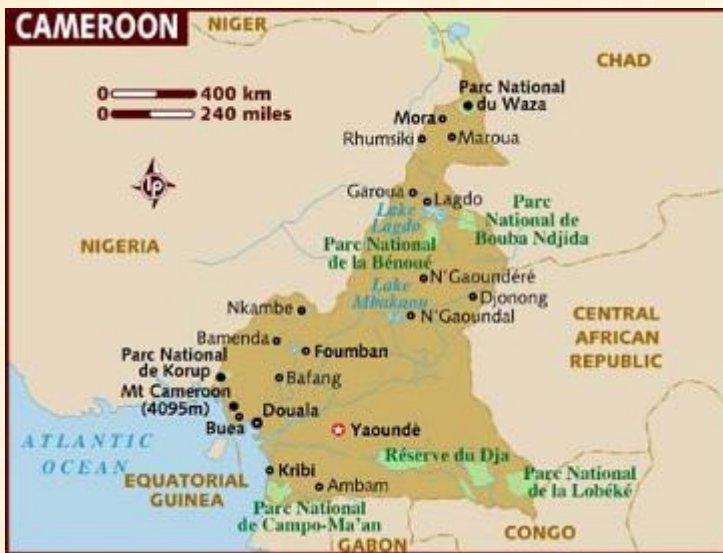




West & Central Africa

IPM / RU Training: CropLife Cameroon



On 02 and 03 July, in Fombot and on 10 and 11 July, in Buea, Cameroon, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and CropLife Cameroon, jointly arranged IPM training for vegetable producers.

In total there were 86 participants made up of 74 farmers, 10 extension agents and 2 dealers.

Gisele Etoundi from MINADER who is also a training consultant for CropLife Cameroon supervised the two trainings. Discussions focused on:

- Pests and diseases and pesticides in vegetable production.
- Stewardship and sustainable agriculture.
- IPM/RU in vegetable production
- Pesticides regulations in Cameroon
- The use of illegal pesticides and the associated risks.



ECOWAS-WAEMU Regional Regulatory Initiative, 24 – 27 July, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

The relevant parties met over two periods. Representatives from the ECOWAS Commission, WAEMU Commission, FAO + consultants, CSP-INSAH, ASP Mali, MIR Plus, COLEACP-PIP, and CropLife got together for the first session on 24 and 25 July.

The registrars, regulators and chemical management authorities of member countries of CILSS, joined the group for the session on 26 and 27 July.

The workshop was organized as an outcome of the evaluation of the CSP regulations sponsored by the FAO and aimed at strengthening the capacity on improved pesticide management in West Africa, particularly within the CSP/CILSS countries.

The first session (24 + 25 July) covered the ongoing ECOWAS-WAEMU (MIR Plus) project, focusing on:

- Finalization for signature of the tripartite (ECOWAS-WAEMU-CILSS) convention describing the respective responsibilities of each organization for the implementation of the initiative.
- Designing the West Africa registration committee (Coordinating unit, secretariat, registration committee....) and subsequent budget.
- Establishing a list of commonly used pesticides registered in the sub-region.
- Defining registration criteria and an operational procedures manual.
- Terms of reference for registrars responsible for the reviewing of the dossiers.

The second session (26 + 27 July) discussed the GEF programme and related budget proposal, the action plan, priorities and the formation of a steering committee. Points focused on were:

- The disposal of obsolete pesticide stocks, promotion of the International Code of Conduct on distribution and the implementation of the international conventions related to pesticide management
- The establishment of a regional strategy for the management of empty pesticide containers
- The strengthening of institutional and regulatory frameworks
- Capacity building for pesticide management



(R-L) The Minister of Agriculture of B. Faso (3rd) with A. S Traoré, ECOWAS Commission and representatives of the Executive Secretariat of CILSS, FAO and B. Yao, Coordinator CropLife AME.



