

Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK)



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The 59TH Annual General Meeting (AGM) of AAK.



Rehabilitation of Mau Forest-Likia.



Joint Meeting of AAK and PCPB Boards.



**Agrochemicals
Association
of Kenya**



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Chapter 1.0: REGULATORY, POLICY AND STANDARDS

1.1 East African Community (EAC) Harmonized Pesticides Management.

Guidelines For Regional Multi-Stakeholder Consultation.

From 19th – 21st March 2018, in Kigali Rwanda

EAC Partner States are in the process of intensifying their agriculture to meet national demands for food and to increase agricultural exports. In a bid to intensify agricultural production, the EAC Partner States could see an increased reliance on pesticides. Poorly managed pesticide regulatory systems can result in environmental deterioration, reductions in agricultural productivity and adverse impacts on the health of farmers, consumers and the surrounding community. To develop an efficient, competitive and sustainable agricultural sector in East Africa, possible adverse effects of pesticide use have to be minimized. Overseas horticultural market, depends on maintaining strict standards concerning pesticide use, food safety, food quality and sustainability of production.

The EAC Secretariat with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Regional Office for Economic Integration and in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through the European Commission programme on 'Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP/MEAs' Phase 2) are jointly implementing a regional work plan on pesticides management.

The pesticides management program responds to the directives of the 7th and 8th EAC Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAFs). The SCAFs directed the EAC Secretariat to mobilize resources and undertake harmonization in the area of farm inputs including agrochemicals and pesticides. Pursuant to the directive, in January 2015, the EAC Secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reached an agreement to implement a joint regional work plan on pesticides management.

The ultimate aim of regional collaboration and harmonization on pesticide registration in the EAC is to harness limited resources within the region, improve trade and provide better protection for the population and the environment from the toxic effects of pest control products.

The three focal areas prioritized for harmonization to enhance regional collaboration in pesticides management are efficacy trials, pesticide residue trials and data requirements for pesticide registration. Three technical working groups have been constituted to work with support from regional and international experts to review, update and elaborate respectively the following:

- i. Guidelines for the regional harmonization of efficacy trials;
- ii. Guidelines for the regional harmonization of pesticide residue trials for pesticide registration ; and establishment of maximum residue limits (MRLs)
- iii. Guidelines for the regional harmonization of pesticide registration data requirements for conventional pesticides used in agriculture

The Technical Working Groups comprised national experts nominated by EAC Partner States.



AAK / CLK CEO Evelyn Lusena with other Participants



Group Photo of Participants at Kigali Rwanda

More details of this report can
be found on AAK Website.

www.agrochem.co.ke

1.2 Joint Meeting of AAK and PCPB Boards.



Group Photo of AAK and PCPB Boards at Sarova Hotel, Nakuru

A joint meeting of the Board of Directors of Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) and the Board of Agrochemicals Association of Kenya was held on the 18th and 19th of January, 2018 at the Sarova Woodlands Hotel, Nakuru. The agenda of the meeting was to review matters of common interest in the industry such as the progress made in drafting of proposed regulations that shall accompany the PCP bill 2017 and the harmonization of registration requirements within the East African Community (EAC) regional bloc.

The 2 boards were taken through the proposed changes in the PCP Act and the proposals on the Harmonization of registration of pesticides in East Africa

Highlights of discussions on proposed PCPB regulations.

Participants were informed that once the new act was ratified, it would repeal all current regulations governing licensing and fees, importation and exportation of PCP's, registration, labeling, advertising, packaging, licensing of premises and disposal. A team comprising of stakeholders had come up with proposed regulations that would come into effect with the passing of the new act. Noteworthy in the proposed regulations was the fact that penalties for dealing in illegal pesticides had been reviewed upwards in an effort to deter such cases. A penalty has been proposed for late payment of all types of licensing fees. It was also observed that not all translated documents presented in the dossier for registration of PCP's were accurate and a penalty for such was proposed, including a repeat of the efficacy trials carried out on the strength of such documents to deter such cases.

The licensing of premises was also reviewed to cater for occupational safety and health requirements as well as the categories from manufacturers to stockist taking into account the different specialized needs at each level.

