



Rice IPM Training in Viet Nam



The “Rice IPM training” for farmers and retailers was initiated within the context of “Promotion of Integrated Pest Management to Address Plant-hopper Outbreaks in Rice” in the Mekong Delta of Viet Nam, a project co-financed by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and CropLife International. The training is currently being conducted in the provinces of Dong Thap, Kien Giang and Hau Giang under the BRIA project. This training programme has been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) through Decision No: 2448 /QD-BNN-HTQT dated 17 June 2016. The Plant Protection Department (PPD) has been assigned to implement the programme.

The training modules were developed by specialists from CropLife and GIZ, the Cuu Long Delta Rice Research Institute (CLRRI) and the Southern Regional Plant Protection Centre (SRPPC). The Plant Protection Sub-departments of Dong Thap, Kien Giang and Hau Giang contributed to their proper adaptation to the rice cultivation in the Mekong Delta.

According to MARD, there are around 22,000 pesticide stores across the country but only 80% of these are licensed. Pesticide advertising and labelling are inadequate and many farmers still continue to ignore basic instructions on their use. Improvements can only be achieved through training and education of all stakeholders and this programme has served as a pioneer in the area by including the development of know-how of retailers to conduct responsible chemical business, ban illegal and counterfeit products and offer vital support to farmers as “rice doctors”.

The aim here is to support the Plant Protection Department (PPD) to reinforce key training messages in responsible use at provincial and district levels, the extension services and farmer organisations, as well as local retailers, with the expertise in stewardship provided by CropLife and GIZ. By developing 12 training modules for farmers and eight modules for retailers, the programme has produced 38 qualified technical staff members from PPSDs (Plant Protection Sub-Departments) as Master Trainers to deliver the training classes according to the principles of the Farmer Field School.



Farmers training modules

- 1 Introduction: rice eco-systems
- 2 Agricultural inputs: their responsible and economic use
- 3 Introduction to IPM: and plant protection measures at the seedling stage
- 4 How to be an effective rice doctor
- 5 Importance of natural enemies: IPM decision- making during the tillering stages
- 6 Understanding pesticides and their labels: a buyer's guide
- 7 Responsible pesticide use: maximum tillering stage
- 8 Pesticide application and calibration
- 9 Decision-making during the panicle initiation to flowering stages
- 10 Issues with pesticides
- 11 Decision making during milky to ripening stages: avoiding residues
- 12 Pesticide transport, storage, handling, first aid and conclusion

Retailers training modules

- 1 Introduction to responsible pesticide use
- 2 Understanding pesticide products and their labels: giving the best advice to customers
- 3 Pesticide application: equipment and calibration
- 4 How to be an effective rice crop doctor
- 5 Issues with pesticides
- 6 Transportation and storage of pesticides
- 7 Maximising the safe use of pesticides and PPE
- 8 Better pesticide handling, first aid and conclusions

During the past three rice-growing seasons in the three provinces of the Mekong Delta, 2,472 farmers had been trained directly in 86 groups and 8,229 farmers trained indirectly through “farmer to farmer”. Seventeen retailer trainings with 948 participants have been organised. From April to October 2017, the programme intended to train 22 farmer groups (consisting of 660 directly trained farmers and 2,640 farmers benefiting from the “farmer to farmer” training) and three groups of at least 60 agricultural retailers in the Summer-Autumn seasons. By the end of December this year, the programme expects to have trained a total of 3,000 farmers directly with 12,000 farmers obtaining indirect training.

In addition, 67 IPM farmer clubs have been established to maintain the knowledge received by previously trained farmers and promote it to those in the community who have not yet been trained. Public awareness of rice IPM has been created through community meetings and support to farmer clubs, and the presentation of the IPM training concept and methodology at agricultural colleges and universities. IPM booklets are being delivered to the farmer groups, indirectly trained farmers and IPM farmer clubs. The BRIA IPM programme delivered more than 144,000 IPM booklets to the three project sites in April. All in all, the programme is considered successful in achieving the planned outcomes. The final monitoring and evaluation is to be developed during the last quarter of 2017 by CropLife in cooperation with partner organisations and BRIA.

