

Agr^{aak}Chem News

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CROPLIFE KENYA STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

2015 was a busy year for CropLife Kenya in terms of its various Stewardship Projects. The industry was able to setup and implement various projects under the Stewardship umbrella and partnered with various organizations to fund and implement the activities.

1. CONTAINER MANAGEMENT
2. SPRAY SERVICE PROVIDER
3. AGRO-DEALER DEVELOPMENT
4. INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDER TRADE FAIR

1. CONTAINER MANAGEMENT

CropLife Kenya partnered with a world bank sponsored program under the Ministry of Agriculture (Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP), to setup a container management project referred to as the "Sustainable Empty Pesticide Container Initiative (SEPCI) in Ten (10) counties in Kenya. The main objective of the SEPCI Project was the 'Establishment of environmentally sustainable and commercially viable empty pesticide containers management system in Kenya.

Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project is one of the government initiatives to implement the Agriculture Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) and are designed around the key pillars of ASDS. KAPAP aims to consolidate and up-scale the achievements in the sector and in addition support agribusiness development. The projects development objective is to increase agricultural productivity and incomes of participating smallholder's farmers in the project area. In the past 10 years, empty pesticides containers management in Kenya has become of major importance especially in the horticultural export sector following the demand by the market through certification organizations such as Kenya Flower Council

(KFC), Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK), Global GAP, Milieu Programmer Siesteeltil (MPS) among others that demand the documentation of the process of handling of pesticide containers on the farm as part of the traceability process to ascertain use of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in production of crops intended for export into the European countries

The identified counties were: Makueni, Nakuru, Nyandarua, Kakamega, Taita Taveta, Trans Nzoia, Homabay, Meru, Nyeri and Embu.

Under the project CropLife Kenya was able to conduct sensitization meetings to different stakeholders in the Agriculture Industry who included farmers, agro-dealers, extension officers, county administration, exporters and certification bodies. The project was able to setup 437 Collection Centers set up near farmers and farmer groups and agrovets. 18 Central Collection Centers were also setup and were mainly located in cooperative society offices and designated areas within reach of collection. In the same activity CropLife Kenya (CLK) trained approximately 11,000 farmers that included Container Management and Triple rinsing under SEPCI.



Farmer training session



Editorial



Mrs Catherine Wangu

Chairlady of Publicity, Recruitment & Accreditation

I welcome you to the next E-newsletter for August to January 2016 and assure you that you will have an informative reading. The year 2015 saw Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) get involved in many activities that included the Container Management (CM), Spray Service Provide Programme (SSP) and Anticounterfeit Project.

In this issue we have highlighted these activities, the achievements and the way forward for 2016. The reports also include the collaborators of these programmes the World Bank through the Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Programme (KAPAP) on container management, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MOAL&F) through the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP) for SSP, Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) and Plantwise CABI that are helping to build the capacity of agrodealers as plant doctors.

This issue also covers the 2015 Annual Dinner. At the beginning of 2016, AAK expects to continue with these programmes in addition to training farmers and other stakeholders. Enjoy the read!

Thank you,

Mrs Catherine Wangu

Chairlady of Publicity, Recruitment & Accreditation

Under the project, CLK has been able to collect approximately 10 tonnes of EPC for the purpose of incineration and it is estimated that in 2016 the project will collect over 10 tons of Empty Pesticides Containers(EPC).



PICTURE I: CropLife Kenya field coordinator at a collection center showing the bags used for EPC collection



Picture II: Container Management Activities

SPRAY SERVICE PROVIDER

Following the successful pilot of the SSP program in Kirinyaga among the Horticulture export farmers, CLK partnered with the Agriculture Sector Development Support Program (ASDSP) a program under the Ministry of Agriculture that is funded by the Swedish government

under SIDA. The overall programme goal of the ASDSP is to: “support the transformation of Kenya’s agricultural sector into an innovative, commercially oriented, competitive and modern industry that will contribute to poverty reduction and improved food security in rural and urban Kenya”.

The programme purpose is to: “increase equitable income, employment and improved food security of male and female target groups as a result of improved production and productivity in the rural smallholder farm and off-farm sectors”. CLK and ASDSP partnered to setup an SSP program in 10 counties following different value chains as supported by ASDSP as shown below:

	County	Value Chain
1	Bungoma	Tomato
2	Uasin Gishu	Passion fruits
3	Kisumu	Cotton
4	Kericho	Tomato
5	Makueni	Tomato
6	Muranga	French beans and snow peas
7	Machakos	Mango
8	Kajiado	Tomato
9	Isiolo	Tomato
10	Kwale	Tomato

The project is being implemented by CropLife Kenya with part funding from ASDSP and CLK. The project aims to train 200 youths as SSP trainers in 10 counties who through a multiplier effect will be required to train a minimum of 10 other SSP’s below them and who will work under their supervision. In the end the concept will aim to create jobs for 2000 youths in 10 counties in one year. They will take up the concept as a business and earn an income from the concept. As a rule of thumb, one SSP can service 10-15 farmers in a year. With the concept developed, the SSP’s will reach out to between 40,000-50,000 farmers in a year in the 10 counties. The project also has linked up the youths with micro-financing institutions for funding their enterprises and through CLK will link the SSP’s with distributors to ensure access to inputs.

