

# REPORT ON VISIT TO MADAGASCAR

by Peter Mills

CropLife Africa Middle East

22-July-2003 to 25-July-2003

## PURPOSE

- **Orientation:** introduction to Madagascar - personnel, country, agriculture, training systems.
- **Personnel:** meet with CropLife Madagascar executive; people involved in the pesticide industry, government and training.
- **Training:** discussions on future training requirements.
- **Training materials:** presentation of training materials to executive, government, industry.
- **Visits & meetings:** distributors, retailers, NGO, government institutions.

## ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, 22-July-2003

07h15: Depart Harare (SA025)  
09h05: Arrive Johannesburg (SA025)  
10h00: Depart Johannesburg (MD123)  
14h20: Arrive Antananarivo (MD123)  
15h30: Check in hotel and planning meeting with JMR  
16h00: Preparation work for CropLife Zimbabwe ToT  
Overnight: Antananarivo - Hilton

Wednesday, 23-July-2003

08h00: Collection from hotel  
09h00: **Meeting** with CropLife Madagascar executive  
12h30: Lunch  
14h00: **Visit & meeting:** Sylvie Rakotonirainy, Bosco Randriamperenanarivo, Prochimad - formulation plant  
15h30: **Visit & meeting:** Theodore Ranarivelo, Agriculture Chimie Madagascar (ACM) - distributor  
16h00: **Visit:** smallscale pesticide retailer, affiliated to ACM  
16h45: **Visit:** smallscale farmer - rice, vegetables, fruit trees  
17h30: Return to hotel  
Overnight: Antananarivo - Hilton

Thursday, 24-July-2003

08h00: Collection from hotel

08h45: **Meeting on training:** Julien Rakotoarimanana (Head Plant Protection, MoA; registrar committee) - trainer  
10h00: **Meeting on training:** Henri Rakotofiringa (Director, Production, HASYMA - Cotton Corporation of Madagascar) - trainees  
11h30: **Meeting** - closing with CropLife Madagascar executive  
13h00: Lunch  
14h00: Collection from hotel: Ralalason Randriamanalina, FIAVAMA  
15h00: **Visit:** smallscale pesticide retailers, affiliated to FIAVAMA  
16h00: **Meeting on past training:** Ralalason Randriamanalina, FIAVAMA  
Michele Eulalie, VOARISOA  
18h00: **Visit:** Ralalason Randriamanalina, FIAVAMA offices  
19h30: Dinner and city tour with Ralalason Randriamanalina  
21h00: Return to hotel  
Overnight: Antananarivo - Hilton

Friday, 25-July-2003

06h30: Depart Antananarivo (MD122)  
08h50: Arrive Johannesburg (MD122)  
10h40: Depart Johannesburg (SA022)  
12h20: Arrive Harare (SA022)  
Overnight: home

## KEY PERSONNEL CONTACTED

- Jean-Michel Rafiringa, Prochimad & CropLife Madagascar executive.
- Roland Rabemananjara, COMACAT & CropLife Madagascar executive.
- Theodore Ranarivelo, Agriculture Chimie Madagascar (ACM) & CropLife Madagascar executive.
- Ralalason Randriamanalina, FIAVAMA & CropLife Madagascar member.
- Sylvie Rakotonirainy, Administrative and Financial Director, Prochimad.
- Bosco Randriamperenanarivo, Technical Director, Prochimad.
- Julien Rakotoarimanana, Registrar committee, Plant Protection, Ministry of Agriculture.
- Henri Rakotofiringa, Director of Production, HASYMA (Cotton Corporation of Madagascar).
- Michele Eulalie, information officer for VOARISOA, involved in training and producing training materials.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Meeting of several staff involved in agriculture - industry, plant protection, extension, sales.

- Explanation of CropLife structure, activities and allocations to CropLife Madagascar executive.
- Electronic copies of all training materials given to potential trainers.
- Discussions on future training requirements with training personnel, industry.
- Established that training already done through VOARISOA, supported by various donors, for following up.
- Orientation to the industry and other stakeholders in Madagascar.

## **ACTIONS REQUIRED**

- Send 20 copies each of all guidelines in French (PM).
- Send 10 copies of both Gifap Training manuals in French (PM).
- Check if guidelines on internet in French (PM).
- Send 100 of each available Safe Use posters in French (PM).
- If not available in French, send five of each in English (PM).
- Send 100 copies of Medical posters (PM).
- Use pictorial materials on CD to make own posters (CropLife Madagascar members).
- Check if companion slide sets available for all guidelines as per sample shown (PM).
- Approach CropLife Africa Middle East regarding costs of training visits vs. cost of training equipment (PM).
- Identify training needs and motivation, and send training plan - course, target audience, time, dates, costs (JMR)
- Approach funding organisations to set up training partnerships (JMR).
- Try out on-farm incinerator and disposal pit, and discuss with appropriate Ministries - Health, Agriculture, Environment (JMR).
- Follow up on training implementation - especially incinerator, disposal pits (JMR).
- Contact Dr Chris Waller regarding obstocks (PM).
- Contact Les Hillowitz regarding US\$5000 allocation for "obstocks prevention" (PM).
- Disclose CropLife International budget breakdown (PM).
- Contact CropLife Africa Middle East regional co-ordinator regarding medical training (PM).
- Contact Jack Aston regarding supply of antidotes (PM).

## **CONCLUSION**

A very good orientation and planning visit. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Jean-Michel, Roland, Theo and Ralalason for the excellent itinerary and their special hospitality.

A program for the training will be put together in due course. It is critical that there is consensus among all stakeholders and that all members of CropLife Madagascar agree on the plan, and as wide a spectrum of trainees to be reached - industry staff, government staff, and those involved in the cotton, locust, sugar and other industries considered important.

There has obviously been quite some training taking place already - according to Julien (NGO staff, extension staff, retailers accreditation, industry staff, large scale farm workers), and Michele Eulalie, information officer for VOARISOA. However much less training with smallscale farmers. Perhaps with funding assistance from various agencies, these smallscale farmers can be reached.

As CropLife Madagascar have worked with GTZ, WWF, and a few others via the VOARISOA project, it may be useful to speak with VOARISOA to re-establish these links, and to co-operate on training. Note that they already have very useful training materials and manuals, which are specific to Madagascar.

Dealers/stockists and farmers visited do not have any training in safe use and code of conduct. It is essential to now create a body of Master Trainers to initiate a training program for farmers and dealers.

## **KEY**

JMR = Jean-Michel Rafiringa

PM = Peter Mills



Workers at a plant treating seed not properly protected, indicating a dire need for proper training and equipment.



Farmer applies his pesticides using these same watering cans, again demonstrating a need for training.



Stockists sometimes "decant" pesticides into medical vials, indicating a need for a sensitisation program and training.



Not all doom and gloom. This pesticide stockist had been trained by Bayer CropScience personnel and the warehouse had been set up properly and storage was safe.