- The Director General (DG) of CNRA, the national agriculture research service, the Deputy DG of ANADER (extension service)
- Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Industry, Program Officer of FIRCA, WCF, Solidaridad, ICRAF, Cargill, ADM, Novel CI, CONDICAF and the ICCO SPS African Cocoa project
- Producer organizations, individual farmers, quality control institutions (SGS, VERITAS), and research fellows.
- Member companies of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire.

The magnitude of the launch was found necessary to present and seek the implication of the major stakeholders in the project, mainly the public sector as well as the private sector made up of cocoa bean exporters and the chocolate industry, input suppliers, producers and producer organizations. To this end the launch was organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Agriculture with the sponsorship of the Conseil Café-Cacao.

The President of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the participants and thanked the Conseil Café-Cacao for their sponsorship; the DG of the Conseil Café-Cacao, Mrs M. TOURE-LITSE, stressed on the importance of cocoa to the economy of Côte d'Ivoire and the commitment of her institution to improve the productivity, the quality of cocoa beans and the incomes of the producers to sustain the overall cocoa economy.



Mrs M. Dosso, President of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire (Top), and Mrs M. Touré-Litsé, Director General of Le Conseil Café-Cacao (Above) addressing the participants during the opening ceremony (Below)



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The importance of the SSP approach was stressed through the following presentations focusing on:

- The SSP project and benefits for the cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire
- CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and the inputs supply in cocoa and other crops
- CropLife Africa Middle East, quality agricultural inputs and sustainability of the cocoa economy and agriculture
- Activities of WCF-ACI in West and Central Africa
- TechnoServe, and the credit inputs for the SSP
- Pesticide regulations in Côte d'Ivoire in the context of the SSP project

The event benefited from large media coverage and many other stakeholders expressed interest in the project. Some exporters such as Novel, the "agroforestry program" (ICRAF) have indicated their willingness to cooperate with CropLife Côte d'Ivoire to implement similar programs.

An important outcome of the earlier meeting and the launch ceremony is the full support of le Conseil Café-Cacao to the project and the future close cooperation with CropLife Côte d'Ivoire this will bring.

Bama Yao



Above: Group photo of the SSP trainers with the DG of Le Conseil Café-Cacao



Mballo NDiaye (left) and J-Y Couloud (right) WCF-CLP and WCF-ECHOES presenting the activities of WCF in W. C Africa

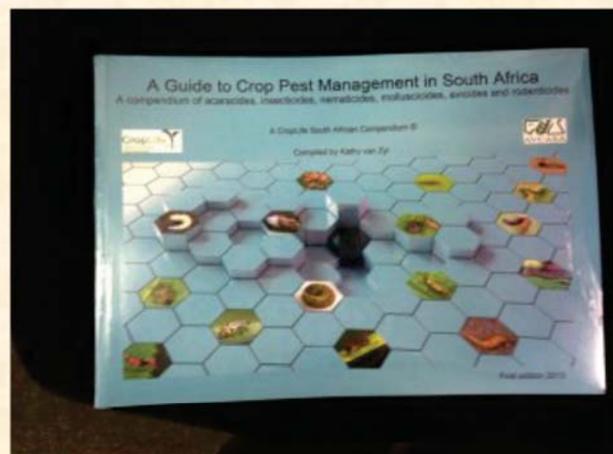
## Association Management

### CropLife South Africa Launches New Publication: "A Guide to Crop Pest Management in South Africa"

This CropLife South Africa Compendium covers acaricides, insecticides, nematocides, molluscicides, avicides and rodenticides.

It is in both print and CD ROM format and can be ordered directly from the CropLife SA offices. Cost of the compendium including the CD-ROM is Rands 200.00, mailing and packaging excluded

Tom Mabesa CropLife South Africa



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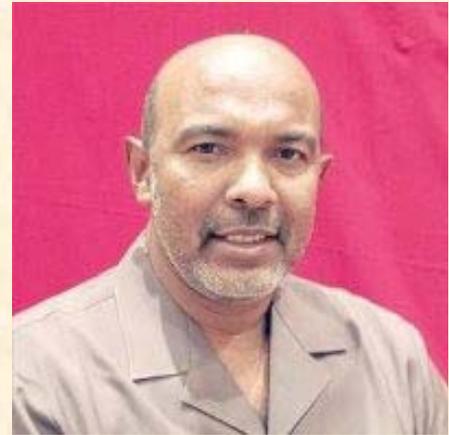
## Association Management

### SAGA - CropLife Sudan

The renewal and update of the Pesticide Act 1974 and its related by-laws are a long and ongoing process. The role of SAGA in this process is very clear and who is active through its membership on all the relevant committees. The national association has brought some important proposals to the table in the interests of the industry.

