

FINTRAC CDA

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 in 2003.

Training Activity Update

Fintrac CDA 2003 Training by Area

Training Area	Male	Female	Total	# Events
Eurepgap	496	16	512	41
Market Information	61	2	63	1
Marketing	118	38	156	9
Postharvest	554	236	790	79
Processing	331	219	550	30
Production	2,316	531	2,847	327
Others	12	1	13	3
TOTAL	3,888	1,043	4,931	490

Fintrac CDA 2003 Training by Format

Training Format	Male	Female	Total	# Events
On Farm – Group	2,612	683	3,295	312
In Plant – Group	461	230	691	61
Individual	101	5	106	66
Workshop	691	121	812	48
Others	23	4	27	3
TOTAL	3,888	1,043	4,931	490

Fintrac CDA 2003 Training Activities by Department

Department	Males	Females	Total	# Events
Atlantida	78	29	107	5
Choluteca	356	61	417	38
Colon	4	0	4	1
Comayagua	1,227	339	1,566	141
Copan	129	34	163	11
Cortes	285	115	400	32
El Paraiso	521	239	760	95
Francisco Morazan	110	7	117	19
Intibuca	342	48	390	30
La Paz	212	90	302	30
Lempira	17	0	17	2
Ocotepeque	50	13	63	4
Olancho	12	5	17	1
Santa Barbara	184	16	200	18
Valle	142	2	144	23
Yoro	179	44	223	31
Unspecified	40	1	41	9
Total	3,888	1,043	4,931	490

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. In 2003, a total of 490 individual training sessions were held in which almost 5,000 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.

In 2004, CDA will continue to expand training activities with 2 to 4 monthly field events open to both CDA clients and non-clients. These will be carried out on clients' farms and based on the crops under contract production programs.



Fintrac CDA 2003 Training Activities by Subject Area

Subject Area	Males	Females	Total	# Events
Coffee – Roasting, cupping	183	34	217	27
EUREPGAP	473	41	514	40
Fertilization	39	0	39	13
Grades and Standards	94	25	119	5
Harvesting	212	143	355	27
Irrigation - Fertigation	25	0	25	9
Irrigation - Installation	145	18	163	35
Irrigation - Management	186	4	190	42
Legal Requirements (sanitary, bar code, etc).	20	13	33	3
Market Analyses & Information	70	32	102	6
Others	297	43	340	25
Packaging Design	1	10	11	1
Packing	13	7	20	3
Pest & Diseases – Biological Controls	21	0	21	6
Pest & Diseases – Identification and Control	67	13	80	17
Pesticide Safety	25	0	25	4
Pests & Diseases – Equipment Calibration	225	24	249	30
Pests & Diseases – Integrated Pest Management	62	0	62	14
Pests & Diseases – Phytosanitary Use	136	5	141	15
Plant Nutrition	0	22	22	1
Plantlet Production	76	7	83	12
Postharvest Handling	266	139	405	31
Processing Systems	190	185	375	19
Production - Greenhouses	9	0	9	2
Production Systems – Crop Specific	879	129	1008	83
Transplant	166	149	315	19
Water & Soil Analyses	8	0	8	1
Total	3,888	1,043	4,931	490



CROP FIELD DAYS

Field days were organized for new contract production crops including Tabasco, onion and sweet potato.



ON-FARM TRAINING

Growers are trained on demonstration farms. Training for farm employees is provided on each grower's farm.



PROCESSING

Activities include in-plant training of microprocessors with systems and new product development and training of employees.



COFFEE CUPPING

Training has been provided to professional cuppers and coffee growers in identifying specialty coffee and quality characteristics.



ON-FARM TRAINING

Students from agricultural colleges and Universities also participate, with the growers providing the training.