Workshop Qualiman, May 12-14, 2004

In the Qualiman (quality management) project colleagues from Hungary, Slovakia, The Netherlands and Poland work together on improved product quality and improved food safety.

The first activity of the Qualiman project was a workshop in May 2004 about Food safety and Quality Management, organised by Applied Plant Research. Objective of the workshop was for participants in the project to meet each other, to learn more about food safety (FS) and quality production (QP), and to work on the first steps of the project.

During the workshop presentations were given about HACCP, quality production, food safety assurance, food standards in the EU, and Dutch legislation. The theory was also shown in practice: the participants visited different farms and companies to see how quality assurance and food safety is dealt with in the Netherlands. An analysis of the domain and relevant stakeholders in the fields of food safety and quality assurance was worked out for each country. During the second half of 2004, all four participating countries will perform a quick-scan to identify the problems on QP and FS in the market chain of onions and apples.

A 1-2 day project meeting is planned in January 2005, before the programme meeting in Sofia. Results will be put together into a publication and a plan for activities for the coming year will be formulated. Project participants will be able to meet participants from other EU Access projects to build their network.

For more detailed information please contact Marco de Wolf (marco.dewolf@wur.nl; phone +31 320 29 11 11) or Herman Schoorlemmer (herman.schoorlemmer@wur.nl; phone +31 320 29 11 11).

Producers’ Organisations (POs)

This project (involving Poland, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Hungary) covers three important subjects: EU legislation around POs, quality, and organisation development. A workshop on ‘Quality’ will be organised in December in Poland, including an introduction about the EU standards for product quality, some practical issues in which participants compare their own situation with these standards. For example: what is the grading result of the own apple production according to EU standards, which differences exist between participants and between years? Are there control possibilities and driving forces? The second part of the workshop will consist of an overview of the theory and background of different quality management systems, including subjects like: which quality systems exist and what are differences and similarities? The workshop concludes with some exercises about common aspects: hygiene, traceability and registration.

For more information, please contact Marianne Groot (marianne.groot@wur.nl; phone +31 488 47 37 12).

Agenda

2004
December 1: Workshop Pilot Quality (PO’s), Poland (contact: Marianne Groot)
December 16-17: Workshop Organisation Development (PO’s), Czech Republic (contact: Frank Joosten, frank.joosten@wur.nl; phone +31 317 49 53 48)

2005
March: Programme meeting (contact: Arij Everaarts, arij.everaarts@wur.nl; phone +31 320 29 11 11)

Addresses
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Three institutes of Wageningen University and Research Centre are involved in this programme: Applied Plant Research (PP0), International Agricultural Centre (IAC) and Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI).

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