A meeting with the Federal Minister of Agriculture took place on 8 August and covered the following topics:

- Reduction of the import tax and the standardizing of tax rates for all crop protection products (CPP's)
- To permit to use of hard currency for the importation of CPP's and the settlements of bills.
- That the scarcity of foreign exchange which has led to the shortage of the supply of CPP's on the local market.
- To speed up the tender awards.



Dr. Abdul-Halim Ismail Al-Mutaafi - Federal Minister of Agriculture

All the above contributes to high prices of pesticides, which in turn leads to the introduction of counterfeiting, and the illegal trade in CPP's. More importantly the practice of "under dosing" occurs which has longer-term devastating effects.

The meeting concluded with a promise by the Minister to work towards solving the above issues.

SAGA invited all members of the Plant Protection Directorate, the Agricultural Research Council, the National Pesticides Council and Ministry of Health representatives to a Ramadan (Fasting Month) meal

The gathering, which is made annually, is considered a good opportunity for discussions of mutual issues.

Another development is that the National Pesticides Council and SAGA formed a permanent joint committee to address all pesticide related issues and more urgently those matters related to the registration and importation of products. The first of these meetings will start soon.

On Plant Biotechnology, Sudan became the fourth country in Africa to commercialize a genetically modified crop. This was 20,000ha of BT cotton.

Mohamed Abdall - SAGA

The RAMADAN Meeting



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## CropLife Kenya Successfully Lobbies Against Tax on Pest Control Products

Over the years Kenya had adopted a zero-rating on pest control products in the Value Added Tax law.

In 2012 the government introduced the VAT Bill in parliament that would include pest control products as a taxable category at 16%.

CropLife Kenya, together with other organizations in the agricultural sector, successfully lobbied the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture on the issue and successfully had the Bill withdrawn by government.

In May 2013, the VAT Bill was reintroduced in parliament and was to include pest control products amongst many other product categories. CropLife Kenya again lobbied through the media, Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, parliamentarians and all key agricultural organizations, which included the Consumers Federation of Kenya (COFEK) amongst others.

The issues discussed with all the stakeholders included:

### Food Security

The 16 % would result in reduced usage of farm inputs leading to lower production of between 30 – 40%. This would have a major impact on food security and could lead to untold social economic and political implications. This would also lead to an increase in consumer prices that could definitely affect the poor, the very same group that government is trying to protect. Food insecurity would mean a hungry nation that could then affect all other sectors of development including security, education and the tourism industry amongst others.

### Foreign Exchange

Lower production means reduced exports and a severe reduction on foreign exchange earnings. The introduction of a 16% VAT on pest control products and other farm inputs would definitely reduce the over 80 billion Kenya shillings earned in 2012 in the horticulture export sector. In addition this would lead to the reduced purchasing power for farmers and thus affecting their economic wellbeing.

### Counterfeiting

Loss of purchasing power for the farmer would lead to the increased usage of counterfeit, fake and adulterated farm inputs. This would lead to even greater reduction in farm production, compromised health and environmental degradation. The use of counterfeit products would compromise the quality of produce for the export market on MRL's thus affecting our horticultural export market further and could lead to even more restrictions.

### Employment

Agriculture contributes 25% towards GDP and also contributes 70% in rural employment. Therefore the addition of the 16% VAT would affect production and in turn impact on employment. This would lead to jobs flight to neighboring countries that are still zero rated (and some even being subsidized) on agricultural inputs.

### Competiveness

On average, crop protection constitutes about 30% of total production budget. This percentage would definitely go up, and thus increase the cost of production. This would lead to the Kenya export produce, especially horticulture, being uncompetitive on the world market.

### Certified Seeds

Increased costs of production by the introduction of the 16% VAT on pest control products would increase the cost certified seeds and thus cancel any gains in the zero rating of flour and bread amongst other items of importance to the poor in the country.

### Food Imports

A 16% VAT on inputs whilst neighboring countries are zero rated would mean lower production costs in these countries and thus lead to food imports that would make our farmers less competitive in our local market.

The proposal therefore was that all farm inputs including agriculture machinery are retained in the zero rated schedules, as had been the case previously. This would make them affordable and contribute to Kenya meeting challenges such as the recent Maize Lethal Necrosis Disease that threatened Kenya's Food Security.

CropLife Kenya is happy to announce that it was successful in lobbying parliament to exempt pest control products from the 16% VAT during Aug 2013.

