

Training is a core component of the Fintrac CDA activities in implementing standard and new technologies in production, postharvest handling, processing and marketing. New and existing clients are included in training activities as well as other support institutions and non-CDA clients. The majority of the training is carried out on-farm or in-plant, with more formal workshops being used mainly for new activities or with new clients. This bulletin provides a summary of CDA training activities carried out between October 2003 and September 2004.



<b>Fintrac CDA Training by AREA. Oct. 2003 – Sept. 2004</b>				
<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b># Events</b>
Eurepgap	1,025	56	1,081	145
Information Technology	4	1	5	2
Market Information	34	0	34	3
Marketing	137	51	188	16
Postharvest	1,427	729	2,156	203
Processing	220	199	419	49
Production	7,796	1,710	9,506	697
Project	147	33	180	3
Other	80	24	104	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>13,673</b>	<b>1,131</b>

<b>Fintrac CDA Training by FORMAT. Oct. 2003 – Sept. 2004</b>				
<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b># Events</b>
On-Farm Group	8,702	2,245	10,947	776
In-Plant Group	694	308	1,002	96
Individual	250	45	295	154
Workshop	981	152	1,133	72
Other	243	53	296	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>13,673</b>	<b>1,131</b>

The Fintrac CDA training activities are carried out in parallel to 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, as occurs 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 crop-specific production systems, Good Agricultural Practices, Eurepgap, irrigation, pest and disease identification and controls, plantlet production, and plant nutrition.

In processing activities, the focus is mainly on systems, new product development, food safety, Good Manufacturing Practices, and legal requirements. Postharvest training concentrates mainly on harvesting techniques, grade standards, handling systems, food safety, and loss prevention. Specialty coffee training activities have been focused on cupping, roasting and processing. Growers and exporters have also received training in accessing market information.



Summaries of the Fintrac CDA training activities are provided in the tables. Over the 12 month period, a total of 1,131 individual training sessions were held in which over 13,500 persons were trained. The commercial focus can be seen as 90% of the events were carried out on-farm, in-plant or directly with the clients. Clients in 16 departments received training. CDA has expanded the training activities to include monthly field days in four main training areas: production systems, irrigation technology and fertigation programs, integrated pest management systems and EurepGap. These field training activities are open to CDA clients, non-clients, agricultural colleges, input suppliers, NGOs and other support institutions. Production training includes land preparation, application of phytosanitary products, fertilization methods, drip irrigation, pest identification and sampling, land preparation, use of biological controls, integrated pest management, and complete production packages for specific crops, such as onions, squash, peppers (jalapeño, sweet, and Tabasco), sweet potato, and cold climate vegetables. Processing training includes GMPs, new product development and legal requirements. Postharvest training includes grades and standards, handling systems and packing operations. Marketing and market information training has also been increased with the expansion of local market sales and new requirements for the export markets. With the consolidation of the specialty coffee program, emphasis has been placed on developing grower capacity with training in cupping for quality characteristics and roasting.

<b>Fintrac CDA Training by Area. Oct. 2003 – Sept. 2004</b>				
<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b># Events</b>
CDA Project	251	71	322	3
Coffee Cupping, Roasting	155	38	193	27
EUREPGAP, Pesticide Safety	991	116	1,107	132
Fertilization	824	112	936	70
Grades and Standards	270	167	437	59
Irrigation – Installation, Management, Fertigation	2,145	147	2,292	169
Legal Requirements (sanitary, bar code, etc).	33	23	56	5
Market Analyses & Information	117	7	124	12
Pest & Diseases – Identification, Control, IPM	1,657	152	1,809	116
Pesticide Safety				
Pests & Diseases – Equipment Calibration	414	51	465	51
Plantlet Production	119	23	142	17
Postharvest Handling, Packing,	1,403	818	2,221	165
Processing Systems	65	77	142	23
Production - Greenhouses	69	23	92	6
Production Systems – Crop Specific	785	91	876	84
Transplant	692	657	1,349	73
Water & Soil Analyses	11	0	11	2
Other	683	203	886	94
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>2,803</b>	<b>13,673</b>	<b>1,131</b>

