



March 8, 2006

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. **01**
Series of 2006

Subject: **Procedural Guidelines and Formats for Bt Corn Insect Resistance Management (IRM) Monitoring for Industry Technology Developers**

Pursuant to Sections III (Industry Monitoring and Government Supervision) and IV (Monitoring of Insect Resistance) of DA MC No. 8, series of 2006 "*Strengthening the DA's Science-Based Insect Resistance Management for Bt Corn and Amending Section III.a.(ii) of Memorandum Circular No. 17, Series of 2003*"; and as agreed upon by government regulators and industry technology developers, these procedural guidelines and formats are hereby issued for compliance and for submission to the Bureau of Plant Industry by technology developers.

I. Compliance Monitoring for Bt Corn Planted in Identified Areas

A. For IRM Awareness Briefing

For the awareness briefings conducted on IRM, the required format is **Table 1**. The technology developer should send the filled-up template to BPI via the following email address: *bpicpd_pcmonitoring@yahoo.com*. Submission of reports shall be done anytime during the cropping season.

B. For Bt Corn Adoption/Planting

To monitor adoption of Bt corn in specific areas, the required format for reporting is **Table 2b**, which will be consolidated by BPI using **Table 2a**. The technology developer should send the filled-up template to the same email address as earlier provided. Submission of reports to BPI is scheduled as follows:

<u>Island</u>	<u>Wet Season</u>	<u>Dry Season</u>
Luzon	July 15	January 30
Mindanao	June 30	November 15

C. For the Asiatic Corn Borer (ACB), Other Corn Pests (Arthropods, Diseases, Vertebrate Pest), Beneficial Insects, and Other Soil Organisms

To monitor ACB, other corn pests (arthropods, diseases, vertebrate pest), beneficial insects, and other soil organisms, required are **Tables 3 and 4**. Filled-up tables should be emailed to *bpicpd_pcmonitoring@yahoo.com*, two (2) weeks after vegetative and post flowering stages of corn for each season and location. Confirmed pest outbreak observed must be reported immediately to the Crop Protection Division of BPI. A regular meeting of the IRM team will be called after each season to determine future actions based on the monitoring reports.

II. For Asian Corn Borer (ACB) Resistance Monitoring

A. Selection of Areas for ACB Resistance Monitoring

- Initially, in the first season of implementation (e.g. the wet planting season of year 2006), there will be eighteen (18) barangays or monitoring sites of which two barangays shall belong to one municipality. Monitoring of two sites per municipality is done for the purpose of determining the possibility of obtaining parallel results in terms of ACB resistance. If the results that will be obtained from the two barangays are confirmed parallel, then the number of sites per municipality may be reduced to one (1) site.
- The basis for selection of the monitoring sites include the following criteria: (a) high adoption or increasing area planted to Bt corn; (b) severity and regularity of occurrence of ACB infestations; (c) the site belonging to a corn cluster representing a major corn area in the country.
- Each identified site (cluster areas) shall have at least 50 hectares contiguous area for corn.
- The identified sites shall be considered permanent monitoring areas for the next 5 years. The corresponding technology developer or company in charge of ACB resistance monitoring in the identified sites is indicated in the matrix below.

Fixed Monitoring Sites Identified

Region	Province	Municipality	Company in Charge	Barangay / Site
I	Pangasinan	Sta. Maria	Syngenta	1.
				2.
		Malasiqui	Pioneer	1.
				2.
II	Isabela	Jones	Pioneer	1.
				2.
		Cauayan	Syngenta	1.
				2.
	Cagayan	Solana	Monsanto	1.
				2.
III	Pampanga	Mexico	Monsanto	1.
				2.
IV	Mindoro Occidental	Sablayan	Monsanto	1.
				2.
XII	South Cotabato	Gen. Santos City	Pioneer	1.
				2.
	Sultan Kudarat	Bagumbayan	Monsanto	1.
				2.

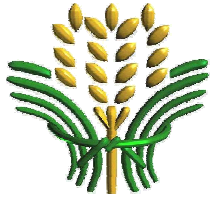
B. Methodology in Data Gathering

- To support capacity building in government, ACB monitoring shall be jointly conducted by industry and the Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC) technical officer in the region/province concerned. Industry shall coordinate with the local RCPC office to find out the schedule of its regular pest and disease monitoring so that the ACB monitoring can be harmonized and conducted during the regular monitoring.

2. Data gathering for incidence of occurrence of ACB and other pest incidence must be done during vegetation and post flowering stages of corn development (**Table 3 and 4**).
3. Sampling shall be randomized starting from the 15th row from the border proceeding diagonally across the field with 5 rows interval between sample plants in the corn field sampling site.
4. Verification/confirmation of suspected ACB damage on Bt corn plant shall be done in the presence of agricultural technician assigned and/ RCPC and/ seed developer representative.
5. Farmer partners shall conduct the regular monitoring of corn borer damage in his Bt corn field by marking the corn borer damaged plants and reporting the damage incidence to assigned agricultural technician/seed company representative.

This Circular shall take effect immediately.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Secretary



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DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN (signed)
Secretary