The partnership aims to promote the different value chains while at the same time create employment for the youth.

Certification for the SSP’s is being done by CLK, PCPB, and ASDSP. The project is on-going and is anticipated to end in October 2016.



Picture III: SSP Training

2. AGRO-DEALER DEVELOPMENT

In August 2015, CLK and Plantwise CABI signed a partnership agreement which saw the 2 organizations come together to build capacity of the Agro-dealer to not only be able to provide for pest and disease solutions to farmers but also provide the correct information and solution on the backbone of IPM. CABI is coordinating Plantwise, a global programme that aims to strengthen national plant health systems through developing local capacity to establish and manage plant health clinics and provide supporting information through a global knowledge bank.

The purpose of this partnership is to facilitate collaborations in promoting sustainable agricultural practices that enhance productivity, improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and protect biodiversity. The right training with relevant information is therefore very important. It is for this reason that CLK and Plantwise teamed up together to build capacity of the agro-dealer so that he can be able to make correct diagnosis and give correct and safe recommendation to farmers on pests and diseases and their management based on IPM principles. The collaboration involved a review of the existing CLK agro-dealer training curriculum to enrich it with aspects of Diagnosis of pests and diseases, and on giving the correct information. It also involved a review of the agro-dealer trainers manual to include the above aspects.

Through funding and support from CABI and CLK, the curricula was tested in 3 counties in the month of November. This involved committing two days to training on Diagnosis of pests and diseases and IPM.

Through this collaboration, the following was noted:

- i. There is a big knowledge gap among extension officers and Agro dealers on diagnosis of pests and diseases. Many were not able to effectively identify pests and diseases and their causal agents, the problem is further made a challenge when abiotic factors come into play.

- ii. It was further noted that many agro dealers did not understand the IPM concept and many of them thought of pesticides as the only solution to pests and diseases. And many of them never gave other pest management options when giving recommendations to farmers.

- iii. Many of the agro dealers did not understand the pesticide label and more specifically the pictograms and color codes. The evaluation of the trainings show that CLK and CABI will continue training the agro-dealers so that the knowledge gap on all the subjects is reduced.

It is hoped that the collaboration will continue into 2016. Plantwise CABI has also expressed that there is a possibility of a similar roll out with other CropLife National Associations.



PICTURE i: Training of extension officers on diagnosis of pests and diseases and IPM



Picture II: Agro-Dealer Training

3. INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDER TRADE FAIR

CLK organized its 2nd Annual Industry field day in Bungoma County which sort to bring all key stakeholders in the Agriculture industry together for the purpose of reaching farmers in the county. With the success of the first industry field day members requested for a similar forum in Bungoma an emerging market especially in Horticulture farming where the industry has a keen interest. Farmers in the region have embraced Horticulture fully and many have formed groups through support of organizations such as USAID-KAVES.

This year's field day was done in collaboration with USAID – KAVES. The Kenya Agricultural Value Chain Enterprises (KAVES), is a five-year project (January 2013-2018), supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to increase the productivity and incomes of 500,000 smallholders and other actors along staple crops, dairy, and horticulture value chains in 22 counties, thereby enhancing food security and improving nutrition, especially of women and children.

CLK's main objective for the field day was to create a forum where its members could showcase their products through exhibitions and also demonstrate their effectiveness by setting up demonstration plots where farmers could be able to see for themselves how the products worked. Through the forum CLK aimed to ensure access of inputs to farmers, train farmers on responsible use, and sensitize farmers on accessing registered products to avoid counterfeit and illegal pesticides. Through this forum CLK was able to bring in stakeholders from the seed industry, fertilizer industry, banks and micro finance institutions, NGO's in different value chains and the government.

The trade fair was held on 19th November 2015. It was graced by the Minister of Trade Bungoma County, who was accompanied by the Minister of Agriculture for the county with Chief Officers from Trade, Agriculture, Youth and Gender and local administration. The fair attracted over 60 exhibitors with 23 being from the Pesticide Industry. A total of 1480 farmers attended the fair. The fair gave CLK an opportunity to sensitize the county on its activities with keen interest on the county. This included responsible use training to farmers, agro-dealers, and extension officers. CLK also informed the county on the anticipated Spray Service Provider Program to be implemented among the Horticulture farmers in the regions with specific emphasis on the tomato value chain. The program aims to develop and establish professional sprayers who will hire out their services to farmers.