Kuria Gatonye - CropLife Kenya

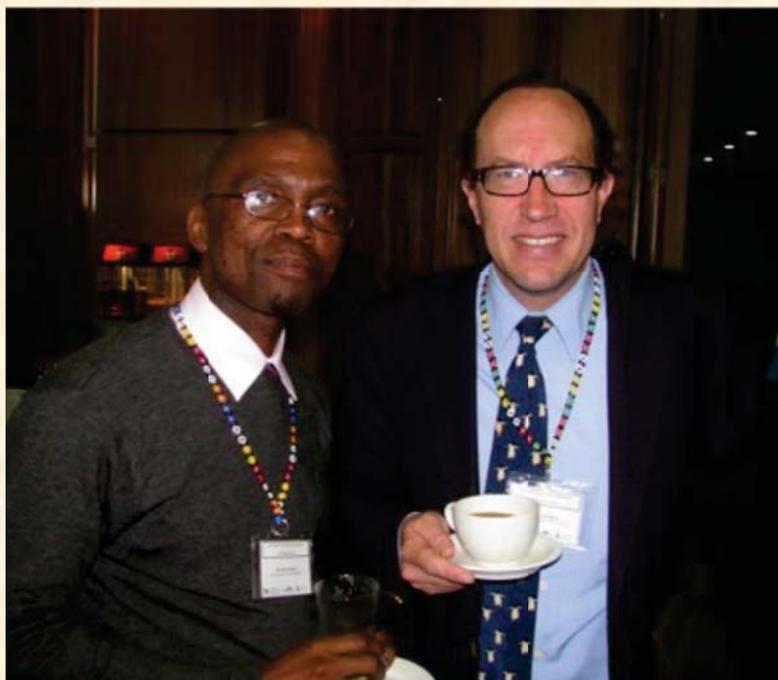
## Plant Biotechnology

### GM Crops & Food Safety Symposium, 16 August, CSIR Convention Centre, Pretoria

AfricaBio in collaboration with the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) and the National Chamber of Milling (NCM) organised a 1-day stakeholder meeting with a specific focus on approved GM crops, their safety and role in food security and nutrition. The theme of the event was "Meeting the challenges of feeding a growing population: GM crops & sustainable agriculture".

The provision of safe, healthy and adequate food is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. While South Africa is a food secure country, an alarming number of people go to bed hungry on a daily basis. More than 12 million (22%) South Africans have insufficient access to food, and at a growth rate of 2%, the South African population of about 50 million people is likely to increase to more than 80 million by 2035. This means that food production and distribution will need to double to meet the demands of the growing population. In South Africa, biotechnology policy plays a crucial role in tackling these pressing global problems: food security, health, water, climate change and energy, and its application will contribute to the Food Security and Nutrition Policy, the Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP), and the National Development Plan.

Biotechnology has transformed many livelihoods around the world, but its use in agriculture has not always been well understood. Since adoption in 1998, GM crops have greatly improved agricultural sustainability by increasing yields, improving farmer's incomes, creating jobs and reducing the environmental footprint of food production. In many parts of the world, including developing countries, farmers are choosing GM crops as part of their normal farming practice. Hence, GM crops are the fastest adopted crop technology in the history of modern agriculture.



L-R Klaas Mokaba, DTI and Eric Wenberg, Minister Counselor for Agricultural Affairs, American Embassy, Pretoria.



Right: Dr. Pieter Mulder, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

## GM Crops & Food Safety Symposium, 16 August, CSIR Convention Centre, Pretoria

GM crops (GM maize, cotton and soybean) have been commercially available in South Africa for the past 15 years, and there has been no evidence that such products, which are thoroughly evaluated (GMO Act 15), have had any adverse effects on humans and animals. However, over the past few months, the use of genetically modified crops has come under serious and undue scrutiny in the media. The anti-GM movement has intensified its campaign to bring about fear and misunderstanding of the technology. They have been putting a lot of pressure on the consumers and the food industry to reject products with contents derived from GM crops. Some of the companies are now exhorting to source non-GM products, and this will have huge implications on the cost of food and on food security. Thus the event was used as a platform to set the record straight about the role of GM crops in food security, the safety of GM crops and food derived from such, and regulations that are in place to ensure safety for human and animals as well as the environment.

