



## *Country & Regional News*

### *East Southern Africa Regulatory Harmonisation*

Following the decision taken by the Registrars at the SEARCH meeting in Nairobi in June 2006 for the 14 SEARCH countries to be split into three groupings, the first of these groupings will meet in late April in Nairobi. This is the country group made up of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (EAC) plus Ethiopia. The meeting will comprise of the four Registrars supported by their respective Directors. COLEACP PIP will help to facilitate and drive the discussions.

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### *Biotech Course*

CropLife Africa Middle East in association with AfricaBio have organised an Introductory Biotechnology Training Course, which is to be held in Centurion, South Africa from 19-March-2007 to 31-March-2007. Uganda has confirmed that 16 participants will attend the Biotech training in March.

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### *What's happening?*

- Regulatory issues in E/S Africa
- Follow-up training in Ghana
- Zimbabwean trainer profile
- Arabic Training Manuals
- Training in Egypt
- ASP: Morocco & South Africa
- Biotechnology Course
- CropLife South Africa elections

### *South Africa ASP*

It is now official. The start-up of the Africa Stockpiles Programme for South Africa will take place in the Limpopo Province and begin on Monday 12-March-2007. The training of the NTK Storekeepers and provincial staff of the Department of Agriculture will take place on Wednesday 07-March-2007 in Polokwane, capital of Limpopo Province. The contracts between the Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism and agricultural co-operative, NTK as well as DEAT and Prof. Gerhard Verdoorn (above) of BirdLife South Africa have been concluded. Contact: [les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)





## CropLife Egypt Activities

In its report on training activities for the first quarter of 2007, CropLife Egypt indicated that 11 dealer training courses have been concluded to date together with 2 master trainer sessions (ToT's).

The eleven dealer trainer courses were conducted within the ongoing dealer certification scheme co-driven by CropLife Egypt and the Ministry of Agriculture of Egypt with participants covering all 11 governorates of the country.

The ToT's were delivered to participants from the Plant Protection Research Institute (PPRI) with an average age of 30 years to allow for sustained and continued training operations.

The first quarter training activities resulted in training and certifying 125 Dealers from all governorates and 28 Master Trainers.

To date, the ToT's have resulted in training and certification of a total of 51 Master Trainers in Egypt, of which 9 are from the industry, 5 from

the Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, 14 Extension Service Officers and 25 personnel from the Agricultural Research Centre.

The total number of active training hours reached by the CropLife trainers was 300 hours.

All the above training activities were conducted and led by Dr. Said Abdella (above), training specialist of CropLife Egypt and were based on the training manuals and subject matter content developed by CropLife Africa Middle East.

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## FAO ISSUES NEW ARABIC TRAINING MANUALS

The FAO Regional Office for the Middle East and the Near East based in Cairo have issued 2 training manuals in the Arabic language:

1. Trainer Manual for Dealer Training in pesticide use and dealership of CPP's.
2. Guideline for Dealers in CropLife Protection Products.

The two publications were concluded under the supervision of Dr. Taher Elzabi, Regional Crop Protection Director for Middle East and Near East. CropLife Africa Middle East references and training materials were utilized as primary sources to develop the 2 publications.

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## *Training in Zimbabwe*

Devilious Jamela (right) is the Technical Officer (Training) at Agricura (Pvt) Ltd Head Office, in Harare, Zimbabwe. In 2000, he was accredited to CropLife Zimbabwe (formerly ACIA). As part of the Pilot Project for the Master Trainers Program of CropLife Africa Middle East, Devilious was one of the first to be included in the series of trainings and was trained by CropLife Africa Middle East as a Master Trainer in 2003. He was also trained by QPartnership Training Consultants, as a Training Manager in 2003. In 2006, he was trained by the Cotton Training Centre, Kadoma in Cotton Production and Scouting.

Devilious' training programmes normally focus on Responsible Use of Agro-chemicals, Scouting, Spraying Techniques, Sprayer Calibration and Product Knowledge.

For Agricura, training is an on going process, and since 2000, many Horticultural Growers & Exporters have had their workers trained in different programmes. Targeted groups include Farm Workers, Farm Managers, Supervisors, Foremen, Scouts (pictured below), Storemen, Safety Officers and Sprayer Operators. Extension Officers from the Government's Department of Research and Extension Services are trained separately. He focuses on A 2 (newly settled medium scale farmers) and Commer-

cial Farmers who are involved in Horticultural production, particularly for the export markets. However, he has also trained A1 (newly settled small-scale) and Communal Farmers, and here the focus is on Responsible Use of Pesticides. Several hundred participants have been trained in 2006.

