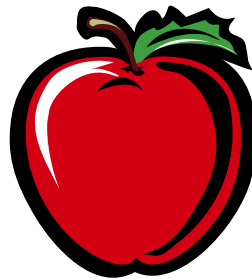


11th International Training Course sponsored by OECD and UN ECE



"HARMONISATION OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES QUALITY ASSESSMENT"



REPORT



The 11th International Training Course OECD „Harmonisation of fruit and vegetables quality assessment“ was held from 19 to 21 June 2006 in Mojmirovce (Slovak Republic).

Programme of the ITC was focused on quality standards interpretation and their application in practice. They were presented following OECD / UNECE quality standards: tomatoes (Fred Jacobs, The Netherlands), apricots (Milos Hlista, Slovakia) and citrus fruit (Yalcin Gube, Turkey).

Joint The Netherlands, Slovak Republic, Poland and Hungary project Qualiman has been presented by Marcel van der Voort (The Netherlands).

Growing methods, varieties and world production of papaya, litchi and passion fruit were presented by Christian Didier (France).

Three OECD Scheme member countries introduced their national inspection services for fresh fruit and vegetables quality control: Poland (Agnieszka Michaliszyn), Cyprus (George Kyrris) and Hungary (Lajos Nemeth).

General information on Fertilagri Co. (Norbert Figmik, Lubomir Sleger) has been followed by technical visit to Fertilagri farm located in Bab.

Internal quality checks were covered in following presentations:

1. OECD Guidance on objective tests to determine quality of fruit, vegetables, dry and dried produce - Ernst Semmelmeier (Austria)
2. Quality assessment of avocados by means of dry matter content - Brett Hickson (Israel)
3. Internal quality checks on fruit in the UK – Richard Dyer (UK)
4. COPA/COGECA investigations about the relation between fruit size and quality parameters of apples - Fabio Zanesco (Italy)

Apples maturity checks results (Slovakia) were presented during the meeting every day in the entrance hall.

ITC was attended by 42 delegates from 18 countries (Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria, The Netherlands, Poland, Cyprus, Great Britain, Israel, Latvia, Germany, France, Estonia, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Finland and Turkey) and 32 inspectors from State and District Veterinary and Food Administrations of the Slovak Republic.

Representatives of OECD and UNECE were presented on the ITC.

All participants successfully passed final test on quality assessment of covered produces and took over Certificate of attendance during the reception given by Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic.

Chiquita Company and Fertilagri Trading Ltd sponsored ITC with fresh fruit and vegetables.

12th ITC will be held in June 2007. The programme of the next ITC will take into consideration comments and recommendations of all participants as well as request from OECD Scheme member countries and UN ECE WP7 participating countries.