



REPCar Regional Coordination Unit
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United Nations Environment Programme

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Planning Meeting–Workshop of Demo Projects in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

Santa Marta, 6-8 May 2009

RECOMMENDATIONS AND AGREEMENTS OF THE MEETING

The Regional Coordinator presented a summary and status of the REPCar Project as well as the Terms of Reference of the Demo Projects. The implementing entities presented the workplans of the demo projects and emphasis was placed on strategies and GAP and IPM protocols, including training activities. The meeting endorsed the workplans and the following observations and recommendations were made.

General observations and recommendations

1. The demo projects should focus on the Appropriate Use of Pesticides, and which should not be limited to a Reduction in the Use of Pesticides.

Banana and Plantain - AUGURA

2. Sight should not be lost of the need to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the innovative practices in the demo projects.

Banana – CORBANA

No specific recommendations were made.

Bean – BICU-CIUM

3. The programming of the Bean Demo Project is of much value. However, it was considered that the number of producers and the area to take care of is too much when compared with the resources allotted for the project and the projected timeframe.

Oil Palm – BICU-Kukra Hill Development Corporation. The demo project has not yet been initiated.

4. The dissemination and implementation of GAP and IPM should be facilitated since the company gives technical assistance to the small producers who are members, for this reason they comply with crop management advice of the company.

Pineapple – BANACOL

5. The possible environmental effect from the use of plastic in pineapple and its disposable should be taken into consideration. It was suggested that subsequent research on organic cover such as mulch be carried out instead of using plastic.

Pineapple – PROAGROIN

6. It was recommended that adult flies in pineapple should be monitored since the monitoring in the larva stage is erratic.
7. It is necessary to consider the size of the demo pineapple plots of small producers, since the integrity of the results could be compromised. In the case of small producers of the project, it was recommended reducing the number of pests being researched or the number of demo plots.

External experts presented a general framework and options for protocols for the assessment of pesticides run-off and the monitoring of human health. Similarly, some projects presented on the progress of the preparation of the information acquisition protocol of pesticide run-off.

Environmental Monitoring

8. It was explained that environmental monitoring is not expected to quantify all the run-off from plots, but to study the behaviour patterns using different practices. In each project, the sample types adjust to the conditions of the crop, the soil and the climate.
9. Much care should be taken when interpreting results. It was recommended that consultancy be done with pesticide producing companies at the national level (through agrochemical producers chambers), with the aim of analyzing every possible variables that could affect the final results before publishing the results.

Monitoring of Human Health

10. The implementing demo project farms have agreed to hand over to UNEP-CAR/RCU, the research protocols prepared or documents generated during the execution of this project. A selection of publications will be posted on the Project's website.
11. Strong communication activities should be promoted among the demo projects. All communication with UNEP-CAR/RCU should be done through the national coordination of each country to facilitate support, coherence and follow-up at the national level. Proposals for training materials and publications of the project should be reviewed by national and regional coordination prior to publication. A register of all publication and printed material, organized project events or participation in other events, press releases and any other should be kept.