The minister for trade praised CLK for bringing the forum to the county and urged the stakeholders to make it an annual event. He noted the keen interest among farmers in the county in Horticulture and noted that demand for agro-inputs had grown high over the course of the years. The Minister also urged farmers to desist from buying and purchasing fake and counterfeit pesticides and urged them to buy only from registered sources. He further urged

farmers to protect themselves when handling pesticides and ensure they observe PHI specified on pesticide labels to avoid issues of MRLs. On USAID-KAVES, the minister thanked them for the work they are doing in different value chains through promoting farmers in groups. He noted that their contribution had improved the livelihood of farmers in the region.

CLK representative Mr. Patrick Amuyunzu noted that CLK had a keen interest with the county and mentioned the various projects that CLK was implementing to assist farmers in the county. He thanked the county government for its support especially in the trade fair. CLK would like to thank its members who participated in the fair and urged its members to support such industry forums in future.



PICTURE III: CropLife Kenya Vice Chairman Patrick Amuyunzu and head of stewardship Evelyn Lusena at the trade fair



Pictorial

ANNUAL DINNER



Francis Miano of Bayer (E.A) centre, Gabriel of BASF right and Susan from Bayer.



Vice chair of AAK Patrick Amuyunzu talking to invited guests during the dinner.



Anne Onyango Director of Policies MOAL & F talks to Mr Onyango Njer.



Eric Kimunguyi explains a point to one of the guests during the dinner.



President CropLife Africa and Middle East Eric Bureau with Stella Simiyu Wafukho.



Junghae Wainaina of JUANCO with Mr Richard Sikuku CEO AAK



Susan Njoroge Chairlady AAK centre, Catherine Kinyanjui of Osho chemicals and a guest.



Anne Onyango
*Director Ministry of
Agriculture*

Speech by Director of Policies MOAL & F during the Annual Dinner on 27th November 2015.

1. ROLE OF INDUSTRY

The Government recognizes the role of Agro Chemicals Industries in driving the Agricultural Sector

- **Approximately** in this country the pesticide industry is worth about Kenya Shillings 7 billion, with insecticides taking the largest share, followed by fungicides, acaricides and herbicides.
- **The** Pesticides are classified based on broad usage which includes; Agricultural, public health, buildings and construction.
- **Importance:** Underscore the importance of pesticides inputs in agricultural production. However, they require to be used safely and efficiently in order to achieve the desired objective of increased agricultural production

2. COLLABORATION

- The AAK Executive Committee instituted Sub-committees which oversee the implementation of various flagship projects as follows;

(A) TRAINING

- To date AAK has managed to build capacity for over 3000 extension officers across the country.
- Through a multiplier effect the trained officers have been able to train other lower cadre officers, farmers and general public.
- Since 1991, AAK has trained over 1.5 million farmers on responsible use of pesticides as part of its stewardship activities.
- The goal is to ensure that farmers use pesticides in the correct way to avoid any harmful effects to users, consumers and environment.
- The industry is also involved in training of agro dealers with the aim of ensuring that dealers are able

to effectively diagnose pest and disease problems that farmers encounter and find correct recommendation of which IPM components are integrated.

(B) SPRAY SERVICE PROVIDER PROJECT

- The main goal is to increase productivity and quality of produce and health of small scale farmers by improving access to Integrated Pest Control Management solutions through using certified Spray Service Providers (SSP).
- The program selected farmer groups that had been burned from exporting produce due to excessive MRL's.
- In 2015, this group succeeded in regaining their lost export market. In this year, AAK has also partnered with MOL&F through ASDSP to promote spray teams in 10 counties across different value chains.
- This partnership aims at creating jobs for the youth as spray service providers.

(C) MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS

- Stringent measures for MRL'S have threatened Kenya's export market for fresh produce due to limited compliance skills. Therefore through its own initiative, AAK has been involved in training farmers group on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).
- This entails building their capacity to conduct regular surveillance and scouting for pest and diseases and equipping them with information necessary to help them decide on suitable intervention measures.

(D) CONTAINER MANAGEMENT

- Disposal of empty pesticides containers continue to be one of the biggest challenge the industry is facing.
- Therefore, the Agrochemicals Association of Kenya is carrying out pilot project on empty pesticide containers collection in Mt. Kenya Region covering areas like Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Laikipia, Nyeri, Kirinyaga and Embu.
- Over 200 collection centre has been set up where farmers drop off their triple rinsed empty pesticide containers.
- After a period of 2-3 months, these collection centre are inspected and volumes accumulated collected by AAK for incineration.
- To ensure sustainability of appropriate disposal of containers, AAK seeks partners to set up enterprises that can use the recycled empty containers materials. This would be necessary to allow a roll out of this initiative across the whole country.

