

Training Report on Pesticide Store Management

Organized by

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)

Animal and plant Health Regulatory Directorate (APHRD)

African Stockpiles Project “ASP Ethiopia”

And

Croplife International / Croplife Ethiopia

February 2010

Acknowledgments

The organizers of the workshop would on behalf of the MOA /ASP Ethiopia and Croplife International / Croplife Ethiopia, like to forward special thanks to Joy Tech, a company engaged in the production of green house flower production for allowing the participants to visit the farm. The group's visit helped them to get a better understanding on the current developments within the flower sector. This included as to what a modern store should look like and the management practices that go with this. The organizers appreciate the inputs that Joy Tech management put into the visit and for their candid explanations given during the tour.

Table of Contents

1 Introduction

2 Background and Justification of the workshop

3 Approaches and Methodology

3.1 Training Needs assessment

3.2 Preparation of the workshop

3.3 Venue Selection

3.4 Communications

3.5 Applied Methodology

4 The Workshop

4.1 Kick - off

4.2 Presentations

4.3 Visit to a “green house flower farm”

4.4 General Dissections

5 Workshop Evaluations

6 Conclusion and recommendations

6.1 Conclusion

6.2 Recommendations

1 Introduction

The ASP Ethiopia Project under the MOA has four interrelated development components aimed at removing obsolete pesticides and striving to avoid the further accumulations from occurring.

These Components include:

- Clean and dispose of the legacy obsolete pesticides

- Prevention of further accumulation of obsolete Pesticides

- Capacity building

- Project Management

Among the four components, Capacity Building is the issue addressed in this workshop

The workshop was hosted by the MOA/ASP and CropLife International /Croplife Ethiopia

The workshop was organized based on the Project's Development Plan and the results of a preliminary training needs assessment made by both the MOA and CropLife Ethiopia

The overall aim of this training is to promote the awareness of best pesticide store management. The workshop also introduced the new registration legislation issued earlier this year. The workshop was also meant to be a medium where different experiences could be aired and discussed.

2 Background and justification of the workshop

The pest problem in the country added to the rudimentary use of farm implements have reduced crop production by almost 30- 40 percent

On the other hand population growth is taking place at an alarming rate. Thus, in order to address this problem, the government is focusing on capacity building as a possible option. CropLife International, being a partner within the ASP had taken the initiative of working with the Ethiopian Government and it is with this in mind that this training took place.

3 Approach and Methodology

3.1 Training Needs Assessment

A preliminary training needs assessment had been carried out both by the MOA and CropLife Ethiopia. The PMT, the executing body of the project together with CropLife Ethiopia had planned to address this issue and had undertaken a considerable amount of training beforehand. This workshop was the follow up of the previous trainings aimed to tackle the problem of further accumulation of obsolete stocks

3.2 Preparation of the workshop

In the preparation of this workshop the funding needed, was determined by the PMT and CropLife Ethiopia and submitted to CropLife International. The trainers identified, 30 in number were part of a selection process and letters of invitation were sent to all respective regions, however only 26 showed up for the training.

3.3 selection of the venue

Debrezeit which is situated in the central part of the country in the Oromia region was selected. This was not only due to locality, but also on the high the use of pesticides in the region. Debrezeit is also the area where modern farming systems are practiced and is focal to intensified flower, fruit and vegetable production.

3.4 The training materials used

Posters, flip charts, power point presentations, knapsack sprayers, protective gear (PPE), etc

4. **The work shop kick-off**

4.1 The workshop was opened by Ato Fikere Markos, Deputy Director for Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Directorate. Ato Fikere, in his opening address elaborated on the current practices in pesticide stores management in some detail. He showed how important it was for the participant's active role in accepting modern technology and to pass this information onto the farming community. He also dealt on the new registration legislation and explained how well this could help them achieve their goals. He gave a high emphasis on the group's active participation during the coming 4 days and the need for them to do their part on the roll-out of the training in their respective regions aiming at the end users. He also encouraged the participants to work hand in glove with the previous trainees, the crop protection experts, who undertook the training on the pest and pest management earlier.

4.2 The four groups presented their presentations as follows:

The major topics offered to the workshop were

A. What are pesticides

- Pesticide Toxicology

- Hazards of Pesticide
- Personal protection Equipment

B. **Safe and Responsible Use of Pesticides**

- The main types of pesticide formulations
- How to read a pesticide Label
- Guidelines for buying agri-inputs
- Why agro-dealers should always buy legal pesticides
- What are the counterfeit and illegal pesticides

C. **Stores and Store Management**

- The correct location of agri-inputs
- Proper storage of agri-inputs
- How to organize the placement of agri-inputs

- General store management

D. **Safe Transportation of Pesticides**

- How to transport pesticides safely

- How to transport obsolete pesticides and empty containers safely

4.3 The above topics were covered over 3 full days

The remaining 1 day was left for general discussion and farm visits

5 **Workshop evaluation**

Overall, the workshop was a success. The participants were very active and made it a “two way give and take event” which is normal with most training interventions. They had sufficient time to ask, comment and at times debate on, common issues. They undertook to engage themselves in cascading down what they had learned as soon as they returned to their respective regions.

6 **Conclusion and Recommendations**

6.1 **Conclusion**

The workshop met its objectives in that the trainees were from the country's 11 regions which are pretty representative. These are key persons who manage large stores found in the regions and zones of the regional states. The teaming up of these groups with the previous trainees who took the pest and Pest Management training will bring about the required result and this is what has been transmitted during both trainings

6.2 **recommendations**

CropLife Ethiopia and the MOA/ ASP will need to organize visit programs to at least four main regions; Oromia, Amhara, SNNRS, and Tigray. During these visits the trainees will be supervised in the training activities which they offer, be encouraged to discuss the problems encountered and provide solutions to the visiting group. Discussions will also take place with all relevant stakeholders to make crop protection their shared responsibility. CropLife International must be congratulated for the assistance given and will be asked for this to continue in order to make the overall effort worthwhile.

