



FARMERS FIELD SCHOOLS: A DIRECT ACCESS FOR FARMERS TO IPMTACTICS"

IPM? YES, THROUGH SCHOOLS FOR FARMERS EGYPT GTFS/REM/070/ITA PROJECT

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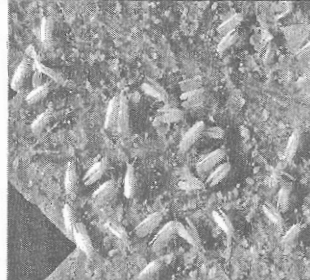



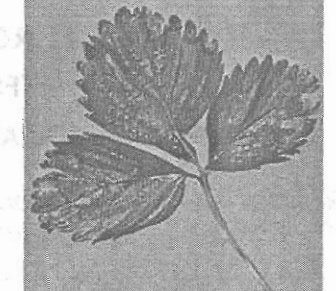
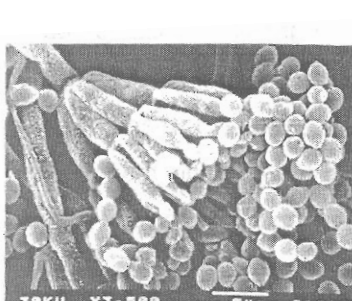
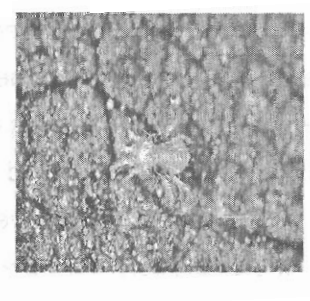
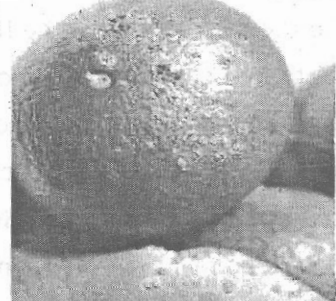
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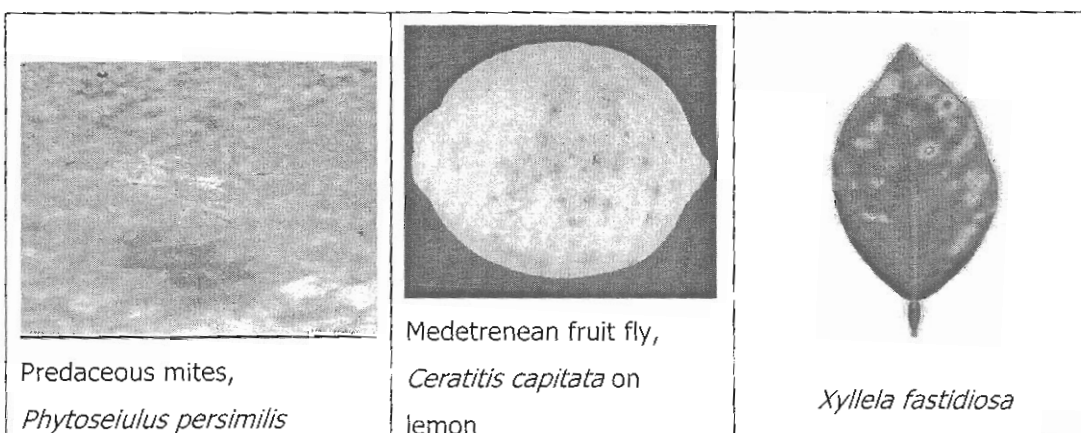
INTRODUCTION

The use of pesticides in the Near East Region is associated with growing concerns about health and environmental problems. High use of pesticides is economically sub-optimal. Standards on pesticide residues, in particular, for export to Western markets, are becoming more stringent. Consumer concern about food safety is creating markets for food products of better quality. In response to the above mentioned concerns, FAO, in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders from the region, developed the Project GTFS/REM/070/ITA "Regional Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programme in the Near East". The project is funded by the Italian Government, through its contribution to the Trust Fund for Food Safety and Food Security. The project is being implemented in six countries of the Near East Region: the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Palestinian Authority, the Republic of Lebanon, and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Egypt - Project Activities: Project activities in Egypt are carried out on strawberry and citrus crops at Ismailia and Fayoum Governorates, respectively. These activities include: I-Establishing farmer field schools; II- Training of Trainers (TOTs); III-Investigation studies (microbial insecticides, toxicological and health hazards of pesticides); in addition to mass rearing of predaceous mite in green house.

Insects and Diseases identification and management

		
<p>Agro-ecosystem Analysis</p>	<p>white fly, <i>Bemisia tabaci</i></p>	<p>strawberry leaf spot disease</p>
		
<p>Participatory Training</p>	<p>Citrus aphids</p>	<p>Strawberry leaf blight</p>
		
<p><i>Metarhizium anisopliae</i> Using microorganism in IPM/FFS</p>	<p>Two spotted red mite, <i>T. Uriticae</i></p>	<p><i>Xanthomonas axonopodis</i> pv. <i>citri</i></p>



Number of IPM/FFS, and participants through the 2nd phase of project in Egypt

Crop	No. IPM/FFS	No. of participants		Total
		Men	women	
Strawberry	20	148	58	206
Citrus	10	61		61

General Conclusions:

After the first year of implementation, the Project can draw the following conclusions: (I) Initial results confirm IPM as a valid approach for farmers and their communities in the Near East Region to produce more economically, while responding to the increasingly stringent standards for pesticide residues for export markets. (ii) It is possible to reduce pesticide use, reduce risks for public health and the environment; (iii) Farmer Field School is a valid extension approach in the member countries given their specific local ecological and socio-economic conditions; (iv) FFS provides a space for learning and interaction for farmers, facilitators and other resource persons; (v) an initial capacity of human resources, with both technical IPM skills and methodological FFS approaches created (or strengthened) by the Project in the member countries among different recipient organizations such as Government, Universities and NGOs could be the base for future Project extension/expansion; (vi) a range of supporting studies is being initiated by the project in the first year, which contribute to strengthening, the technical content of field training, and creating the basic important tools in expanding a dialogue on policies in support of wider IPM programmes in the member countries.