Anti-Counterfeiting Programme: Douala - Cameroon

On 18 July, as a follow-up to the recent Anti-Counterfeiting Tour, which took place in June, representatives of member companies of CropLife Cameroon got together to formulate the actions agreed during the tour. These are:

- Farmers and users: awareness creation, training and ensuring the availability of CPPs.
- Dealers: awareness creation, training and ensuring the availability of CPPs, and securing a loyal customer programme
- Regulators and Customs: awareness creation, training and the introduction of “naming, and shaming”

FIRCA-GIZ-CropLife Côte d'Ivoire Alliance



Participants included responsible persons for various crops of the FIRCA programs which includes maize, plantain and rice

On 21 July a meeting was called by GIZ to discuss cooperation among the 3 parties at which 13 participants attended. This newly proposed cooperation would be an extension of the existing one between CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and each of the 2 others separately. To this end GIZ presented their programs on Farmer' Business Schools (FBS) and Business Services Centers (BSC). FIRCA (Fogarty International Research Collaboration Award) presented their activities as a support organization to agricultural research and counseling. GIZ will prepare a draft protocol for discussion and adoption by the 3 parties.

In the short term, the 3 organizations will prepare farmers manuals on maize, plantain and rice.



North Africa Middle East

CropLife Introduces Verified Brands to APC-Egypt

On 19 July, a meeting was held between CropLife AME, CropLife Egypt and the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) of the MOA of Egypt.

The purpose of the meeting was to exchange views on the Quick Response Code project adopted by the APC and the Verified Brands project driven by CropLife AME. Both are measures for ensuring product authentication and used in the fight against counterfeiting and the illegal trade in pesticides.

Presentations were made by both CropLife AME and APC on the scope of their projects and the technologies applied.

The following points arose from the discussions:

- APC acknowledged the value of the CropLife Verified Brands project with its 3 components i.e. the Holospot technology; the scratch-off and numeric code and barcode
- APC accepted the Verified Brands presentation and related videos as support documents for further consideration by their working group
- APC openly welcomed and encouraged the use of Verified Brands in Egypt for CropLife member company products. This would render CropLife companies as leaders in anti-counterfeiting in the Egyptian market
- APC would seek political support from CropLife on the use of the QR Code system in Egypt
- It was mentioned that any proposal from CropLife AME on the combined use of the two technologies would be welcomed for consideration by APC



Agricultural Technologies Help Protect Natural Habitats

Modern Farming Practices are Building a Green Economy. Plant science's role in improving agriculture's footprint was recognized on World Environment Day, Brussels, 5 June 2012 – In observance of World Environment Day and the Rio+20 international discussion on green economy, CropLife International urges international policymakers to consider the role plant science innovations can play in enabling sustainable agriculture. Plant science innovations have played a significant role in supporting agricultural development worldwide, which in turn has enabled economic development for local, regional, and national governments and communities, while at the same time protecting natural habitats and conserving precious resources.

“Plant science products have provided incredible improvements in how farmers protect crops against pests and diseases,” said Howard Minigh, President and CEO of CropLife International. “Since the first Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, farmers have embraced plant science as a way to protect their land for their children and future generations while feeding their communities. Determining how to share these sustainable practices with more farmers was a crucial step for developing a green economy framework at the Rio+20 Earth Summit

By increasing crop production, these technologies decrease the need to expand farmland. In fact, massive gains in agricultural productivity in the past 50 years have saved a landmass the size of North America from conversion into farmland. About 30-60 per cent of these increases are credited to improved crop varieties through plant breeding. From 1996 to 2009 alone, biotech crops worldwide prevented 75 million hectares of land from being used for farming.

Recent studies measuring agriculture's environmental footprint indicate that modern farming has become more sustainable due to improved technology. A 2011 report found that Brazilian farmers who adopted biotech crops have reduced their carbon emissions by 357,000 tons since 1996 – the equivalent of planting an extra 2.6 million trees in the rainforest. Another initiative, Field to Market, discovered that, through the use of modern farming practices, U.S. soybean farmers have cut the energy required to grow an acre of soybeans by two-thirds compared to 20 years ago. With nearly 75 million acres of soybeans planted last year, this is a significant savings for U.S. natural resources. Expanding the global use of these practices and technologies could make agriculture a key contributor to a green economy.

