

**REPORT ON VISIT TO SYRIA**  
**By Peter Mills**  
**CropLife Africa Middle East**  
**11-July-2003 to 15-July-2003**

**PURPOSE**

- **Orientation:** introduction to Syria - personnel, country, agriculture, training systems.
- **Personnel:** meet with people involved in the pesticide industry and training.
- **Training:** discussions on future training requirements (Bassam Hajir, Ali Mohamed Ali).
- **Training:** three day course for Plant Protection subject matter specialists.

**ACTIVITIES**

Friday, 11-July-2003

08h00: **Preparation** time in Beirut for visit to Syria  
20h20: Depart Beirut (ME261)  
21h00: Arrive Larnaca (ME261)  
22h00: Depart Larnaca (CY484)  
23h05: Arrive Damascus (CY484)  
Overnight Damascus - Le Meridien

Saturday, 12-July-2003

08h30: **Training Subject matter specialists in Safe Use: Day 1**  
17h00: End of day 1 training  
Overnight: Damascus - Le Meridien

Sunday, 13-July-2003

08h30: **Training Subject matter specialists in Safe Use: Day 2**  
17h00: End of day 2 training  
Overnight: Damascus - Le Meridien

Monday, 14-July-2003

08h30: **Training Subject matter specialists in Safe Use: Day 3**  
13h00: End of day 3 training  
14h00: Return to hotel  
15h00: Depart for airport  
17h25: Depart Damascus (EK912)  
21h25: Arrive Dubai (EK912)  
Overnight: Dubai airport

Tuesday, 15-July-2003

03h40: Depart Dubai (SA7159)

10h00: Arrive Johannesburg (SA7159)  
12h30: Depart Johannesburg (BA6267)  
14h05: Arrive Harare (BA6267)  
15h00: **Reports & administration**  
Overnight: home

## **KEY PERSONNEL CONTACTED**

- Dr. Huraldin Muna, Minister of Agriculture.
- Dr Jamal Hajjar, Director, Crop Protection, MoA.
- Dr. Aiman, Director Training Centre, Damascus.
- Bassam Hajir, Nabat, Syria.
- Miss Muna Shadeed, Debanne, Syria.
- 33 subject matter specialists from Plant Protection, industry.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Meeting of several staff involved in agriculture - extension, sales, MoA.
- Delivered three day course on "Safe Use".
- Electronic copies of all training materials given to participants and industry staff.
- Discussions on future training requirements with participants, industry.

## **ACTIONS REQUIRED**

- Try out on-farm incinerator and discuss with appropriate Ministries - Health, Agriculture, Environment (BH?, AMA).
- Follow up on training implementation - especially incinerator, disposal pits (BH?, AMA).
- Possible set up of industry association (AMA).
- Training of Trainers course, to be arranged (AMA).

## **CONCLUSION**

Useful discussions about training expectations and requirements. Future training requires more thought and detailed planning including a "needs analysis" and/or appropriate selection of trainees. Selected personnel to attend a future Training of Trainers course, to be arranged by Ali Mohamed Ali and Mahmoud Al Tabaishi.

## **KEY**

BH = Bassam Hajir AMA = Ali Mohammed Ali PM = Peter Mills

Peter Mills  
15-July-2003



The training course was opened by the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Huraldin Muna.



Training was conducted by Peter Mills and assisted by Ali Mohamed Ali and Bassam Hajir, who helped with translations.