The new labeling requirements have taken into consideration the new GHS system and all new registrations and renewals should comply.

Harmonization of registration in East African Community (EAC)

The Managing Director of PCPB made a presentation on the progress of the harmonization of pesticide registration in E.A.C which was being supported by F.A.O (UN). The task force had held several meetings with the national regulatory bodies of member countries and draft documents for registration were being worked on, which shall be followed by development of procedures for conducting efficacy trials. The objective of harmonization is to ease trade among the member countries. Participants were informed of a proposal that once a product has been successfully registered in 2 member countries, and then the other member countries are obliged to register it in their country.

Other issues raised:

i. Reports of efficacy trials to be availed to the registrant after completion of the exercise, including comments on reason for rejection. The proposed combination of efficacy and residue trials was discouraged since its not global best practice and the design of the 2 experiments is different.

ii. A forum is needed to discuss the issue of Confidential Business Information and develop final wording for the document.

iii. If a company has a product in abeyance, after expiry of its registration they need to give notice to the regulator failure to which the product is deregistered after 6 months. Registration of a product can also be withdrawn before expiry of the 5-year term if the board established non-compliance with regulations.

iv. The establishment of a dispute resolution mechanism is a last resort after all other internal avenues have been exhausted. The choice of arbiters is vested with the Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture.

v. The omission of a clause on unethical use of pest control products by end users was due to the high threshold for proving abuse to sustain litigation. Self-regulation and capacity building were seen as better options to deal with the vice.

vi. The 2 organizations need to work together to strengthen container disposal. The criminalization of prescribed disposal could be a foundation for future policies aimed at ensuring proper disposal.

vii. A review of the importation levy was proposed by PCPB in order to support PCPB which was under funded.

viii. The minimum education requirement for operating an agrovet was to ensure professionalism. The certificates should be from a recognized institution.



AAK / CLK CEO Evelyn Lusenaka giving her opening remarks.



DR. Ngaruiya of PCPB giving presentation on the proposed PCP Act

1.3 Crop Grouping For Vegetables.

The Crop grouping exercise for vegetables is now complete!! The final validation workshop was held from 5th - 8th March 2018.

All Pest Control Products (PCPs) have to be registered in accordance with the Pest Control Products Act, Cap 346 Laws of Kenya before they can be imported, traded and used in Kenya. Efficacy trials have to be conducted on each crop/pest combination to support registration. This is quite expensive and time consuming and may be addressed through extrapolation and crop grouping, where efficacy and residue trials are conducted on major crops and the experimental results used for extrapolation on minor crops in the same group.



Team of experts in the Crop Grouping exercise

In order to address this matter, a workshop was held in June 2017 to develop guidelines for crop grouping and data extrapolation. During the workshop, draft guidelines on residue and efficacy data extrapolation and crop grouping for vegetables were developed.

The team comprised experts in plant pathology, entomology from pesticides and weed science from University of Nairobi (UoN), ICIPE, Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) and Pest Control Products

Board (PCPB) were able to complete the exercise of grouping vegetables which commenced in 2017. The team was able to develop guidelines for efficacy extrapolation and Residue extrapolation in vegetables.

With the exercise now complete, we await the final approval for implementation by Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) Board.

1.4 CropLife Kenya/ AAK Participates In The Africa Region Sound, Strategic Approach To International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Meeting In Abidjan Cote D' Ivoire.



CLAME Representatives at the SAICM meeting

CropLife Kenya/AAK represented by the Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Evelyn Lusenaka was part of the CropLife delegation to the Africa Region SAICM meeting held in Abidjan Cote d' Ivoire on 6th -8th February 2018.

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a policy framework to foster the sound management of chemicals by ensuring that by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health.

Representative from CropLife Africa Middle East (CLAME) and National CropLife Association from Cote d' Ivories, Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya were among over 80 stakeholders at the conference. In keeping with the multi-stakeholder nature of SAICM, representatives from different ministries, Intergovernmental organization, the private sector and civil society participated in the meeting.

