



CropLife Kenya Scoops International Quality Award

CropLife Africa Middle East member, the Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (now CropLife Kenya) attained world recognition, when they received the Golden Trophy for Quality award, presented by the Trade Leaders Club in Paris, France on 23-April-2007.

Mr. Gitau Macharia (right), chairman of the association received the award on behalf of the association. The award was created with the purpose of acknowledging distinguished achievements in the field of quality. This highly coveted prize is granted to some of the most prominent industrial companies. This is the 35th presentation of the award, which began in May, 1973 and is organized by Editorial OFICE. Notably, CropLife Kenya is the first Kenyan organization to receive this award. The presentation was made by Mr. Arsenio Pardo Rodriguez (below, right), Chairman of Editorial OFICE and Secretary General of the Trade Leaders Club. In attendance were ambassadors of various representing countries, commercial attaches, representatives of various companies and organizations from over 140 countries.

On this 35th anniversary, this Golden Trophy for Quality award was without doubt one of the most prestigious international and commercial occasions, being proudly received by Mr. Macharia, before an audience representing 4000 enterprises from more than 140 countries.

The Association has come a long way and for it to appear on the world map is a major milestone towards major growth. Contact: les.hillowitz@icon.co.za



What's happening?

- Yves Demeure retires
- ToT's for South Africa, Botswana & Kuwait
- South African responsible use training
- West Africa pesticide regulations
- Cooperation stories
- ASP in South Africa



Yves Demeure Retires

After over 30 years of hard work in service of the Plant Science Industry, Mr. Yves Demeure of Dow AgroSciences will go on retirement at the end of July 2007.

Mr. Yves Demeure has been an active representative of Dow AgroSciences in CropLife Africa Middle East both in the General Assembly and the Executive Committee of the organization.

For more than twelve years, Mr. Yves Demeure has been in the service of the Africa Middle East Working Group (AMEWG) during the 1990s and later on he became one of the founders of CropLife Africa Middle East when incorporated as a legal entity in the year 2002. Since then he performed the role of Vice-President of the organization as well as the Chairman of the regional hub of West and Central Africa.

Throughout his long period of CropLife involvement, he demonstrated unique dedication to the industry and was part and parcel of all its initiatives driven in the territory of Africa Middle East.

Mr. Yves Demeure will certainly leave very warm memories with all those who had the pleasure of working with and for him, and will always be remembered as a relentless fighter for the promotion of the Africa Middle East region.

CropLife Africa Middle East while paying tribute to Yves Demeure, sincerely wishes him the best for his future plans.

Tributes to Yves were made at a farewell dinner, held after the Executive Committee Meeting, which was held in Deidesheim, Germany, where Yves received some splendid, traditional gifts from West Africa.

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EUREPGAP in South Africa

CropLife Africa Middle East participated in the meeting of the EUREPGAP National Technical Working Group (NTWG) at which three issues were addressed namely:

- To re-establish the NTWG to an actual working group.
- Discussion around the use of non-registered CPP's in minor crops and legal interpretation.
- The use of EUREPGAP certification in local situations.

A meeting also took place with Dr. Elmé Coetzer, Standards Manager, EUREPGAP with regard to reviewing the Smallholder Guideline that had been reworked by Björn Neumann. Owing to the demand for such a document from numerous countries including Taiwan and China there is a new enthusiasm on the part of FoodPlus to develop this. The reworked document will be presented at the Sector Meeting on 11 & 12-June-2007. Contact: les.hillowitz@icon.co.za



Dr. Kristian Möller addressing the meeting

Liaison with Regional Organizations

CropLife Africa Middle East participated in the follow-up meeting with Dr Simon Mwale of SADC and Margaret Kieser of "The Information Core for Southern African Migrant Pests" (ICOSAMP), which took place to develop concrete plans for the reinstatement of "The SADC Plant Protection Technical Committee. Feedback is now awaited from the SADC Secretariat with a possible meeting in either July or August Contact: les.hillowitz@icon.co.za



Right: Dr. Simon Mwale and Margaret Kieser

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

CropLife Africa Middle East announces that the North Africa Middle East Hub Meetings will take place in Amman, Jordan, on 06 & 07-November-2007. Please contact Regional Coordinator, Ali Mohamed Ali at e-mail address: ali-croplife@nets.com.jo



ToT Course: South Africa & Botswana Master Trainers

CropLife Africa Middle East Training Consultant, Peter Mills, conducted a five day **Training of Trainers Course** in Midrand, South Africa, for Trainers from South Africa and Botswana. Participants were selected from government, private sector and NGO's in cooperation with CropLife South Africa, SA-PIP, and ECI Africa. ECI Africa is the South African implementing partner of the Promoting Agribusiness Linkages (PAL) project, which is backed by USAID and the Corporate Council on Africa.

