



Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development

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CARD SPECIALIST AND ARMENIAN GREENHOUSE OWNER PARTICIPATE IN INTERAGRO 2011



Syunik region greenhouse owner Sarmen Sarkisyan and CARD Rural Development Specialist Anna Karapetyan participated in **InterAgro 2011**, the 7th International specialized exhibition of remunerative highly effective agriculture, held in Kyiv, Ukraine on February 2-4, 2011.

InterAgro is the biggest agricultural exhibition in Ukraine, which covers all spheres of agriculture. Supported by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Economics of Germany, Government of France, this major event was directed to promote modern technologies in agro-industrial complex, providing full enumeration of the agricultural machinery, and latest scientific and technical development for professional landowners.

InterAgro exhibition featured 450 companies, 158 of which were foreign companies from 14 countries of the world: Ukraine, France, Germany, the Netherlands, China, Poland, Russia, Italy, Turkey, India, Austria, Belgium, Canada, and Argentina.

Among the participants were companies specialized in seed and agricultural equipment that represented the latest technological developments of world-known brands. The participation in the event was a good occasion for Armenian participants to get acquainted with the latest developments in greenhouse.

Specialists of Rijk Zwaan, a Dutch company that focuses on the development of high-quality vegetable varieties and seeds for professional growers in food-producing horticulture, organized a trip to local greenhouses in order to upgrade the visitors' qualification in vegetable growing.

After the exhibition, Rijk Zwaan arranged a meeting with Brice Richel, the representative of Richel Group, one of the world leaders in greenhouse construction, which is interested in providing information and organizing trainings on light, inexpensive greenhouse construction in Armenia. During the discussion the sides came to an agreement to start cooperation.

Established in 1964 by Pierre Richel, Richel Group has six specialized brands serving various professional needs. **Richel Greenhouse** has established its expertise in the glass and plastic greenhouse market, completing projects from the simplest to the most ambitious. Its technological and industrial capacity is based on an integrated research centre and manufacturing process in two modern, specialized factories (glass and plastic). An expert in technical solutions and glass architecture, **Richel Garden Center** develops turnkey projects, from design to installation.

CARD is going to support Sarmen Sarkisyan and other farmers to establish modern greenhouses.



TRAINING ON CATTLE ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION HELD IN SYUNIK MARZ

CARD Rural Development department together with Mr. Joel Mergler, the representative of the U.S. World Wide Sires organization held trainings on exchange of experience and knowledge refresh for 12 veterinarians and specialists of artificial insemination of

animals in Syunik marz of Armenia, on February 9-16, 2011.

The topics of the training included the right organization of animal reproduction, reflection and recording of genetic features of cross-breed (F1, F2) animals born as a result of the insemination. The participants were mainly interested in the management of biological process of reproduction and implementation with hormonal drugs, which otherwise is called synchronization.

Joel Mergler drew parallels within his first visit in 2008 and current results achieved in the field of artificial insemination of cows. According to him, there is a great advance in such services both from the qualitative and quantitative point of view.

CARD and World Wide Sires have been cooperating for already six years in the field of genetic advancement of herd in Armenia. World Wide Sires, Ltd. is the world's leading cattle genetics marketing organization representing the majority of the U.S. Artificial Insemination Cooperatives. In an atmosphere of trust and cooperation, World Wide Sires brings together suppliers and customers to promote efficient global livestock production.



COCHRAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM PRIVATE VETERINARY BUSINESS TRAINING COURSE



From January 22 to February 5, 2011, USDA organized private veterinary business training course in the Preventive veterinary medicine department of Ohio State University, USA. Fernando Silveira, DVM Director of VPM Food Animal Services (dairy and beef production, reproductive biotechnology, population medicine, large animal surgery) conducted the training.

There were nine practicing veterinarians from Armenia and Georgia; among them Hunan Sargsyan (veterinary from Aragatsavan community of Aragatsotn marz), Hakob Margaryan (veterinary from Vardadzor community of Gegharkunik marz), Suren Gevorgyan (veterinary from Panik community of Shirak marz), as well as Levon Movsisyan and Sergey Chakhmakhchyan (CARD vet staff).

The main topics of the training were the level of veterinary education, the stages for obtaining DVM (Doctor of Veterinary medicine)

degree, state veterinary system, U.S. methods of managing dairy and beef farms, and their veterinary risks, disease prevention, artificial insemination, bovine embryo transfer, ultrasonic imaging in cattle reproduction, swine disease diagnosis, etc.

Besides the theoretical part, serious attention was paid to the practical implementation of the above-mentioned issues. Visits were organized to a range of dairy and beef farms, where hoof trimming, early pregnancy and obstetrics problems diagnosis with ultrasound were implemented, as well as demo embryo transfer, estrus synchronization new schemes, study of sperm activation diagnosis, etc.

After the completion of the training, it is envisaged to enlarge the private veterinary business in the frames of veterinary services. Veterinarians, especially CARD specialists intend to conduct trainings with farmers and veterinarians in Syunik, Tavush, Lori, Armavir and Shirak marzes of Armenia.



CARD AND IIFSQ HOLD RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING

On January 24-25, 2011, CARD Foundation in collaboration with International Institute for Food Safety and Quality (IIFSQ) provided a workshop on Risk Analysis to key food safety stakeholders. The materials prepared in the form of a set of seven PowerPoint presentations were presented by Dr. Gennadi Myroniuk, Ms. Anna Vasylenko, and Ms. Oksana Dorofeyeva.



There were 24 participants, among them employees of the Ministry of Agriculture (13), Ministry of Health (5), as well as food industry representatives (6). The great deal of interest in the topic, its timeliness and relevance was amply demonstrated by the participants who engaged in several discussions with the workshop instructors.

The topics covered included overview of the Risk Analysis concept,

their principles, techniques, tools and strategies.

Agreement on Neighborhood concluded by the Government of Armenia and EU, and the need to fulfill the requirements of WTO Agreements on Elimination of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and on Application of Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures (SPS) necessitate continuation and enhancement of harmonization of food law and practice with international, and primarily with European requirements, transparency of procedures of official controls over compliance with generally recognized food safety norms and rules in relation both to food produced in the Republic of Armenia and imported thereto.

One of the priorities of the newly established State Food Safety Service is the strengthening of the animal origin and food, as well as feed safety control infrastructure in terms of legislation, enforcement, institutional building and general awareness to facilitate work towards the challenges of the National food safety development strategy.

To guaranty proper coordination of activities all food and feed safety related measures are required to be based on Risk Analysis. The Risk Analysis concept provides a systematic methodology for the determination of effective, proportionate and targeted measures or other actions to protect public health.

Thus, provision of such training within the framework of the Technical Assistance to Support the Armenian Food Safety System Program is a timely assistance from USDA through LSU, CARD and IIFSQ to the Armenian Government to address one of the country's priority goals in the area of food safety.

Supported by



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