

Programme for integrated pest and disease management

Our overall objective is to ensure that farms reduce the use of agrochemicals that cause negative impacts to human health and natural resources.

To achieve this overall objective the internal management system has specific objectives which include:

- To ensure that farms employ physical, biological, mechanical and cultural methods to control pests before using agrochemicals.
- To minimize the waste and excessive application of agrochemicals.
- To reduce the application of WHO Class II agrochemicals
- To avoid the use of agrochemicals that are not registered in the country, or other agrochemicals that are banned by different entities or national and international conventions, including transgenic organisms.
- Have farmers trained to monitor and identify pests and carry out integrated pest management techniques.

To achieve this, farmers are trained in the Integrated Crop and Pest Management curriculum of the Cocoa Certification Enhancement and upgrading with the Sustainable Tree Crop Programme curriculum.

The Lead Farmers are responsible for implementing the programme while the field coordinator supervises and backstop the activities.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION CLASS II CHEMICALS REDUCTION PLAN

The IMS is making efforts to reduce the usage of World Health Organization class II chemicals which when used continuously deplete the ozone layer and cause havoc to the environment. Various programs have been put in place to reduce the usage. It is the plan of the IMS to stop the usage of the chemicals in the next ten years. The first step as an IMS was to identify the magnitude of usage of these chemicals and it was revealed that confidor which has imidacloprid as its active ingredient was the only class II chemical used by farmers under COCOBOD's instruction.

The following five (5) key points have been developed by the IMS in consultations with its service providers to achieve this objective.

- Train all producer and service providers in the IMS to be aware of the requirement of the SAN and UTZ standards on the usage of confidor-Thus reduce its usage in subsequent years and to look for possible alternatives.
- To adopt a chemical usage rotational policy where confidor usage could be used once in 3 years.
- To compile list of suitable alternatives for all producers such as Akate Master and Actara.

- To reduce the overdependence of producers on CODAPEC while building the capacities of local group members to handle all chemical applications.
- The IMS is in constant touch with COCOBOD to ensure a country wide reduction of the use of class II chemicals.