



NEWSLETTER

■ Seminars for Armenian Farmers to Exchange the Recent Know-How

In february 2016 the “Greenhouse and Horticulture Development” Department of CARD AgroService CJSC hosted 15 active farmers from Russia, Krasnodar district, as well as representatives and specialists from French “Maisadour” company, which is specialized in the production of sunflower and corn seeds. The visit aimed at conducting seminar-trainings in the Farm Service Centers (FSC) of Poqr Vedi (Ararat marz) and Azatan (Shirak marz) communities and exchanging the Russian experience in farming.



The main idea of the seminars was to present the farmers in Armenia the technology of corn cultivation for livestock farming, as well as implementing the right choice for cultivated hybrids and sorts regarding climate conditions. At the beginning of the seminar Anna Karapetyan, the head of “Greenhouse and Horticulture Development” Department, came out with an opening speech. She briefly presented the history and the activity areas of CARD Organization.

During the seminar, the farmers got informed about the corn diseases and parasites, as well as on measures to undertake against them in a timely and proper manner. The methods and practices for necessary fertilization during the corn vegetation period were also taught, at the same time presenting the consequences generating from the deficiency or the surpluses of micro and macro elements.



As the executive director of “Maisadour” Mr. Mark Lefort mentioned in his speech: “Our organization was established in 1936 in France as a collective group of entrepreneurs. Today, it is considered the leading organization in Europe that produces sunflower and corn seeds. Over 70 years, we have been providing superb seeds and supplying high-quality horticulture services to our customers. We are dealing with the selection, both at the level of genetics or horticulture, which means that our activities are being extended in the laboratories, as well as in the open fields.” During the seminar the commercial director of “Maisadour” company in Russia Mr. Vladimir Cherenkov, the agronomist-consultant Mr. Maqsim Tatarincev and other farmers presented their views of production technologies.



■ Winter Pruning in Aygehovit village

On February 20 and 21, 2016 “Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development” (CARD) Foundation, together with ICARE Foundation organized a two day practical workshop on winter pruning within the “Wine Quality Improvement” Project, financed and supported by German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

The workshop was led by the instructor of viticulture Mr. Joseph Watzl and CARD experts. The senior and junior students of the EVN Wine Academy, a joint initiative between ICARE and Semina Consulting, actively took part in the pruning process. The students had the opportunity to gain practical knowledge and experience in winter pruning of 2 ha of vines.



The intervention aimed at developing products and services related to the management of vineyards, as well as grafting of native Armenian varieties onto Phyloxera-resistant rootstocks and cuttings of international grape varieties. Grafting material has been selected from the vineyard and stored in Yerevan.

The experimental vineyard where the pruning was conducted is located in Aygehovit village of Tavush Marz. In 2003 USDA Marketing Assistance Project (MAP) implemented the establishment of the vineyard with American phyloxera resistant rootstocks and international Vitis Vinifera grape varieties. CARD Foundation reacquired the rights of ownership and management of the vineyard from the Regional Center of Agricultural Support of Tavush Province in 2015. "Today we are here to bring the vines back to the right shape and to harvest material for grafting. I think this is a good opportunity to train the students on location", said Mr. Joseph Watzl, who is in Armenia to promote viticulture services and provide consultations in vineries.

