

**Proceedings of the First Consortium Advisory Committee (CAC) for the Sub-Project
“Research into Development of Decision Support Systems for Management of Insect Pests
of Major Rice and Cotton Based Cropping Systems” (C2046) under NAIP Component 4
held on 29th November 2008 at CRIDA, Hyderabad**

The following members were present:

1	Dr T.M. Manjunath	Chairman
2	Dr S. Lingappa	Member
3	Dr N.H. Rao	Member
4	Dr A. Bandyopadhyay, National Coordinator, Component 4, PIU-NAIP	Member
5	Dr B. Venkateswarlu, Director, CRIDA	Member
6	Dr Y.G. Prasad, CPI, CRIDA	Member Secretary

The main agenda included finalization of technical programme and discussion on administrative and financial issues. The major observations and recommendations of CAC are as follows:

1. Technical

- Prepare sampling plans with proper statistical basis for cropping-system-based observations and obtain statistical opinion before proceeding with data collection for cropping systems
- In addition to collecting field survey data on Bt-cotton hybrids, try as best as possible to collect similar data on non-Bt cotton hybrids and also on cotton varieties, if available, in the target site
- Two groups have been constituted to prepare conceptual models as early as possible for at least one pest each in rice and cotton depicting how meteorological data and biological (life table) data can be utilized to predict pest outbreaks/populations. These would serve as templates so that the hypothetical data can be replaced with actual data later on. The group on rice comprises of Dr G. Katti, Dr S. Suresh, Dr Jhansi Lakshmi, Dr A.P. Padmakumari, Dr Ch. Padmavathi, Sujay Dutta, Dr K.V. Rao and Dr B.M.K. Raju. The other group on cotton comprises of Dr S. Vennila, G. Majumdar, Dr A. Dhandapani, Sujay Dutta, M. Sabesh, Dr P. Jeyakumar. Dr M. Prabhakar and Dr Y.G. Prasad will coordinate the preparation of conceptual models. The partners should meet at the earliest and finalize the conceptual models.

2. Administrative and Financial

- The membership of Consortium Monitoring Unit (CMU) may be got approved by the Chairman, CAC (CMU Members list in Annexure A)
- The Mode of operation for utilizing the funds allotted to the consortium partner DRR, Hyderabad and also for carrying out the approved activities at its four AICRP centres and one centre at BCKV was discussed at length. Various options were considered. The final model found to be workable by the CAC was that the CCPI will provide a temporary (quarterly) advance to the centres to meet the expenditure for approved activities in accordance with the NAIP guidelines. The certificate of expenditure along with bills will be sent by the centres to DRR, Hyderabad which will be responsible for submission of SoE and Audit Utilization Certificate. The PIU-NAIP may examine this suggested model.
- Procurement of equipment may be expedited. Cost escalation on account of increase in exchange rate will be sanctioned by PIU on submission of specific proposals with appropriate justification.

3. General

- The content of the NAIP sub-project to be displayed on the Web page.
- IPR issue, if any, with the outsourcing agency should be examined and an MOU be signed accordingly.
- The agenda of a CAC meeting should be got approved by the Chairman and circulated among the members at least seven days in advance of the meeting.
- Before every CAC meeting, the progress made so far and the plan of work for the next six months should be circulated among the CAC members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the CAC meeting.
- Consortium Partners should meet before the next CAC meeting in May 2009 scheduled to be held in Bangalore.

(Dr T.M. MANJUNATH)
Chairman, CAC