This was the second opportunity for CropLife South Africa and CropLife Africa Middle East to cooperate with SA-PIP, the first being a workshop to compile the Training materials for CropLife South Africa. All of the participants will be used in cascade trainings coordinated by SA-PIP, ECI Africa and CropLife South Africa, as well as by the participants from Botswana. It was the first opportunity to work with the "Promoting Agribusiness Linkages" project (PAL), and their trainers will be used in further trainings, particularly in northern regions. It was also the first opportunity for Trainers from Botswana to be included in CropLife training, supporting efforts to further develop the national association in Botswana.

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Pictured top is Andrew Uggetti from Botswana who delivered his assessed lesson on nozzle types for knapsack sprayers. Andrew Mbedzi (above) from South Africa gave a very professional lesson on understanding the colour bands on pesticide labels and was rewarded with the top marks for the course. To the left, the picture shows the group of participants from ECI and SA-PIP pose with their certificates outside the venue, together with Tom Mabesa of CropLife South Africa.

And immediately new knowledge and skills are put into practice!!

Vamile Madide of the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture (Further Education and Training), who was a participant in the Training of Trainers course, held in Mid-Rand, South Africa, and reported in this Newsletter on page 4, put her newly acquired skills into practice immediately.

In one training for Matibidi, a Home base Care Project, in Blydepoort, Mpumalanga Province, she trained 15 small-scale farmers, who have been producing vegetable seedlings in a nursery. Farmers were trained on types of protective clothing that should be worn while working with pesticides; pesticide entry points of poisoning; demonstrated the correct method of wearing protective clothing during mixing and spraying of pesticides.

In another training in Barberton, also in Mpumalanga Province, 26 small-scale vegetable farmers from two farmers associations, were trained by Vamile. They were shown what protective clothing to wear during handling of pesticides; how pesticides enter the body (if protective clothing is not worn); and the common symptoms resulting from exposure to pesticides.

Vamile plans to follow up by reviewing their activities, and checking that they put into practice what they have learnt, and by providing refresher training sessions within the next two months.

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WA Pesticide Safety Educators' Workshop: Bamako, Mali

A five day Integrated Pest Management and Responsible Use Training Workshop was organized by the Virginia Tech Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Programme (IPM-CRSP) together with the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), based in Mali. This programme was established for Malian agricultural scientists and researchers to help them design, develop, and deliver pesticide safety programs to farmers.

This workshop was used to pass onto trainers, appropriate training materials, knowledge and skills in responsible use of pesticides. Participants were trainers from West Africa, many of whom were trained previously during CropLife Africa Middle East's Train-the-Trainer courses in West Africa. Topics covered were: Toxicity and Risks; Exposure and Protective Equipment; Calibration and Uses of Sprayers; MRL's and Food Safety; Poisoning Symptoms and First Aid; Impacts & Evaluation. Contact: bama-croplife@aviso.ci



ASP in South Africa

During the month CropLife South Africa extended an invitation to the newly appointed Project Leader of the ASP in South Africa, Nomphele Daniel and the Technical Advisor, Disposal, Tinus Joubert to visit the Limpopo Pilot Project. Valuable feedback was obtained from the visit including the fact that 6000 empty plastic containers have so far been retrieved and placed into the recycling stream to produce “plastic wood” building materials.

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Pictured (left to right): Noël van Rensburg (NTK), Nomphele Daniel, Tinus Joubert



Training-of-Trainers in Kuwait

Pursuant to the recommendation of the North Africa Middle East hub meeting of November 2006, Training Consultant, Peter Mills conducted for the first time in Kuwait a 5-day master trainer course for 11 participants from the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Agriculture and Fisheries as well as from the private sector.

The course was aimed at building training capacity in Kuwait by certifying competent resource trainers in the field of responsible use of pesticides.

All eleven trainers received certificates of competence and were equipped with CropLife training guidelines and other training materials in hard copy and electronic format for subsequent cascade training in Kuwait.