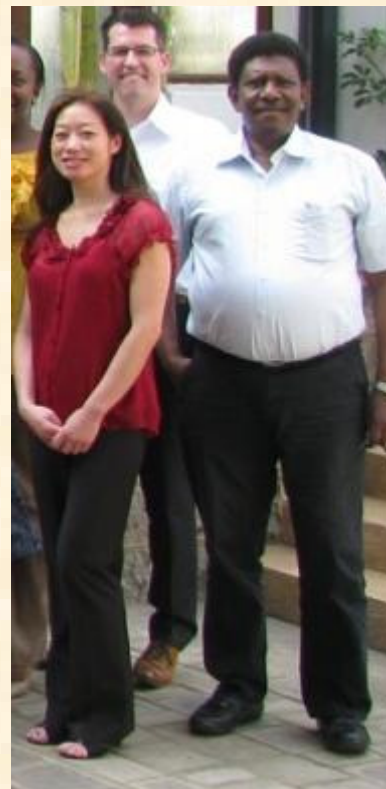
“On World Environment Day, as global leaders prepare for discussions that will chart the course for sustainable development in the coming decades, nations must look at what has been successful since the first Rio conference in 1992,” said Minigh. “In the past 20 years, farmers have significantly reduced their footprint while feeding a population that has risen by 1.5 billion. With the help of crop protection and plant biotechnology, farmers are creating a green economy in agriculture today, and improving access to these tools will be critical to maintaining it in the future.”

To learn more about how plant science is helping to develop a green economy for agriculture, visit ActionforAg.org.

For further information, please contact:

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Above: Deb Carstoui & Ali Mohd Ali



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Representing the Plant Science Industry

CropLife International Participates in WIPO Meeting on IP, Innovation, and Food Security

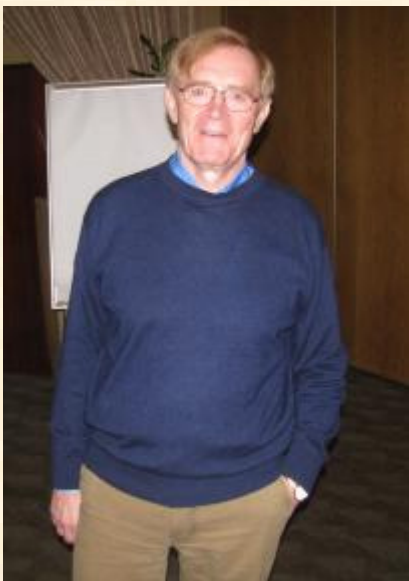
CropLife International's Denise Dewar attended a workshop sponsored by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to discuss sustainable wheat production in East Africa, a case study on the role of intellectual property (IP). WIPO convened the workshop with the government of Tanzania and invited representatives from the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the International Seed Federation (ISF), CropLife International, and both large and small companies. During the two-day workshop the group discussed IP rights as an enabler for innovation, investment, and technology transfer throughout the wheat production and commercialization chain.

For more information, contact Denise.Dewar@croplife.org.



Denise Dewar

FAO discussion on proposed update to Code of Conduct



Bernhard Johnen

CropLife International participated in the FAO Committee on Agriculture discussion on the proposed Code of Conduct update. After significant debate COAG concluded that the draft in its present form would not be recommended for endorsement by the FAO Conference. Instead, the meeting called for full consultation with all stakeholders at the global and country level. In all, 21 countries took the floor supporting the view that there had not been a full consultative process in developing the updated Code. These countries also picked up on a number of articles critical to them, which included key concerns for the crop protection industry, such as the HHP issue and definition, the GAP definition and the problem with explaining symbols and pictograms. For more information contact

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East & Southern Africa

Association Management Training: CropLife Uganda & CropLife Ethiopia

During the week 16 July, Association Management Training took place in both Uganda and Ethiopia.

Commonalities in the agendas of both countries included:

- What is an Association
- SWOT Analysis
- Activities of the respective association
- Management of activities
- Setting up a SSP Program
- Setting up a Container Management Program
- Building partnerships
- Plan of Action

For CropLife Uganda, 20 participants attended of which 15 represented member companies. Focus was spent on how to bring together the capacity needed to meet the potential projects on offer. In the case of CropLife Ethiopia, 16 participants attended of which 7 represented member companies. In this case the focus was spent on financial sustainability.

