INFORMATION CIRCULAR

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ASIAN-PACIFIC WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY

Most of the Directors of Agriculture in Pacific territories have heard of this Society which was formed following the First Asian-Pacific Weed Control Meeting, held in Hawaii from 12 to 22 June 1967.

This Meeting had been arranged jointly by the Institute for Technical and Cultural Interchange of the East-West Center and the College of Tropical Agriculture of the University of Hawaii. It was attended by 87 participants representing their own territories or administrations, the University, and the Chemical Products Industry concerned with weed control.

The following were represented: India, Thailand, Japan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Taiwan, New Zealand, Okinawa, the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany, the State of Hawaii, the United States of America. Participants had also been sent by numerous territories in the South Pacific Commission's area - namely: Western Samoa, American Samoa, the Territory of Papua and New Guinea, the Cook Islands, the Kingdom of Tonga, New Caledonia, the New Hebrides, Fiji, the U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Objectives of the Society

During the first working session, the following recommendations were made by members of this Society formed - as has already been mentioned - on 22 June 1967:

- that the exchange of information and technical data on the subject of weed control in Asia and the Pacific be promoted by the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society;

- that a survey be carried out in the South Pacific territories with the object of providing information on the effect of weeds on the major crops, current control methods, research undertaken and the potential for use of herbicides;

- that an approach be made to agencies such as the East-West Center, FAO, UNDP, and the University of Hawaii, requesting assistance in the appointment of a specialist to carry out this survey, with the possible support of the industry;

- that the administrations of the various South Pacific territories be invited to designate an officer who would keep in close touch with the South Pacific Commission and the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society with a view to promoting the exchange of information and technical assistance;

- that practical courses on weeds and the use of weedicides in the South Pacific be arranged by the East-West Center in co-operation with the South Pacific Commission;

- that the East-West Center, in co-operation with the South Pacific Commission, assist territories, on request, with the training in Hawaii of weed control personnel;

- that the South Pacific territories be invited to include courses on weed control in the syllabuses of agricultural colleges and schools;

- that the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society, in co-operation with the East-West Center, examine the feasibility of the publication of an Asian-Pacific Weed Control Newsletter.

Organization of the Society

In order to carry out this work programme, the following Committee was appointed by the members of the Society:

- President: Dr Marcos R. Vega (Philippines)
- Coordinator for South-East Asia: Dr S. Matsunaka
- Coordinator for the Pacific: Mr K. Newton (SPC - New Caledonia)
- Coordinator for the Industry: Dr J. Antognini (Stauffer Chemical Co.)
- Secretary: Dr R.R. Romanowski (USA).

Work achieved

During 1968 and 1969, the following were distributed by the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society to all its members:

1/ the classification of documents for research, agricultural education and extension on the subject of weed control;

2/ the list of weed control personnel (research, education, extension):

a/ in the Pacific,

b/ in Asia ;

3/ reports of the First Asian-Pacific Weed Control Meeting (12-22 June 1967, University of Hawaii).

Furthermore, the Committee took an active part in the preparation of the Second Asian-Pacific Weed Control Meeting scheduled to be held in the Philippines in June 1969.

The Second Asian-Pacific Weed Control Meeting

This took place at the Laguna Agricultural College, Los Baños (Philippines) from 16 to 20 June 1969. It was attended by 125 participants, the majority of whom came from the industry. It was arranged by:

- the East-West Center Institute for Technical Interchange,
- the College of Agriculture (University of the Philippines),

in co-operation with:

- the International Rice Research Institute,
- the Philippines Weed Study Society,
- the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society.

Numerous working papers were presented, visits arranged and a new Committee of the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society appointed.

The present Committee (after the elections of 20 June 1969)

Consists of the following members:

- President: Dr Cornelis Van Der Schans, Plant Science Research Coordinator
- Secretary: Dr Donald L. Plucknett, Superintendent Kauai Branch Station, Hawaii
- Treasurer: Mr Roger C. Billman, Agro Chemicals Asia Pacific.

The following were to be appointed coordinators for the Pacific:

a/ South Pacific Commission: Mr Michel Lambert, Tropical Agriculturalist

b/ Industry: Mr Athol H. Cates, Amalgamated Chemical Pty. Limited.

Objectives

While the objectives remain the same as those which were already determined at the First Meeting in June 1967, there have naturally been attempts to achieve a more effective coordination of the activities of the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society. Provision has therefore been made for the following to take place in the near future:

1/ The distribution of a Newsletter by Dr Plucknett covering the whole of the Asian-Pacific area.

2/ A subregional course on weeds and the use of weedicides. This will be held in Western Samoa from 1 to 12 September 1970, under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission.

3/ The supply of technical information to all the Pacific territories by means of Information Circulars issued by the South Pacific Commission.

4/ A meeting of coordinators for the Pacific in order to define more clearly the possible action of the Society in the area and to adapt its activities to the means at its disposal.

As far as long-term plans are concerned, the Committee is to prepare the Third Asian-Pacific Weed Control Meeting, to be held in Malaysia in June 1971.

Participation of South Pacific Territories

In order to facilitate the dissemination of technical information and of the results of research undertaken in the field of weed control, the Departments actively concerned in this work in the Pacific territories are requested to convey to the South Pacific Commission any information which may be of benefit to the whole or part of the area, or to other territories.

The information will be circulated by the South Pacific Commission, mention being made of the source, the name and address of the initiating organization or individual. This will enable anyone who may

wish to do so to obtain further details from the specialists or research-workers concerned.

Furthermore, it may reasonably be expected that territories will participate actively in the Malaysia Conference (June 1971) and that the working papers which may be presented by some of the delegates will be of great interest to the area.

Michel Lambert
Tropical Agriculturalist
South Pacific Commission

Original Text: French

ISSUED IN THIS SERIES

		Classification
1.	Annual Conference of O.I.E. held in Paris 13-18 May 1968, Report of SPC Observer. September 1968	Livestock Production and Health
2.	South Pacific Commission Publications' Series - Recent Developments. October 1968	Publication
3.	Free Diving Without Breathing Apparatus - Its Accidents. March 1969	Public Health
4.	"A" Level: Australia's Notification on Bovine Pleuropneumonia Regulations. March 1969	Plant and Animal Quarantine
5.	Study Tour to Noumea, Brisbane, Territory of Papua and New Guinea and British Solomon Islands Protectorate. March 1969	Tropical Crops
6.	"A" Level: Agricultural Education - Bulletin No. 1. April 1969	Agricultural Education
7.	Introduction and Spread of Culicoides and Other Insect Species by Aircraft. May 1969	Public Health
8.	Diarrhoeal Diseases in Adults. May 1969	Public Health
9.	"A" Level: Agricultural Education - Bulletin No. 2. May 1969	Agricultural Education and Extension
10.	"A" Level: Agricultural Education - Bulletin No. 3. November 1969	Agricultural Education and Extension
11.	Agricultural Extension Workshop - Western Samoa - November 1969	Agricultural Education and Extension
12.	Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society. December 1969	Tropical Crops