

The Insect Free Post

Newsletter of the
CORESTA Subgroup on Pest and Sanitation Management in Stored Tobacco
Issue 6 – April 2014



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

INFESTATION CONTROL CONFERENCE

This year's Infestation Control Conference (ICC) was held in Bangalore, India on 10-11 March 2014, hosted by ITC. 105 delegates attended from industries and organisations both within and without the tobacco industry, including leaf tobacco companies and suppliers, cigarette manufacturers and exporters, pest control agencies, including fumigators, and agronomy authorities.

Presentations were given on a range of topics, including insect biology, sanitation, prevention, monitoring, inspections, phosphine fumigations, insecticide use, use of temperature, controlled atmospheres, preventing re-infestation, and a survey of other control tools that have been investigated. Participants engaged in lively discussions, asking and answering questions.

The conference included a field demonstration of a phosphine fumigation, emphasizing safe and proper fumigation practices.



Following all of the training, participants divided into groups for an application exercise. The groups were presented with real life scenarios and asked to apply what they learned.



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SUBGROUP MEETING

The **Subgroup** met for 2 days to review and discuss pest control research and issues facing the industry. Study results and updates were given by subgroup members about freezing (fera), low pressure (fera), fumigation (fera), Carifend® (BASF), controlled atmospheres (JTI), vQm (ITC), Eco2Fume (Cytec), and pheromone trap efficacy (ITC, Imperial Tobacco).

CORESTA Secretary General, Pierre-Marie Guitton, was a featured guest and presenter at both the ICC and Subgroup meeting. He spoke about the mission, purpose, and function of each aspect of CORESTA.

Guests from Exosect and Linde also participated in the Subgroup meeting. They were invited to present results from research on insect control using entomophagus bacteria and a fumigant, respectively.

A decision has not yet been made as to the location of the next ICC and Subgroup meeting. Once a decision is made it will be announced on the CORESTA website.



HEADLINES

CORESTA Guide 12, Controlled Atmosphere Parameters for the Control of Cigarette Beetle and Tobacco Moth, was update in May 2013 to include tobacco moths based on a study done by The Food and Environment Research Agency (fera) on behalf of the Subgroup. Additional parameters will be evaluated in 2014 to make this tool easier for some to use.

CORESTA Guide 9, Freezing Parameters for the Control of Cigarette Beetle and Tobacco Moth, will be updated in 2014. On behalf of the subgroup, fera conducted a study confirming that -18°C (-0.4°F) is lethal to the most tolerant stage of the tobacco moth. Thus a single standard can now be applied to the cigarette beetle and tobacco moth.

CORESTA Guide 2, Phosphine Fumigation Parameters for the Control of Cigarette Beetle and Tobacco Moth was updated in October 2013 adding a parameter of 300 ppm for 12 days for resistant cigarette beetles based on work done by fera on behalf of the Subgroup. Phosphine resistance continues to be a major concern of the Subgroup. The evaluation of additional parameters is being considered. The Subgroup hopes to engage with external experts, especially in Australia and in other industries, to better understand the mechanisms of phosphine resistance and how to mitigate its further development.

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

<http://www.coresta.org>