



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

3 January 2006

Special Order
No. 07
Series of 2006

SUBJECT : Creation of an Insect Resistance Management Advisory Team (IRMAT) Pursuant to Memorandum Circulars Nos. 17 (s2003) and 8 (s2005) for the Implementation of an Insect Resistance Management (IRM) Strategy for BT Corn

In the interest of service and in line with the implementation of (1) Memorandum Circular No. 17 (s2003) which provides the requirements for the insect resistance management (IRM) strategy for Bt corn and (2) Memorandum Circular No. 8 (s2005) which strengthens the DA's science-based IRM strategy, an ***Insect Resistance Management Advisory Team (IRMAT)*** to be composed of scientists and technical experts is hereby created, as follows:

1. Composition

Chairperson:	Dr. Emiliana Bernardo
Vice-Chairperson:	Dr. Candida Adalla
Members:	Dr. Edwin Alcantara
	Dr. Bonifacio Cayabyab
	Dr. Reynaldo Eborá
	Dr. Pio Javier
	Dr. Merdelyn Lit
	Dr. Stephen Reyes
	Dr. Saturnina Halos (<i>ex officio</i> , as Chairperson of the DA Biotechnology Advisory Team)

2. Terms of Reference

The DA Insect Resistance Management Advisory Team shall serve as the scientific and technical advisory body on IRM matters to the DA and shall be tasked to provide technical advice to the DA and the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) as follows:

- a) assist in the formulation of a new policy and regulatory initiatives relevant to insect resistance management for Bt technology-based GM Crops;
- b) provide advice and direction to the IRM Monitoring Team headed by the Chief of Crop Protection Division of BPI (CPD-BPI);
- c) assist the IRM Team review the monitoring and periodic reports assists the IRM Team review the monitoring and periodic reports
- d) review proposals and results of technical studies related to IRM;
- e) recommend new technical studies when necessary;
- f) serve as resource persons for IRM seminars and other IEC and capacity-building activities;
- g) share information on new developments on IRM; and
- h) initiate holding of meetings with industry and various stakeholders to clarify pertinent issues on IRM.

3. Reporting Arrangements and Operational Requirements

The DA Insect Resistance Management Advisory Team shall report directly to the BPI Director and/or to the BPI IRM Monitoring Team. It shall be assisted by a Secretariat which shall be composed of staff from the BPI Crop Protection Division and the DA Policy Research Service.

Expenses incurred by the DA IRMAT in the performance of its functions shall be charged against the funds of the BPI and the Agriculture and Fisheries Biotechnology Program subject to the usual accounting rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

(signed)
DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Secretary