In the Plan of Action for CropLife Uganda, the following items were detailed:

- Review the Constitution
- Update the Code of Conduct
- Improve on external communications
- Proposal writing
- Partnership building
- Container management
- Spray Service Provider project
- In the Plan of Action for CropLife Ethiopia, the following items were detailed:
- Review the Constitution
- Increase membership
- Financial sustainability
- Partnership building
- Container management
- Management of future obsolete pesticides
- Spray Service Provider project

It was very evident that both national associations benefitted greatly from this intervention.



The Ugandan Team undertaking a "mind mapping" exercise



Uganda: Group Photo



Ethiopia: Group Photo

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Regional Workshop on the Enforcement of IP Rights for the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Officials: Lusaka 26 + 27 July

Organized by

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in cooperation with:
the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO)

and

the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) with the support of:
the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

The two-day event covered the following agenda topics:

- The Basic Intellectual Property (IP) Rights and Strategic Goal VI of WIPO: Building Respect for IP.
- The Value of IP Protection and Enforcement to Social and Economic Development and Welfare
- Methodologies to Determine the Scope and Impact of Counterfeiting and Piracy, Taking into Account the Socio-Economic Realities, and Determining the Need for an Appropriate Response in Light of Consumer Protection
- Consumer Awareness as a Component of Building Respect for IP in the Interest of Consumer Protection
- Enforcement Provisions under Part III of the TRIPS Agreement – Practical Training.
- Could Criminal Sanctions be Justified in a Perspective of Building Respect for IP.
- Being Effective with a Specific Legislation Designed to Meet the Requirements of Part III of the TRIPS Agreement.
- Roundtable Discussion: A Balanced Application of Border Measures and the Legitimate Trade in Generics.
- Roundtable Discussion: The Judicial Process – Implementation of Part III of the TRIPS Agreement.
- Sentencing and Proportionality, Taking Due Note of the Prevailing Socio-Economic Circumstances in the Developing Countries
- The Equitable Disposal and Destruction of Infringing Goods
- Strategic Cooperation Between and Stakeholders – The South African Experience.
- Roundtable Discussion: Public / Private Partnership and Building Respect for IP.
- Roundtable Discussion: Strategic Approach to Effective Cooperation at the National and Regional Levels and Capacity – Building Needs.

It was a well-organized workshop with in-depth participation from the 20 countries represented. Les Hillowitz delivered two presentations on behalf of CropLife Africa Middle East.



Mr. Robert Sichinga, MP, Minister of Commerce Trade and Industry, Zambia officially opening the workshop.



Participants at the WIPO Workshop

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Representing the Plant Science Industry

CropLife Zambia: Responsible Use TOT Training



Practicing the "Set-up, Delivery & Finish" (SDF) model

In support of the Spray Service Provider project operating in Zambia and which is now the responsibility of CropLife Zambia, the need for additional capacity building was essential.

During the week of 23 July Herman Louw supported by Perry Ngoma conducted a Responsible Use TOT course. Twenty nine (29) participants attended the program with the highest score achieved for the written exam, at 86% and an average of 64.4%. The highest score for presentation skills was 84% with the average achieved of 67.8%.

A second training, which will include M & E as well as field assessments, is scheduled for the week of 22 October.

Group Photo



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CropLife Zambia AGM	Aug 22
E & SA Hub & Regulatory Workshop – Addis, Ethiopia	Aug 28 - 29
Regional Side Meeting – Addis, Ethiopia	Aug 30
SSP Training	Sept 17-28
IPM Roll out	Sept 24-26
RRC Meeting Zürich	Sep 24-25
Vector Control Project Team Meeting in Brussels	Sep 26-27
Closure CleanFarms Malawi: Lessons Learned Workshop	Oct 3
NAME Hub & Regulatory Workshop –Amman, Jordan	Oct 16-17
World Cocoa Conference, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire: Together for a sustainable cocoa economy	Nov19-23

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GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

Representing the Plant Science Industry