Training consultant, Peter Mills, said that this first training session in Kuwait scored remarkable success and commended the excellent organization of the ToT rendered by Mr. Mohamed Alfraih and Mr. Hammad Alanjari of the Kuwait Trade Union For Agricultural Materials and Equipment (KTU) who concluded the local organization of the course.

Pictured right is Bashayer Fahed Shaleh Al-Otaibia who developed an excellent handout leaflet for her assessed lesson, which included an exercise for participants to complete. Great initiative!!

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Representing the Plant Science Industry

West Africa Regional Pesticide Regulations

Bama Octave Yao, CropLife Africa Middle East's area coordinator for West and Central Africa, informs that the draft framework for West African pesticide regulations was validated during the workshop in Lomé, Togo (08 to 10-May-2007). Participants included registrars, two from each of the ECOWAS/WAEMU member states, IGOs (ECOWAS, WAEMU, CILSS) and from IFDC, national associations of inputs dealers (partners of the CropLife network) from Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea Centrale, Togo, Niger, as well as regional and national organisations (Togo), who are involved in pesticide policies and management. CropLife Africa Middle East was represented by Xavier Schmid (Dow AgroSciences) and Bodo Peters (Bayer CropScience), as well as nine delegates from national associations of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire, CropLife Ghana, CropLife Mali, CropLife Nigeria and CropLife Senegal.

The three regional economic organisations are to serve as the political umbrella with ECOWAS as leader. A Coordinating Unit is to be based at ECOWAS headquarters in Abuja. Two Technical/Support Units (Sahel/"CSP" and the humid/coastal "CPHAOC" sub-regions) are to conduct and implement policies and issues, and to study and analyze the registration dossier.

The next step for this initiative will be the adoption by the Council of Ministries of ECOWAS, by WAEMU and CILSS before year end. Details will be publicized in due course. Contact: bama-croplife@aviso.ci



ABOVE: Group Picture of Participants at the Workshop. Xavier Schmid (Dow AgroSciences) and Bodo Peters (Bayer CropScience), 1 and 2 respectively, representing the industry together with regulators and country national association members.



LEFT: Bama Yao (Arrow), West Central Africa Hub Coordinator presenting the agenda of the workshop to the officials at the Opening Ceremony. From left to right: Kolade Bocoum, Agriculture Officer WAEMU representing WAEMU; K. Bouwassi, Director Cabinet representing the Ministry of Agriculture of Togo; D. Eklou, Director of Agriculture, ECOWAS; and A. Diarra, Permanent Secretary Sahelien Pesticides Committee, representing CILSS.

News Snippets

At the recent Annual General Meeting, CropLife Mauritius elected **Clifford Dove** as new President. Clifford is Managing Director for Roger Faydherbe & Co Ltd, and has been on the **CropLife Mauritius** committee for several years. **Serge l'E-cluse** has been appointed as the Executive Secretary of the National Association.

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RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

- CropLife Africa Middle East Executive Committee and General Assembly 2007 meetings, Deidesheim, Germany: 05-June-2007.
- The Collaborative International Pesticides Analytical Council (CIPAC) and United Nations FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Specifications (JMPS) meeting, Protea Hotel, Umhlanga Rocks, South Africa: 05 to 14-June-2007.
- Africa Agriculture Science Week and Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) General Assembly, Sandton City, South Africa: 10 to 16-June-2007.
- CropLife International Communications Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium:13 to 14-June-2007.
- CropLife International Crop Protection Strategy Council Meeting, Brussels, Belgium:15-June-2007.
- CropLife International Trans-Regional Communications Knowledge Sharing Workshop, Brussels, Belgium:15-June-2007.
- CropLife International Regulatory Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium:18 to 19-June-2007.
- CropLife International Stewardship Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium:18 to 19-June-2007.
- CropLife International IPM Project Team Meeting, Brussels, Belgium: 20-June-2007.
- CropLife International FAO Code of Conduct Project Team Meeting, Brussels, Belgium: 20-June-2007.
- CropLife International Data Protection Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium: 20-June-2007.
- CropLife International Anti-counterfeiting Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium: 21-June-2007.
- CropLife Africa Middle East, East & Southern Africa Hub Meeting, Entebbe, Uganda: 26 + 27 June 2007.



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