1.5 Anti-Counterfeit Activities.

1.5.1 Accreditation

Counterfeiting is a national supply chain problem. It is highly pervasive across the Agrochemicals Industry. The Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) and the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) have teamed up in a bid to create awareness among all the stakeholders in the industry supply chain to curb counterfeiting. For this reason, they have developed a Scheme, called "Accreditation Scheme" which is aimed at cleaning the industry supply chain.



Chairman Anti-Counterfeit Steering Committee (ACSC) Mr. Patrick Ngugi facilitating Accreditation meeting at SENTRIM Hotel, Mombasa



PCPB Official facilitating at Taita Rocks Hotel, Wundanyi

The scheme starts with the Industry technical and sales staff who undergo training under AAK Accreditation scheme, they are then issued with Accreditation Cards which they use in their field transactions. The second Accreditation is done to distributors who are scattered all over the country. After training they are issued with Accreditation certificates and window stickers. This will enable farmers to distinguish them from unscrupulous dealers. The last stage of Accreditation is creation of awareness among farmers on the issue of counterfeiting.

It is important to note that fighting the scourge requires suppliers' enforcement to enable AAK manage and create a conducive environment for legitimate trading in the industry. Secondly, there is need for the industry

to encourage the formation of associations among Agro dealers, creation of awareness among farmers, proper inspection of Agro dealers and strict adherence to the industry code of practice.

It is also important to report that currently, AAK has managed to sensitize Agro dealers in 22 counties (Mt. Kenya, South Rift, Nairobi, Western and Coastal regions) with **514** Agrovet outlets accredited under this Scheme. In addition, AAK has managed to train **366** industry sales and technical staff. AAK wishes to reiterate its commitment to the industry in dealing with counterfeiting menace.

"The fight against counterfeiting is a must win Battle!"

1.5.2 Inter-Agency Anti-Illicit Working Group Launched in Nairobi Boma Hotel 3rd April 2018.

As part of commitment towards the fight against counterfeits in the Agrochemical Industry, the Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) participated in a consultative meeting held in Boma Hotel, Nairobi on 3rd April 2018 by the Kenya's Anti-Counterfeit Agency. This forum was to facilitate dialogue between government's law enforcement agencies, the private sector, consumer organizations and civil society to forge a joint action and collaboration against counterfeits and other forms of illegal businesses.



Third from right is PS, Dr Kiptoo with other CEO's at Boma Hotel



Participants at Boma Hotel

The event was graced by the Principal Secretary for International Trade Dr. Chris Kiptoo and was attended by CEO's and representatives from government enforcement agencies like the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) among others.

The forum follows government's commitment towards delivery of the Big 4 agenda. In his opening remarks at the launch of the Anti-Illicit trade working Group, Dr. Kiptoo said "Top on today's agenda is the delivery of the Manufacturing pillar. The protection and enforcement of intellectual Property Right is a key incentive towards growing our manufacturing sector since it promotes creativity and innovation. We have an executive order to deliver to this strategy".

As the law enforcement and government continue to struggle with the expanding shadow economy, there is need to pool in manufacturers and the consumers in the fight against this war. The forum explored on need to establish a stakeholder framework to protect consumers, uphold the rule of law and ensures a strong enforcement of intellectual Property in the country.

Other deliberations were the need to capture Data of counterfeiting as a crime in the National Crime Center."Counterfeiting should be treated for what it is and for purposes of profiling, counterfeit crime will be captured in a national crime statistics report". Dr. Kiptoo added. This will help generate general trends and help in finding evidence based tactics to counter this menace.

This forum was to facilitate dialogue between government's law enforcement agencies, the private sector, consumer organizations and civil society to forge a joint action and collaboration against counterfeits and other forms of illegal businesses.

1.5.3 Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) Joins Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA) in Fight Against Counterfeit at the Namanga Border

The Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) participated in a forum organized by Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA), a state corporation whose responsibility is to enlighten and inform the public on matters relating to counterfeiting, combat counterfeiting, trade and other dealings in counterfeit goods, devise and promote training programs to combat counterfeiting. The forum which was organized at Namanga Border on 1st March 2018, targeted business community around the region. The objective of the forum was to increase the level of awareness of the Agency, its operations and build capacity of the enforcement officers in and within the vicinity of the border. The forum was also expected to help formulate the best model for inter-agency collaborations at the one stop border points towards curbing counterfeit.



