

COLEACP PIP-NEW TECHNIQUES IN AGRI-EXTENSION

What is PIP?

When this learning opportunity came knocking on my email address, I immediately took to Google. I had so many questions: "What is COLEACP?" and "What is PIP?" among others. Maybe you are like me- new to these acronyms and scouring the internet for information. In that case I will direct you to the official COLEACP website at this link: <http://www.coleacp.org/> . The full term for PIP may prove more difficult to find. What was previously called the Pesticide Initiative Programme has grown to be more inclusive. The programme was first developed in response to the challenge of pesticide concentration on agricultural produce in excess of Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs). Now the initiative has grown to embrace food security and sustainable agriculture issue such as:

1. Ethical Trade
2. Environmental Impact of Pesticides
3. Integrated Crop Management
4. Alternative Production Systems including Organic

COLEACP and the Caribbean Farmers' Network (CaFAN), hosted a two-week training in Saint Lucia for Caribbean extension workers and affiliates from December 2-14, 2014.



Each participant received a training kit containing ALL of these. Thanks COLEACP!

New Methods of Training

It was a tight schedule for the two-week training. Participants were trained in both the Training of Trainers Techniques and the Field Training Workshop Methods. Even before we arrived at the workshop venue on the workshop start date, we had been assigned projects. The momentum was maintained until the final day of workshop activities.

Some of the topics explored included:

- 1. Adult Learning**
- 2. SIOM-Subject, Interest, Objective, Method**
- 3. Food Safety**
- 4. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Sustainable Agricultural Production**
- 5. Pesticide Label**
- 6. Pesticide Resistance**
- 7. Questioning Techniques**
- 8. Traceability**
- 9. Training Aids**
- 10. Training Programmes**



Field Trip! Farm Visit



Group work

What did we learn? How are we going to use it?

On the last few days of the workshop we were honoured buy the presence of COLEACP PIP Managing Director, Mr. Guy Stinglhamber who listened to the final presentations of each represented country's action.

On the first day of the training, we were daunted by restrictions to our use of good old Power Point presentations. Dare I say that some of us were lost! But in short time, we came to the realisation that Power Point was just old. We were all converted to the Field Trainer Workshop technique, acknowledging that adult learning requires participatory training technique and tapping into our creativity. We all vowed to continue the momentum, using these techniques in our professional and individual capacities.



Congratulations to the Graduands!

Posted by [-Delight In Gardening](#) at [Wednesday, December 18, 2013](#)

<http://delightingardening.blogspot.be/2013/12/coleacp-pip-new-techniques-in-agri.html>