



# Entrenamiento y Desarrollo de Agricultores

Farmer training supplements the direct technical assistance provided on-farm through MCA-Honduras/EDA and is a core component of the program in implementing basic and new technologies in production, postharvest handling, business skills and marketing. New and existing clients, as well as counterpart institutions and non-EDA clients participate in training activities. The majority of the training is carried out on-farm, and is supported with formal workshops used mainly for new activities or with new clients. This bulletin provides a summary of EDA training activities carried out to date.

## EDA TRAINING ACTIVITIES

EDA training activities parallel the technical assistance program. In production activities, initial, specific training may be given as part of an introduction to a new crop or in farm systems when new growers enter the program. Production training covers a wide range of subject areas given the diversity of project clients, crops, markets and production regions. Focus includes basic production practices, drip irrigation system use and maintenance, integrated crop management, plantlet production, pest and disease identification and control, plant nutrition, crop-specific production systems, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and GLOBALGAP.

Training in postharvest handling is also provided, focusing on improving handling systems to maintain quality, reduce losses, add value and meet market requirements in terms of grading and packing. Business skills training focuses on the preparation of cost of production budgets, cash flows, business plans, basic accounts and recordkeeping. Marketing training is also provided on market requirements and opportunities, trends, market information and marketing costs. Training is provided by EDA permanent staff with support from short-term specialists as required. All training materials (manuals, bulletins and presentations) are provided to a wide audience on compact discs, which are distributed to project clients, partners, associations and institutions.

EDA Training by Area (10/06 to 03/08)				
Area	Men	Women	Total	Events
Business Skills	3,588	442	4,030	269
GLOBALGAP	942	160	1,102	86
Finance/Credit	381	21	402	20
Market Information	1,294	216	1,510	69
Postharvest	1,826	461	2,287	136
Processing	23	2	25	9
Production	14,735	1,251	15,986	1,897
Project	654	197	851	22
Other	355	101	456	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,798</b>	<b>2,851</b>	<b>26,649</b>	<b>2,558</b>

EDA Training by Format (10/06 to 03/08)				
Type	Men	Women	Total	Events
On Farm	8,798	676	9,474	1,511
In Plant	1,394	96	1,490	57
Individual	521	17	538	431
Workshop	11,240	1,770	13,010	453
Other	1,845	292	2,137	106
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,798</b>	<b>2,851</b>	<b>26,649</b>	<b>2,558</b>





<b>EDA Training Activities by Subject (10/06 to 03/08)</b>				
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b># Events</b>
Credit	316	20	336	18
Financial Product Development	65	1	66	2
Business Skills	1,646	190	1,836	95
Business Plans	43	0	43	2
Field logs	424	83	507	76
Cost Training – by Crop	1,566	167	1,733	110
Marketing – Buyers by Crop	27	0	27	2
Export Logistics	60	0	60	3
Opportunities for Specific Crops	1,197	192	1,389	62
Market Price and Volume Analysis	30	24	54	4
Gender, Research, Other	344	100	444	51
Grading and Packing	146	26	172	26
Postharvest Loss Control	72	23	95	11
Equipment and Installation Designs	9	0	9	4
Quality Standards	3	2	5	1
Plant Sanitation and Hygiene	1	0	1	1
Postharvest Handling	1,342	387	1,729	70
Packhouse Operations	2	0	2	1
Postharvest – Product Grading	193	11	204	15
Harvesting Systems	79	14	93	13
GAPs/ GLOBALGAP	755	122	877	58
Equipment Calibration	276	16	292	46
Soil Conservation – Contoured Beds	40	4	44	14
Plastic Mulch on Beds	74	1	75	21
GlobalGAP: Traceability, Logs, Personal Hygiene, Pesticide Applications	91	38	129	19
Field Trips with Growers	1,313	66	1,379	134
Greenhouse - Construction	118	6	124	24
Greenhouse – Production	141	21	162	29
Pest Management	392	27	419	32
Integrated Pest Management	1,630	74	1,704	288
Nutrition – Nutrient Balances	376	39	415	30
Nutrition – Humidity Bulb Management	217	34	251	12
Nutrition – Fertilization Program Management	321	30	351	59
Basic Practices – cultural, soil preparation and management, activity programming	5,021	499	5,520	420
Irrigation - Components, Fertigation, installation, maintenance	3,315	313	3,628	452
Transplant/Planting	632	78	710	144
Units and Measuring Equipment	10	0	10	3
Equipment Use and Calibration - Applicators	43	0	43	13
Equipment Use and Calibrations – Others	31	0	31	11
Plantlet Production – Water and Nutrition, construction, operation, media & sterilization, planting in trays	874	56	930	164
EDA Project	563	187	750	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,798</b>	<b>2,851</b>	<b>26,649</b>	<b>2,558</b>

Summaries of EDA training activities are provided in the tables. To date, 2,558 individual training events have been held with 26,649 participants. The commercial focus of training is evident by their format type with 78 percent of events carried out on-farm, in-plant or directly with the clients.

Production makes up the main focus of training activities (64 percent of participants), followed by business skills (15 percent), postharvest (9 percent) and marketing (6 percent).

The level of women participation in training activities was 11 percent, varying between the technical areas as follows:

- Postharvest: 20 percent women
- Marketing: 14 percent women
- GAPs: 15 percent women
- Business skills: 11 percent women
- Production: 8 percent women

These field training activities are open to EDA clients, non-clients, agricultural colleges, input suppliers, NGOs and other support institutions. Over the duration of EDA, the program aims to train more than 60,000 participants in production-related activities, 5,000 participants in postharvest handling practices, and 9,000 in business skills. After 18 months of implementation, the program is on target to meet these goals.