Right: Executive Director ACA, Mr. Elema Halake.



Left: AAK Chairman, Mr Patrick Amuyunzu.

In addition, Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) was involved in a raiding exercise targeting at capturing all goods which entered Kenya through the Border, an exercise which was followed by a tour to the Namanga Border post by AAK, ACA and KRA officials.

... Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) was involved in a raiding exercise targeting at capturing all goods which entered Kenya through the Border.

2.1 The 59th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of AAK.

Agrochemicals Association of Kenya held its 59th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday, 28th March 2018 at Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi.

The following board members were elected unopposed.

Board Members representing local Companies

- I. Mr. Wachira Mureithi (Ultravetis E.A Ltd).
- II. Mr. Joseph Muli (Nordox (AS) K Ltd).
- III. Mr. Manoj Shah (Osho Chemical Industries).
- IV. Mr. Hezekiah Macharia (Twiga Chemical Industries).

Board Members Representing Multinational Companies

- V. Mr. Patrick Amuyunzu (Arysta Lifescience (K) Ltd).
- VI. Mr. Eric Bureau (Bayer E.A Ltd).

Board Member Representing Affiliate members

- VII. Dr. Mwangi Gitonga (Lessos) - Representing Distributors.



Mr. Wachira Mureithi
Ultravetis E.A Ltd



Mr. Manoj Shah
Osho Chemical Industries



Mr. Hezekiah Macharia
Twiga Chemical Industries



Mr. Joseph Muli
Nordox (AS) K Ltd



Mr. Patrick Amuyunzu
Arysta Lifescience (K) Ltd



Eric Bureau
Bayer E.A Ltd



Dr. Mwangi Gitonga
Lessos Veterinary Suppliers



Members at the AGM

The outgoing Chairperson of AAK, Ms. Susan Njoroge gave her speech which revolved around the following areas:

Strategic Plan

The Chairperson intimated that the Strategic Plan was completed and launched in 2017 at Hotel Intercontinental and it will provide AAK a roadmap to run for the period 2016 – 2020. It will help to spearhead the Association on matters regarding Regulatory, Stewardship, and Policy and enhance trade Associations of AAK and other Stakeholders in the Industry.

Ratification of New Constitution

Ms. Susan Njoroge indicated that the AAK's Constitution had been ratified to a conclusion. She noted that the Constitution will provide for a leaner Board, better service delivery to AAK members. She thanked all that participated to bring this document to reality.

Counterfeit Fight

AAK has formed a working relationship with the Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA) and PCPB in a bid to stem counterfeited products in the Agrochemicals Industry in Kenya. She revealed that the Baseline survey conducted in Kenya in 2017 showed that there is an 18% Counterfeit level of the Pest Control Products (PCPs) in Kenya. To stem this, the Chairperson indicated that AAK in collaboration with PCPB had initiated the training of Member Companies and Agro-dealers in different counties in Kenya through the

ongoing Accreditation of Stockists and companies.

Product Stewardship

The Association has finalized in training and capacity building of 480 SSPs in Six Counties and urged the members to utilize these county-level personnel so as to enhance food safety, tapping into the export market and increase market share of their product in Kenya.

She thanked and appreciated all efforts put in the stewardship partnerships amongst the NGOs, Private Companies and Government Agencies and took a special mention of the Government Agricultural Extension officers, SNV, FPEAK, KEFA, PCPB and MOA in especially the fight against the Fall Army Worm epidemic. She mentioned that these will also add value in enabling AAK to self-regulate itself in the Agrochem Industry

Crop Grouping Process

The Chair indicated that the Crop Grouping Process had been finalized and that the activity was conducted so as to promote export of agricultural commodities and offer strategic marketing and manufacturing of Pest Control Products (PCPs). She thanked all those involved in spearheading the same. A Risk Assessment workshop had been done towards achievement of the same.

