Cocoa SPS Africa

Final evaluation workshop
Progress in addressing SPS issues in cocoa in Africa: status and actions required

Abidjan,
10 – 12 December 2013

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Information dissemination through the project website
Partners

[Logos of various partners are displayed, including ICCO, EDES, COLEACP, Standards and Trade Development Facility, FAO, OIE, and others.]
The objective was to communicate project findings and outputs, publicise the project, help raise awareness and update all interested stakeholders on recent developments with regard to SPS issues in cocoa.

http://www.icco.org/sites/sps/
Cocoa SPS Africa Website

Introduction

Pests and diseases cause serious yield losses to cocoa production worldwide. Although there are non-chemical ways to manage them, the use of agro-chemicals is currently unavoidable. Meanwhile, cocoa consuming countries have expressed their concerns regarding the health risks associated with the use of agro-chemicals in cocoa production. As a result, some cocoa importing countries have enacted legislative and regulatory measures on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards that have to be met by imported cocoa. The food safety concerns that affect cocoa relate to pesticides residues and other harmful substances such as Ochratoxin “A” (OTA), Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH), Free Fatty Acids (FFA) and heavy metals such as lead and cadmium.

The pesticide residue regulations published by the European Union (EU), the USA and Japan, if not properly adhered to, could affect cocoa trade and consequently deprive cocoa smallholder farmers and their governments of much needed revenues required for poverty alleviation programmes.

News and Events

Cocoa SPS Africa Project – Final Evaluation Workshop
Date: 29/11/2013

The final evaluation workshop for the project on “SPS Capacity Building in Africa to Mitigate the Harmful Effects of Pesticide Residues in Cocoa and to Maintain Market Access” will be held at Twiato Plateau, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire from 10 – 13 December 2013. The objectives of the workshop are to evaluate the achievements of the project to date, to review constraints encountered, to review recent SPS developments and pesticides available for cocoa, to provide necessary capacity building and make appropriate recommendations for subsequent dissemination in participating countries.

Full details of the background to the Project Results Evaluation and Dissemination Workshop, to be held in Abidjan 10 - 13 December 2013 can be downloaded here.

The draft programme of the Workshop is available for download here.

Pests and Pathogens project workshop set for 15 -18 April in Accra
Date: 21/03/2013

The ICCO’s Integrated Management of Pests and Pathogens project, announced in February, is to hold its inception workshop at the Cale Plaza Hotel in Accra, Ghana, 15 - 18 April. The project, organized in conjunction with the Ghana Cocoa Board and the Common Fund for Commodities, is being supported by two of the world’s largest chocolate makers, Mars and Mondelez International, as well as the European Cocoa Association.

The US$3.2 million project aims to tackle the cocoa pests and diseases that are the main challenges to sustainable cocoa economy. The four-day workshop is free of charge, and open to all interested parties. Pre-registration is not required.

The workshop will provide an overview of the project, which seeks to reduce the incidence of cocoa pests and diseases in Ghana and other countries in Africa as a prelude to the establishment of an internationally supported cocoa pests and diseases management initiative.
What do you find?

• Country information
• SPS Regulations and Legislations
• Progress reports on project activities
• Manuals, posters and flyers on GAP, food safety, SPS and other marketing materials
• Manual on the Safe Use of Pesticides in Cocoa Growing
• Good Agricultural and Warehousing Practices
• Workshops and Seminars reports & presentations
• News and updates on cocoa related news from external sources
• Blogs
Cocoa SPS: joining-up the science with the regulation

up-dated 22/11/2013

Welcome to our regular web blog, giving cocoa IPM/SPS and related issues in the news around the world, as it relates to:

1. impact of regulation on and cocoa production and trade
2. GAP and IPM measures to mitigate these risks

Issues examined include:

- the ICCO SPS initiative
- Organisational responsibilities and initiatives for cocoa quality in Africa
- 'Strategic cocoa pesticides' list (latest)
- Possible implications for cocoa on the 2013 EU moratorium on certain insecticides)
- Compounds under review
- Understanding potential harm caused by cocoa contaminants
- Helioptilis IPM in Asia
- Cocoa risk management in Ghana
- Policy and technology for management of counterfeit and illegal crop protection products (CPP’s): a CropLife International initiative...
Cocoa SPS Africa Website

A useful tool for:

• Wide dissemination of SPS information to project participants.
• Easy access for experts and scientist to upload information.
• Up-to-date information on SPS issues, including legislations and banned chemicals.
• Reliable resource of SPS data by authorities in producing countries.
What’s next?

Cocoa SPS Africa website

Cocoa SPS website
What’s next?

• Recommendation by the ICCO Economics Committee in September 2013

• Linked to or hosting the CABI/ICCO/STDF CocoaSafe project website for Asia

• For project partners, the website will act as the main vehicle for raising awareness. Activities include producing newsletters and articles, organising briefing workshops and keeping the website updated

• Incorporate SPS related news from news agencies

• Communication tools for users to interact; to ask questions, and have them attended to / or answered, stimulate discussions and debates

• Automatic emails when new material posted
Thank you

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Merci