

The Insect Free Post

Newsletter of the
CORESTA Subgroup on Pest and Sanitation Management in Stored Tobacco
Issue 4 – April 2012



Subgroup objectives:

- To educate about, and promote best Integrated Pest Management practices for post-harvested tobacco world-wide
- To conduct collaborative studies on pest control and sanitation practices for post-harvested tobacco
- To investigate new technologies and issues related to infestation control in post-harvested tobacco

MEETING REPORT

This year's **Infestation Control Conference (ICC)** was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico on 28-29 March 2012, hosted jointly by Degesch America and RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company. Around 60 delegates attended from many industries and organisations including grain companies, fumigators and the Puerto Rican agronomy authorities.



The topics covered at the ICC were:

- Integrated Pest Management
- Biology of Stored Product Pests
- Fumigation Standard
- Good Fumigation Practices
- Phosphine Resistance
- Monitoring & Inspections
- Sanitation & Prevention

- Insecticides
- What Else Have We Investigated
- Temperature
- Controlled Atmospheres

The ICC also included a fumigation demonstration, viewing of the CORESTA pest control training films, and an interactive application exercise and evaluation. The participants were highly engaged asking many questions throughout the 2 day conference.

The Subgroup then met for 2 days following the ICC. Regular topics for discussion included new chemical and non-chemical pest management tools and phosphine fumigation issues (e.g. container fumigations, insect resistance and 'yellow residue'). Also a number of guests presented results of projects of interest to the Subgroup.



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GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest speakers from Trécé, BASF and Fuji Flavor gave presentations on the latest (patented) insecticide impregnated nets, mating disruption systems and improvements to existing monitoring trap technology.

FUJI Flavor presented improved pheromone release technology. More trials are planned including trap use at high temperatures, with a view to eventually changing the current lures.

TRÉCÉ presented data from a research project that investigated the efficacy of their mating disruption system Cidetrak in which large amounts of female pheromone are released to disrupt the mating of cigarette beetles. A paper is soon to be published with further details.

BASF gave an update on the latest research into the efficacy and utilisation of Carifend®, their insecticide impregnated netting system. Several companies are now assisting with field trials of the product. Carifend® received its first ever government registrations in Brazil and Ecuador and is now available for commercial use in these countries. Additional registration approvals are expected in 2012 and the coming years.

HEADLINES

Phosphine Resistance – The management of this industry wide issue is still causing problems in our supply chains with a lack of detailed reporting preventing a standard

solution. Tobacco companies have developed their own strategic management plans but these are not yet aligned, and more work is needed.

Container Fumigations – Investigations of container fumigations revealed that a major contributor to failed fumigations is gas leakage through the container floors. Fumigators need to be prepared to top up these fumigations to maintain the needed phosphine concentrations or to place plastic sheeting on the floor prior to loading the container to prevent gas leakage.

Controlled Atmospheres (CA) – Trial data, TSNA and quality testing data were consolidated and reviewed by the group. Agreement was reached on the parameters to be used in the first ever CORESTA guide for the use of CA in tobacco. The draft CORESTA Guide will soon be submitted to the CORESTA Scientific Commission for consideration.

FERA – The subgroup requested that fera continue to investigate extended phosphine exposure, colony maintenance (adding new strains as appropriate), and begin investigations of effects of RH on CA, CA trials using tobacco moths, and CA trials at 32°C / 90°F.

The next Subgroup meeting, including an ICC, has been proposed for February or March 2013 in Surabaya, Indonesia (host pending).

For more details on any of the subjects covered in this newsletter please contact your local CORESTA Subgroup representative.

<http://www.coresta.org>