Tree Planting

Agrochemicals Association of Kenya is working towards rehabilitation 10% of the forest cover in MAU Forest in Nakuru County by the year 2022. Towards this the Chair notified and reminded the members that there will be a tree planting initiative on 12th – 13th April 2018 and encouraged all present to adopt an acre towards this worthy campaign.

Finally the Chair indicated that she had finished serving as Chairperson of the Board for the past 3 years and was very privileged to work with such supportive, committed and devoted team. She thanked the outgoing Board members, the CEO, Ms. Evelyn Lusena and her team at the Secretariat for the great job in bringing the Association to where it is today.

After the Annual General Meeting (AGM), the Board held its first meeting on 6th April 2018 and the following were elected as AAK office bearers:

- 1 Chairperson: Mr. Patrick Amuyunzu
- 2 Vice Chairperson: Mr. Wachira Mureithi
- 3 Treasurer: Mr. Joseph Muli

2.2 Rehabilitation of Mau Forest-Likia as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

13th April 2018 – Mau Forest Likia.

The Agrochem Industry through its umbrella association Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) intends to rehabilitate 100 acres of Mau Forest Likia as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the year 2018 under the programme dubbed “adopt an acre”.



Hon. Mohamed Elmi watering the tree seedlings.



Dr. Ayub Macharia ready to plant a tree.



The local community planting trees.

To kick off this noble project, AAK partnered with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), the local community under the Likia Community Forest Association (CFA) and other stakeholders involved in afforestation and planted over 28000 indigenous tree seedlings in Mau Forest – Likia on the 13th April, 2018.

The event was graced by Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) Ministry of Environment and Forestry Hon. Mohamed Elmi MBE, EGH accompanied by representatives from the Ministry, Dr. Ayub Macharia, Isiaiah Maina and Anastasia Muiti, who joined the Association in rehabilitating Mau Forest in Likia. Hon. Elmi noted that the efforts to rehabilitate Likia have been consistent and the locals have committed to continue providing quality tree seedlings and participate in tree planting activities and maintenance of the seedlings.

Dr. Ayub Macharia, the Director for Education and Awareness Unit in the Ministry said the cooperation between the locals, corporate entities and the government in forestry conservation was commendable. He averred that with such willing communities, Kenya’s target of achieving at least 10% tree cover by 2022 was realistic. He expressed satisfaction with the progress the country has made in the past one decade and is confident that Kenya was on course to achieve her forestation target.

It would be important to note that this was the second

tree planting event, the first being a pilot exercise having been undertaken by AAK on 24 November 2017 where over 7000 indigenous trees were planted by the more than 100 farmers and community members of Likia who took part in the exercise. The Adopt an Acre initiative is a step at bringing the Mau ecosystem to its former glory while providing sustainable livelihood to all its dependents and more so the future generations.

By launching this project Agrochemicals Association of Kenya will be heading to the call by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry – Hon. Keriako Tobiko on 7th March 2018, who launched a project aimed at increasing the country’s forest cover from the current 7 per cent to 15 per cent by the year 2022, AAK is pleased to partner with the National government, the county government of Nakuru, AAK members, Forest Action Network (FAN) and the Likia Community Forest Association (CFA) in this initiative.

AAK would like to reiterate its commitment to work with the government towards protecting Likia – Mau Forest.

AAK hopes to hit its target of planting 100 acres of Mau Forest in the course of this year. In this regards, the Association will be calling upon its members to continue supporting this exercise.

Chapter 3.0: PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

3.1 AAK/SNV Spray Service Provider (SSP) Monitoring.

As part of the process of enhancing the activities of SSPs in the field, a monitoring exercise was carried out between the 19th February, 2018 and 2nd March 2018. The monitoring exercise targeted all SSPs trained under the AAK/SNV project with the aim of determining their progress in terms of service provision to farmers.

A team of 8 enumerators aided were dispatched to the 6 counties where they met with the SSPs and interviewed them using a mobile phone-based application known as AKVO, which gave real time updates. The enumerators were interested in auditing the application records used by the SSP to determine among other things the number of farmers reached over the period since their training.