There were approximately 120 participants at the symposium and speakers included:

- Hon. Dr Pieter Mulder, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
- Prof. John Mugabe, President, AfricaBio
- Mr. Gwarega Mangozhe, CEO, Consumer Goods Council of South Africa.
- Mr. Boikanyo Mokgatle, CEO, National Chamber of Milling
- Mr. Jannie De Villiers, CEO, Grain South Africa.
- Dr. Julian Jaffha, Chief Director, Plant Production & Health Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Ms. Kele Lekoape, representing the Plant Science Industry.
- Dr. Marnus Goude, Agricultural Economist, University of Pretoria.
- Dr. Mamabolo Raphesu, President, African Farmers' Association of South Africa.

AfricaBio



Prof. John Mugabe and Dr. Nompumelelo Obokoh, CEO, AfricaBio

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## Uganda



GMO Soybeans

State Minister for Industry and Technology, James Mutende, is hopeful that the introduction of the genetically modified foods (GMOs) would promote industrialisation through value addition.

Mutende, who was officiating at the closure of the 1st National Bio-Safety Conference at Makerere University Food Technology Centre, observed that the delayed passing of the Bio-safety and Bio technology Bills does not favour Uganda's industrialisation.

"Industrialisation is what is moving the world forward. We are talking about improving productivity so that we can produce a lot for commercial purposes. If you have a piece of land and you are producing maize without using genetically modified seeds, you could get 1,000kg of maize, while the one who uses biotechnology, which are high yielding, would end up getting 10,000kg out of the same land," he said.

He added that the use of biotechnology would enhance job creation because farmers will be able to use high yielding resistant crops and engage in commercial production.

"Once you produce more and make it available for industries for value addition, that's job creation and more revenue," he said. Mutende advised the scientists to come out and show everyone what is behind biotechnology to allay people's fears about the technology.

"There are some negative aspects because some scientists are misguided and are campaigning against the bio safety and biotech Bill yet we need it to ensure increased production and at the same time guarantee safety for all of us," he said.

Eng. Robert Sekitooleko, the Vice-Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Science and Technology, said it would be unfortunate for Ugandans to consume unlabeled imported genetically modified foods yet Ugandan farmers have been denied a chance to grow them.

Mukono District Farmers' Coordinator, Silver Nganda, called for the empowerment of farmers coordinators with knowledge on biotechnology to disseminate this to fellow farmers.

Agnes Nantambi

### Cotton Glut Spells Price Cuts – Impact on Africa

The fourth consecutive year of surplus cotton output and the biggest drop in Chinese imports since 2000 are creating record global inventories of cotton. Stockpiles would jump 8.6 percent to 93.765 million bales in the 12 months to July, the US Department of Agriculture said in an August 12 report.

It is enough inventories to make three pairs of jeans for every person in the world. Analysts predict cotton prices will fall 8.9 percent by the end of the year. China, which uses about a third of the world's cotton, will reduce imports by 46 percent, or 9.33 million bales, from last year as it focuses on supporting local producers. - Bloomberg



### UPCOMING events

RRC Meeting, Monheim, Germany  
 WCF-ACI SSP training, Central Region, Cameroon  
 WCF-ACI SSP training, Eastern Côte d'Ivoire  
 Association training workshop, CropLife Sudan, Khartoum  
 Kick-off Flagship Anti-Counterfeiting Project Egypt, Cairo  
 Association Management Training, CropLife Ghana, Accra  
 Meeting with PCPB Kenya, by RRC Members  
 Container Management Project Team Meeting, Brussels  
 Kick-off of Anti-Counterfeiting Flagship Project in Kenya  
 Association Management Training, CropLife Tanzania  
 Meeting with Potential Partners for Anti-Counterfeiting & SSP projects  
 Global IPM Project Team Meeting, Raleigh, USA  
 Global Stewardship Steering Committee Meeting, Raleigh, USA  
 Hub and Regulatory Meeting, North Africa Middle East, Dubai  
 Board Meeting, Brussels  
 IPM/RU training workshop, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  
 Obsolete Stocks Project Team Meeting, Brussels  
 Steering Committee Meeting of CLP & ACI, Accra, Ghana  
 PRD Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels  
 POR Project Team Meeting, Brussels  
 RSC Meeting, Brussels

### UPCOMING events

### UPCOMING events

Sep 16-17  
 Sep 16-20  
 Sep 23-27  
 Sep 24-25  
 Sep 26  
 Sep 27  
 Oct 2  
 Oct 2  
 Oct 4  
 Oct 7-8  
 Oct 14-15  
 Oct 22  
 Oct 23  
 Oct 29-30  
 Nov 7-8  
 Nov 11-14  
 Nov 18  
 Dec 3-5  
 Dec 9  
 Dec 10  
 Dec 11-12

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