

**REPORT ON VISIT TO LEBANON**  
**by Peter Mills**  
**CropLife Africa Middle East**  
**07-July-2003 to 11-July-2003**

**PURPOSE**

- **Personnel:** meet with ASPLANTE executive & technical committee, people involved in the pesticide & fertiliser industry and training staff.
- **Training:** meeting with ASPLANTE on training and other activities.
- **Training assessment:** assessment of training needs; observation of training impact.
- **Field visits:** study of local agriculture, including crops, pesticide issues, retailers, farmers.

**ACTIVITIES**

Monday, 07-July-2003

21h15: Depart Amman (RJ401)  
22h15: Arrive Beirut (RJ401)  
Overnight Beirut: Holiday Inn Dunes

Tuesday, 08-July-2003

08h30: **Meeting:** Adel El-Issa, ASPLANTE  
10h00: Depart for Batroun  
12h30: **Meeting** with Carlos Nakad and members of Batroun, Mejdlaya & Zougharta co-operatives (Moawad Foundation)  
14h30: Depart for Bezbina  
16h00: **Meeting:** Bezbina co-operative  
21h00: Return to hotel  
Overnight Beirut: Holiday Inn Dunes

Wednesday, 09-July-2003

08h30: Depart hotel for Bekaa Valley  
10h30: **Meeting:** Dr. Sallah Issa, Tel-Amara Research Station  
14h00: **Meeting:** Mahmoud Khansa & agricultural engineers, Jihad Binaa Agricultural Development & Extension Centre, Douris Village  
18h15: **Meeting:** Mr Ansu & agricultural engineers, Aljawad Research Station, Herml  
22h00: Return to hotel  
Overnight Beirut: Holiday Inn Dunes

Thursday, 10-July-2003

08h30: **Report writing & preparation**  
13h00: **Lunch meeting:** ASPLANTE - Michel Akle, Walid Saad, Adel El-Issa

14h00: **Training Meeting:** ASPLANTE - Walid Saad, Adel El-Issa

16h00: Return to hotel

Overnight Beirut: Holiday Inn Dunes

Friday, 11-July-2003

08h00 - 18h00: **Training preparation time for visit to Syria**

20h20: Depart Beirut (ME261)

21h00: Arrive Larnaca (ME261)

22h00: Depart Larnaca (CY484)

23h05: Arrive Damascus (CY484)

Overnight Damascus: Le Meridien

## KEY PERSONNEL CONTACTED

- Michel Akle, Chairman, ASPLANTE.
- Walid Saad, Technical Committee, ASPLANTE; Manager, Debbane Freres SAL.
- Adel El-Issa, Technical Manager, ASPLANTE.
- Carlos Nakad, Moawad Foundation.
- Dr. Sallah Issa, Tel-Amara Research Station.
- Mahmoud Khansa, Jihad Binaa Agricultural Development & Extension Centre, Douris Village.
- Mr Ansu, Aljawad Research Station, Herml.
- Many farmers, custom sprayers, engineers, retailers.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Meetings to discuss training and activities of ASPLANTE.
- Meetings with several staff involved in agriculture - extension, training, Ministry.
- Attend "Safe Use" meetings in several districts.
- Electronic copies of all training materials given to ASPLANTE.
- Discussions on future program, including Training of Trainers.
- Visiting agricultural regions in Lebanon - Bekaa Valley, Doniye mountain area.
- Discussed CropLife Egypt training and manuals.

## ACTIONS REQUIRED

- Provide proposal for future training for discussions at North Africa Middle East hub meeting in Beirut, in October. To include Training of Trainers program for target audiences - extensionists, industry engineers, retailers/distributors, schools, custom sprayers, farmers, farm workers, medical personnel (ASPLANTE).
- Consider media program to publicise safe use (ASPLANTE).
- Provide all available school safe use training materials (PM).
- Contact Ministry of Education regarding incorporating training on safe use in school curriculum (ASPLANTE).

- Try out on-farm incinerator and discuss with appropriate Ministries - Health, Agriculture, Environment (ASPLANTE).
- Follow up on training implementation - incinerator, disposal pits (ASPLANTE).
- Provide details of previous and current stakeholder co-operation for Crop Life International training and other pesticide related projects, to pass on to ASPLANTE for future training co-operation (AMA).
- Provide training materials to all institutes visited (ASPLANTE).
- Collect IPM success stories for CropLife Africa Middle East (ASPLANTE).
- Collaborate with various projects on implementing demonstration sites (ASPLANTE).
- Send Permaculture materials to Aljawad (PM).
- Send Natural Remedies book to Aljawad (PM).
- Get CropLife Egypt dealers training materials from them (ASPLANTE).

## **CONCLUSION**

Another extremely busy, useful and relatively productive visit for me. There is still a great need to devise methods to get operators to use PPE, and farmers to clean, destroy and dispose used pesticide containers.

Selection of personnel to attend future Training of Trainers course now necessary.

## **KEY**

AMA = Ali Mohammed Ali

PM = Peter Mills

Peter Mills

11-July-2004



Typical trader - general dealer - also selling pesticides, which were locked away (in cupboard on left). Some need for training of stockists.



Meeting with extensionists in Bekaa Valley, where produce on table was grown organically.