

## 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	<u>15</u>

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

Name	Organization
Tesfaye Hagos	Alamata Agricultural Research center
Abera Nureye	DA, OoARD
Yordanose Abraha	Abergelle Int LS Dev.PLC
Gidey Hibue	DA, OoARD
Lemelm Kebede	DA, OoARD
Fantaye Reda	DA,,OoARD
Yemane Meles	Expert, OoARD
Solomon Wayu	Expert, OoARD
Dessu Wedajo	DA, OoARD
Abrham T/Mariam	DA, OoARD
G/Anenia Girmay	Expert, OoARD
Yirga Harefom	DA, OoARD
Zerabruk G/Tensae	Alamata Agro. Int.PLC
Solomon Ayalew	Gerjelle Private Farm
Diriba Fentaw	DA, OoARD



Ato Mebrahtu Abebe, Head of OoARD opening the forage seed production training



Assessing Rhodes grass for seed harvest



Stoking method demonstration for uniform seed maturity of Rhodes grass



Checking seed ripeness of Panicum maximum

