Training on Forage Seed Technology in Alamata, March 2010

Training on forage seed technology was held in Alamata from 23-25 March 2010 for 15 participants. Training participants included the following:

- Development agents, OoARD: 8
- Experts, OoARD: 3
- Alamata Agricultural Research Center: 1
- Abergelle Int. Livestock Development PLC: 1
- Alamata Agro. Industry PLC: 1
- Gerjelle Private Farm: 1

Total: 15

Ato Mebrahtu Abebe, Head of Alamata OoARD during his opening remarks for the participants emphasized the importance of the forage seed production for the Woreda livestock development. He indicated the training as a priority activity at this time where many deadlines are to be met in the Woreda.

The training programme included forage germplasm, introduction to forage seed production, site selection for forage seed production, seed crop establishment, seed crop management, seed harvesting, seed processing/cleaning, seed quality and seed storage.

The first part of the training focused on the applied information on forage seed technology followed by a field visit to Gerjelle farm to appreciate the practical demonstrations and discussions specifically on seed harvesting such as stooking and sweating methods in order to facilitate even seed maturation (for example for Chloris gayana) as well as seed storage options against pest attack. Ato Solomon Ayalew was responsible to provide all the necessary facilitations for the field work. Forage crops visited and used for the field discussions/demonstrations were Cowpea, Napier grass, Rhodes grass, Buffle grass and Panicum coloratum.

At the conclusion of the training participants expressed their appreciation and gave positive feedbacks to FAP-ILRI for organizing and conducting the forage seed training in Alamata. The participants further said that FAP should continue supporting other relevant short courses such as crop residue utilization to reduce dry season feed shortages in Alamata. They also requested certificates for all participants on the seed training they have taken.

Acknowledgments
The transport support and all the facilitations/organizing for the seed training by OoARD, IPMS and Ato Solomon Ayalew for the practical demonstration is highly appreciated.

Abate Tedla, FAP-ILRI

30/3/2010
Annex 1. Training Program

Training on Forage Seed Technology

23-25 March 2010

Organized by FAP for staff of OoARD and other stakeholders in Alamata

Tuesday 23 March

Registration
Opening / introduction

Presentation outlines on Forage seed technology

- Introduction to Forage germplasm
- Introduction to Forage seed production
- Site selection for forage seed production
- Seed crop establishment
- Seed crop management

Wednesday 24 March

- Seed harvesting
- Seed processing
- Seed quality
- Seed storage

Thursday 25 March

Practical field visit and demonstration on seed harvesting of Chloris gayana, Panicum coloratum and seed storage of Cowpea.
Training hand-outs

1. Power point presentations
2. Forage diversity activities at the International Livestock research Institute (ILRI)
3. Forage seed multiplication by ILCA
4. Principles of tropical pasture seed production
5. Harvesting methods and timing for optimum grass seed yields
6. Processing tropical grass seeds
7. Seed storage
8. Oviposition- deterrent and toxic effects of various botanicals on the Adzuki Bean Beetle

Annex 2. List of training participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tesfaye Hagos</td>
<td>Alamata Agricultural Research center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adera Nureye</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yordanose Abraha</td>
<td>Abergelle Int LS Dev.PLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gidey Hibue</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lemelm Kebede</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fantaye Reda</td>
<td>DA,,OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yeman Meles</td>
<td>Expert, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solomon Wayu</td>
<td>Expert, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dessu Wedajo</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abrham T/Mariam</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/Anenia Girmay</td>
<td>Expert, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yirga Harefom</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zerabruk G/Tensae</td>
<td>Alamata Agro. Int.PLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solomon Ayalew</td>
<td>Gerjelle Private Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diriba Fentaw</td>
<td>DA, OoARD</td>
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Ato Mebrahtu Abebe, Head of OoARD opening the forage seed production training

Assessing Rhodes grass for seed harvest

Stooking method demonstration for uniform seed maturity of Rhodes grass

Checking seed ripeness of Panicum maximum