From the monitoring exercise, it was established that 243 SSPs were actively offering their services to farmers which was 67% of those who had been trained more than three months prior to the monitoring were. 85% reported that there was a marked improvement in their knowledge on safe pesticide use, IPM and pest scouting and monitoring. Of the 243, 72% of them operated as sole proprietors (independent or contracted by farmers) and 12% worked in collaboration with other SSPs as a group.

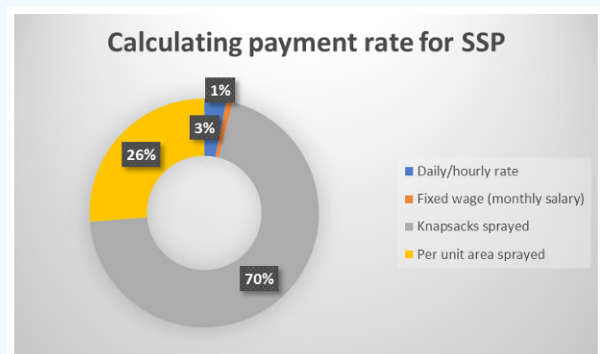
The monitoring visit established that as per the project objective, almost all SSPs were offering services to small scale farmers with only a small section offering services to medium and large-scale farms. 48 SSPs indicated that they have on more than 1 occasion also offered their services to livestock keepers and spraying for control of public health pests in schools and homes

70% of the respondents indicated they had future prospects for improvement of services offered to farmers such as opening an agrovet shop or offering soil testing services. The greatest impediment to their vision was indicated as the lack of funds.

86% offering service to small scale farmers. Other than farms 20%

The survey showed that most of the pesticides were being bought by farmers independently or in consultation with the SSP (76%). The proportion being bought by the SSP directly was only 21%, with the main source almost always being the local agrovet shop. A large majority of the respondents indicated that they now play a huge role in determining the type of pesticide to be applied as well as the time and day of spraying. Payment for their services was mostly based on number of Knapsacks sprayed followed by unit area applied. Charges per knapsack ranged from Kshs 20 to Kshs 100. The Average income before training was Kshs. 2,402 and this rose to an average of Kshs. 5,565 post training.

Some of the challenges experienced by the SSPs in their duties include farmers being reluctant to follow SSP advise, inadequate equipment, inadequate transportation to meet the farmers and unwillingness by farmers to pay for extra services offered by the SSP.



3.2 Spray Service Provider Awareness Creation Field Days.

Having identified the active Spray Service providers in a monitoring exercise in February, 2018, AAK embarked on a series of field days to popularize the SSPs in their respective farming communities. The field days were organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture officials in the various Sub Counties.

Since Mid-March, 2018, 38 field days have been held in Makueni, Nyeri, Kajiado, Nyandarua and Nakuru counties where over 2,000 farmers were reached. During the field days, SSPs were given a chance to interact with the farmers and educate them on the advantages of using spray service providers as opposed to spraying the crops by themselves or using the services of untrained personnel. Some of the advantages given were their reduced exposure to pesticides, proper disposal of empty containers, assurance of genuine products being used on their farms, compliance to certification standards for those in the export market and creation of employment for the local youth. The field days also served as an avenue for dissemination of other responsible pesticide use messages to farmers and relaying information on the Fall Armyworm.

The field days also offered an opportunity for the issuance of certificates, ID cards and branded Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the SSPs. The bright orange overalls are distinct and farmers were asked to be on the lookout for the SSPs whenever they needed scouting or pesticide application services.

The field days were graced by stakeholders in the agriculture sector such as chemical and seed dealers, credit providers, soil testing service providers and value addition companies who were at hand to advise the SSPs on ways of improving their outreach to famers.



