



R.E.A.P. Realizing Enhanced Agricultural Productivity

Sponsored by

Giving African Agriculture A Boost

Volume I Number II



CROPLIFE FOUNDATION/CNFA AFRICA PROJECT



BAYER CROPSCIENCE

DOW AGROSCIENCES

FMC

MONSANTO

DUPONT

SYNGENTA

RUMARK: RURAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT TRUST

AGMARK: AGRICULTURAL MARKETS DEVELOPMENT TRUST

CROPLIFE AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST

CROPLIFE KENYA

CROPLIFE MALAWI

Steady progress continues with our Africa crop protection demonstrations in Kenya and Malawi. As we near the harvest of crops in our demonstration plots in the two countries, we can report that interest level among farmers in the regions is very strong and participation in local "Field Days" has been excellent.

In addition we have successfully added another sponsor who is eager to support the project in FMC Corporation.

Of the crops selected for the plots, treated seeds for maize, ground nuts and beans were obtained from Farmchem (DuPont), Syngenta and Monsanto, three of our stakeholder companies participating in the project. Plots were prepared under the jurisdiction of our principal investigator, Justice Chimgonda, using herbicide product from Bayer CropScience, Monsanto and Lachlan (Dow AgroSciences).

Six plots were lost in Kenya because of severe drought conditions and eight plots suffered early damage from leaf blight, insect pressure and germination problems due to bird damage. Nonetheless, in our first efforts, we gained valuable insight into setting up and maintaining demonstration plots of maize, groundnuts and beans.

Participants in field days and project stakeholders were most enthusiastic. As a result, we look forward to expanding the project into the next growing season with more dealers, more farmers and more demonstration plots.

For the crops that are being harvested, grains, nuts and beans will be protected against insect infestation and toxins by post-harvest products such as Dow's SPINTOR dust. Unprotected foodstuffs could suffer losses up to 50 percent or more.

Photographs reproduced here show participation at various Field Days, weed-free demonstration plots and presentations given to attending farmers. A 22-minute DVD filmed by the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) of Field Day activities and interviews can be downloaded from the CropLife Foundation web site (www.croplifefoundation.org) or by calling Allan Noe at 202 872-3840.



Africa Project Investigator Mr. Justice Chimgona checks maize grown with herbicide protection provided by Bayer EA Ltd.



An applicator shows farmers how herbicide is applied and the need to wear protective gear



The Country Director and CNFA Staff pose with farmer that is disabled but can manage to grow his crops using herbicides



CNFA/AGMARK's Rose Wanyiri, agricultural coordinator, explains the efficacy of herbicide use on a maize plot



Bayer EA Agent takes farmers through the benefits of using herbicides to combat weeds



Pictured are some of the farmers who attended a field day at Nathenie. Most of the farmers have shown interest and willingness to start farming using herbicides



Farmers listen intently at an herbicide field-day.

About CropLife Foundation

CropLife Foundation was created in 2001 to promote and advance sustainable agriculture and the environmentally sound use of crop protection products and bioengineered agriculture. Through sound science-based research and education, the organization helps global agriculture economically produce safe, high quality, abundant food, fiber and other crops, thus ensuring food security and alleviating poverty, suffering and hardship.

About CNFA, Inc.

CNFA, Inc. is dedicated to increasing and sustaining rural incomes in less developed areas of the world by empowering farmers and rural entrepreneurs. CNFA, Inc. focuses on commercial activity, locally defined needs and leveraged investment to foster the economic empowerment of rural residents and enterprises all along the food value chain—from farmers to local suppliers and processors to larger companies, financial institutions and distributors and exporters.

To view the news release about this project go to:
http://www.croplifefoundation.org/cpri_articles.htm#africa



A closeup of a "clean" maize field



A Kenya Broadcasting corporation news crew interviews Farmchem rep on their maize variety use (PHB-3253)

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For more details visit www.croplifefoundation.org and read Solving Africa's Weed Problem