(E) OBSOLETE PESTICIDES STOCK

- Through funding from Crop Life International, about 175 metric tons of obsolete pesticide stocks were collected and safeguarded at Kabete temporary store in 2012.
- Out of these 90 MT have been shipped out for safe incineration in United Kingdom while the balance will be cleared in January 2016.
- However there is need to put in measures to continuously minimize and mop out obsolete stocks and associated waste from farmers, agro input outlets and other pesticide dealers and handlers

(F) ANTI-COUNTERFEITING PROJECT

- The AAK/CropLife Kenya Anti-counterfeit Project was introduced in January 2014.
- The main aim was to create awareness among farmers on how to avoid counterfeits and consequences of counterfeit products.
- In addition a baseline survey was conducted to assess the extent of counterfeiting pesticides in Kenya.
- In this program AAK is working closely with MOAL&F, PCPB and Anti-counterfeit Agencies.
- The project is being sponsored by CropLife Africa Middle East and Agrochemicals Association of Kenya at a budget of Kshs.33, 000,000 up to 2016.

(G) PCBP QUALITY MARKS FOR PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS.

- The PCBP quality mark is to help the industry assist farmers to identify genuine products at the point of purchase.

(H) COLLABORATIONS

- MOAL&F has been and is still the key collaborator with AAK.
- Through this collaborative initiative the two institutions have managed to reach many farmers across different value chains and build sustainable projects.
- This willingness to work together is commendable and needs to continue.
- Further, AAK has been involved in setting industry forums across the country. These platforms serves as avenues in which key stake holders come together with the aim of reaching farmers with new innovations and technologies for pest and disease control.

(I) CONCLUSIONS

Due to climate change, pest and disease outbreaks have become more frequent. Therefore I Urge the industry to invest more in trainings for extension service providers and farmers on measures to counteract negative impact of such outbreaks.

- Further, the industry should explore modalities of supporting research geared towards the development of new pesticide products to handle the emerging pest problem.
- For enhanced scope, the Agro chemical Association should look into embracing memberships from other key stakeholders such as exporters, growers, stockiest/ agro-vets and regulators.
- To fasten the process of disseminating information to the farmers and general public, I call upon the AAK to make use of the ministry extension staff deployed country wide up to the grass root level.
- I thank you all for attending this dinner and hope you have learnt something to put into practice.



TOLL FREE LINES

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The AAK poison management toll free lines are now working. AAK would wish to inform members to sensitize farmers on the use of the lines during its stewardship activities and as they provide technical assistant to farmers. Currently the lines receive over 100 calls daily where farmers are seeking information on how to use the pesticides. It is important that farmers understand that the toll free lines are purely for poison emergency cases and they should be directed on the contacts of your company when in need of how to use the product. The over 100 calls a day is also an indication that farmers have a big problem on how to use the pesticides they use and have no way of getting information from the companies on usage.

AAK SHOULD HELP IN SURVEY OF CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN THE MARKET.



Speech on behalf of Nairobi Governor given during AAK Annual Dinner.

The vision of Nairobi City County is “**The City of Choice to Invest, Work and Live in**”. To achieve this vision we need the input of all stakeholders and all Nairobians in general.

In line with schedule four of the constitution, the mandate of the Agriculture sector of the Nairobi City County is to enhance Agriculture productivity, promote Agribusiness, ensure food nutrition and safety and contribute to public health.

Recently the Nairobi City County enacted an urban Agriculture promotion Act to guide the achievement of the referred Mandate.

AAK is an important stakeholder in the achievement of some aspects of the referred mandate and the urban agriculture promotion act. I am sure the objectives and mandates of AAK allows for collaboration with the Governments. In respect of this, we request for close collaboration with us to ensure food safety to the Nairobians.

Among others the areas of collaboration should include training in safe handling of pesticides, for stockists and farmers, especially younger ones, for safety of producers and consumers. This is in such areas as prudent use of chemicals, use of protective

clothing, adherence to withdrawal period of chemicals and waste disposal such as empty containers and expired chemicals.

AAK should also collaborate in curbing of counterfeit chemicals and hawking of agrochemicals in general.

We also look forward to exchange of information between out two bodies, for instance from surveys or studies done.

AAK should also collaborate in undertaking of research studies and surveys; for instance, we have a programme of surveillance of meat outlets in the city for food safety. There are plans to commence similar exercise for produce.

In this respect, we propose for AAK to help in survey of chemical residues in fruits and vegetable, in the market. This may provide data for action by identifying the notorious source for supply of contaminated farm produce to Nairobians.

We look forward to future sustained collaboration with AAK to ensure safety and nutrition of food supplied to Nairobians.

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