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ABSTRACTS

9. 101. NETWORKING PROJECTS ON FRUIT FLIES BETWEEN EUROPE AND AFRICA

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In 2014, funding for two networking projects with partners in Europe and Africa were approved. The first project, "ERAFRICA FRUIT FLY", is co-ordinated by Citrus Research International (CRI) in South Africa. Its main objectives are improving detection and monitoring methods for fruit flies, and identification of African fruit fly pests. Partnering institutions in the project are CIRAD (Reunion), Centre National de Recherche Agronomique - CNRA (Ivory Coast), and the Royal Museum for Central Africa - RMCA (Belgium). Trapping surveys with new and standard attractants are being conducted in South Africa and the Ivory Coast over two years. The CIRAD team focuses on screening fruit volatiles for monitoring of female fruit flies with poor response towards currently available food-based attractants. The RMCA team makes use of specimens and information obtained from trapping to test, modify and improve existing identification tools. The second networking project, entitled "FRUITFLYNET: Monitoring Network for fruit flies in South-eastern Africa" is funded by the Belgian Science Policy (BELSPO) and co-ordinated by RMCA. Partnering institutions are Stellenbosch University (South Africa), the Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania) and the Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique). All have ongoing fruit fly monitoring activities in their own countries which are diverse in nature. The main objective is to try to harmonize the different activities, and facilitate further interactions between them. This will be done through a number of meetings over a period of two years. Because of overlapping interests in both networks, there is a regular exchange of information between the partners by both groups through joint meetings.

Keywords: fruit fly monitoring, Africa, Europe