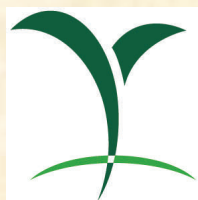
Trained farmers and farm workers receive Certificates at the end of each training programme, an essential requirement for exporters wishing to achieve EUREP-GAP certification.

At Agricura, in 2006, Devilious has internally trained over 40 General Factory Workers, Managers, Supervisors, Drivers, Laboratory Technicians, focusing on Healthy and Safety Issues associated with Pesticides.

Devilious tells us many farmers have already made requests for more training programmes to be conducted in their different areas during the year 2007. We look forward to his reports.

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## *Comprehensive Follow-up Training with Partner IFDC*

In the on-going program to continue building partnerships and capacity within countries, IFDC and CropLife Africa Middle East have again teamed up to provide ground-breaking training for various stakeholders in Ghana. Manon Dohmen of IFDC and Peter Mills of CropLife Africa Middle East facilitated a five day "FOLLOW-UP TRAINING" exercise in Kumasi, Ghana during February-March.

Previously Peter and Manon have conducted several Train-the-Trainer courses for selected Master Trainers in Ghana. This "follow-up program" now uses the Master Trainers and consists of "REFRESHER" training for the Master Trainers, "PREPARATION" of lessons under supervision of the Facilitators, followed by a two day "IPM & RESPONSIBLE USE" course for selected stakeholders. The five day session ends with a one day "FEEDBACK" session for the Master Trainers.

In this case CropLife Africa Middle East and IFDC were joined by CropLife Ghana, the USAID backed Ghana Agricultural Business Information Centre (GAABIC), Apex Farmers' Organisation of Ghana (APFOG), the Ghana Agri-Input Dealers Association (GAIDA) and the Ghanaian Government Extension Service.

Eight trainers from previous Master Trainers courses were put through a very thorough "Refresher" course, designed by Manon. This was followed by



facilitated preparation of lessons by the Master Trainers. On Day 3 and Day 4, these Master Trainers trained over 40 agri-input dealers, extension officers and farmers (pictured left, below) in several aspects of Responsible Use of Pesticides. On Day 5, the Master Trainers were given a full feedback session by Facilitators, Manon (below) and Peter, including analysing the huge pile of evaluation and test forms collected during the two day Responsible Use training.



This has now become the standard follow-up procedure for all those who have attended the CropLife Africa Middle East capacity building Train-the-Trainer courses. Not only are these sessions used to train others, but they are also vital in forming good working partnerships between various stakeholders, in this case, Industry, NGO's, Pesticide Dealers, Farmers and Extension Officers. More importantly for CropLife Africa Middle East, these sessions are vital to assess the Master Trainers and maintain their motivation in providing the very essential service of training various stakeholders in IPM and Responsible Use of Pesticides.

These "FOLLOW-UP" trainings will continue in Mali, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, and Senegal over the rest of this year. Hopefully these programs will be introduced into East Southern area and North Africa Middle East area next year.

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## News Snippets

### ASP Morocco

A Grant Agreement between the World Bank and the Government of Morocco for US\$4 million was signed in Rabat on February 5th. This step opens the way for the implementation of the ASP project in Morocco. Training of inventory takers is planned for March.

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### South Africa

The AGM of CropLife South Africa took place this month and the newly elected President and Vice-President of the association are Leon Smith of Klub M5 and Antonie Delpoort of Syngenta.

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### RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

- CropLife Ghana training of agricultural input dealers, including evaluation of Master Trainers, Accra, Ghana: 26-February-2007 to 02-March-2007.
- Biotechnology Training Course, Centurion, South Africa: 19-March-2007 to 31-March-2007.
- CropLife Africa Middle East, West Central Hub & Regulatory Workshops, Lomé, Togo: 20 to 22-March-2007.
- Mali training of agricultural input dealers, including evaluation of Master Trainers, Bamako and Ségou, Mali: 16 to 20-April-2007.
- Cote d'Ivoire training of agricultural input dealers, including evaluation of Master Trainers, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire: 23 to 27-April-2007.
- FANRPAN Strategic and Business Plan Workshop, Pretoria, South Africa: 02-May-2007 to 05-May-2007.
- CropLife Africa Middle East, East Southern Hub & Regulatory Workshops, Entebbe, Uganda: 26 to 27-June-2007.
- CropLife AME Executive Committee and General Assembly 2007 meetings, Deidesheim, Germany: 15-June-2007
- CropLife Africa Middle East, North Africa Middle East Hub & Regulatory Workshops, Amman, Jordan: 06 to 07-November-2007.



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Representing the Plant Science Industry