Figure 1: Farmer field day in Wote, Makueni County



Figure 2: SSP's explaining a point to farmers in Wote

3.3 Fall Army Worm (FAW) Management.

The fall armyworm is a major threat to food security since it came to Kenya a year ago. AAK has been at the forefront in assisting farmers to find solutions on how to cope with the pest. As part of our outreach programmes, AAK held 2 seminars in Kisumu and Homa Bay counties on the 6th and 8th of February, 2018. The seminars attracted extension staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and lead farmers in the 2 counties where they were given the latest information on how to manage the pest. During the seminar, experts from KALRO, CABI and PCPB addressed the participants on the IPM options available to local farmers. Members of AAK represented at the seminars, were also at hand to give more information on their products which can be used for FAW control.

On the national scene, members of the Multi Institutional Technical Team on FAW have made strides in harmonizing the information that is passed to farmers on FAW management. In a desperate attempt to save their crops from the pest, farmers have been adopting a trial and error system which has led to the eruption of several myths about the pest especially with regard to the efficacy of chemicals. In order to dispel these rumors, AAK and the MITT developed a technical brief which gives the acceptable IPM practices that a farmer can adopt to manage the FAW on his/her farm. The technical brief also gives the easiest ways of identifying the pest through its features and the symptoms of an attack. The technical brief further



CropLife International Media visits a farm infested by FAW in Western Kenya

gives the precautions to be taken when using pesticides so as to safeguard human health, livestock, wildlife and the environment. The technical; brief shall be rolled out by the partner organizations (Agrochemical Association of Kenya, Plant Protection Services Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Pest Control Products Board, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate services, Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization, University of Nairobi, International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology and the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International.) during the next phase of farmer awareness creation campaigns for the long rain season and shall be updated as new information comes to light.



Maize crop infested by Fall army worm (FAW)



CropLife International Media visits Kenya - FAW management

3.4 New SSP Project with 2Scale.

In March 2018, the Agrochemicals Association of Kenya and 2Scale who are part of the International Fertilizer Development Centre signed an agreement for the development of 30 SSPs in Keringet, Nakuru County. 2Scale has been working with Potato farmers in the region through the Keringet Community Social Economic and Environmental Development Project (KCSEED).

As part of the 9-month project that runs from March to November 2018, AAK shall recruit and train 30 SSPs who shall in turn offer pesticide application services to the farmers within the catchment. KCSEED already has about 3,000 farmers under its wing and an equal number within the community. The farmers rely on dairy, potato, cabbage,

carrot peas, maize and wheat farming for their incomes and being a rainy area, it is expected that the SSPs shall be engaged almost all year round.

As part of the project, AAK shall establish at least 10 Empty Pesticide Container collection centres within the area to enable the farmers access internationally acceptable disposal services. This shall form part of the environmental component of the project which shall also incorporate awareness creation among farmers on the need adopt responsible pesticide use practices which have a minimal risk to the environment.

Chapter 4.0: PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

4.1 Ground Breaking Ceremony For The Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) Laboratory Complex.

The ground breaking ceremony was held on 12th April 2018 at the PCPB offices. The occasion was graced by the Head of Plant Protection Sub Division (PPSD) Mr. David Mwangi who represented the Principal Secretary - Agriculture. In attendance were members of Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK) Board, PCPB Board, contractors and sub-contractors.

In his speech, Mr. Mwangi noted that the mandate to ensure quality products without any trace of pesticide was with PCPB. He noted that food safety was of major concern.

The laboratory he noted will be used to check pesticide residues, impurities in pesticides and adulteration. In addition the laboratory will support post regulation surveillance of pesticides.

He noted that the laboratory will be constructed at a cost of Kshs.254 million for a period of 3 years. In addition, PCPB will seek to develop partners to help equip the laboratory.



Ground breaking ceremony



MD PCPB, Mr. Peter Opiyo planting a tree during the ceremony



AAK Chairman and CEO with PCPB officials at Mau - Likia Forest



Osho Chemicals during tree planting at Mau Forest - Likia



SSP Farmer Field Day



Accreditation Sensitization meeting at KSG ,Matuga-Kwale County



Mr Richard Sikuku awarding Accreditation certificates in Taita Rocks Hotel, Wundanyi



CropLife International Media visit in Kenya - FAW management



AAK staff and Forest reserve team at Likia



AAK member company staff planting trees at Likia