



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS**

# AGRICULTURAL LINKAGES PLUS PROJECT (ALP UZBEKISTAN)

## QUARTERLY REPORT (Q1 FY 2013)

OCTOBER 2012 – DECEMBER 2012

**JANUARY 2013**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by DAI.

# AGRICULTURAL LINKAGES PLUS PROJECT

(ALP)

## Q1 FY 2013 QUARTERLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2012 – DECEMBER 2012

**AgLinks Uzbekistan**  
**12 Afrosiab Street – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

Telephone: (998) (71) 252-5414

Fax: (998) (71) 252-6756

For the

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

RAISE Plus IQC

Contract No. EDH-I-00-05-00004-00

Task Order No. AID-176-TO-11-00002-00

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### **Acronyms**

#### **A. BACKGROUND**

- A.1. Project goals and objectives
- A.2. Project components
- A.3. Geographic and commodity focus
- A.4. Administration

#### **B. PROJECT ACTIVITIES BY COMPONENT**

- B.1. Component 1: Improving Farm Level Productivity
- B.2. Component 2: Public and Private Sector Service Support
- B.3. Component 3: Agro-Processing and Exports
- B.4. Component 4: Training and Human Resource Development (HRD)

#### **C. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

- C.1. Monitoring
- C.2. Mitigation
- C.3. Issue(s)

#### **D. FINANCE**

- D.1. Disbursements
- D.2. Issue(s)

### **Annexes**

- 1 - Monthly Report – October 2012
- 2 - Monthly Report – November 2012
- 3 - Grape PERSUAP One-pager

## ACRONYMS

<b>ALP</b>	Agricultural Linkages Plus project
<b>CAR</b>	Central Asian Republics
<b>COP</b>	Chief of Party
<b>DAI</b>	Development Alternative Inc.
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FY</b>	Fiscal Year
<b>ha</b>	hectare (10,000 square meters, 100 meters by 100 meters, 2.47 acres)
<b>HO</b>	Home Office
<b>JICA</b>	Japan International Cooperation Agency
<b>MAWR</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>PERSUAP</b>	Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safe Use Action Plan
<b>UCCI</b>	Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
<b>WUA</b>	Water User's Association
<b>WUASP</b>	Water User's Association Support Project

This report covers the first quarter (October-November-December 2012) activities of the AgLinks Plus (ALP) Project in Uzbekistan in fiscal year (FY) 2013. This is the first quarter of ALP's second year.

## A. BACKGROUND

### A.1 Project goals and objectives

The purpose of the Agricultural Linkages Plus Project is to increase employment and incomes through improved competitiveness of selected agriculture value-chains in Uzbekistan. The project consists of four components aimed at addressing project objectives: improving farm level productivity, public and private sector service support, agro-processing, training and human resource development. ALP seeks to improve competitiveness in the value chains related to grape, stone and pome fruits, subtropical fruits and nuts.

### A.2 Project Components

The project consists of four components aimed at addressing project objectives:

- Component 1: Improving Farm Level Productivity
- Component 2: Public and Private Sector Service Support
- Component 3: Agro-Processing
- Component 4: Training and Human Resource Development

### A.3. Geographic and commodity focus

The list of approved areas for ALP to operate will be expanded to six provinces: the original three (Namangan, Ferghana and Samarkand) plus Andijan, Bukhara and Tashkent and 26 districts. A Memorandum of Understanding between USAID and MAWR was ratified on December 12, 2012. ALP staff will pay visits to provincial/district *khokimiyats* to introduce projects after MAWR submits letters to provincial *khokimiyats* and MAWR branches.

Provinces	Samarkand	Namangan	Ferghana	Tashkent	Andijan	Bukhara	Totals
Districts	<u>Tavlog</u>	<u>Pop</u>	<u>Quvasov</u>	Ohangaron	Andijan	Jondor	
	<u>Pavarik</u>	<u>Turakurgon</u>	Ferghana	Bustonlik	Bulokboshi		
	<u>Samarkand</u>	Uychi	Quva	Zangiota	Hujaobod		
	Urgut	Konsonov	Oltarik	Parkent	Marhamat		
	Bulungur	Chortok		Kibray	Jalakuduk		
		Yangikurgan					
AgLinks (old)	3	2	1	0	0	0	6
ALP (new)	2	4	3	5	5	1	20
Sub-totals	5	6	4	5	5	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>						<b>26</b>
Other	plus Tashkent City						

Table 1: List of ALP Districts and Provinces

The targeted commodities under ALP are the following:

- Stone fruits - peaches, nectarines, cherries, apricots and plums
- Pome fruits - apples, pears and quince
- Sub-tropicals - pomegranate and walnuts
- Vineyards - table grapes

#### **A4. Administrative**

##### **Visits**

The US Ambassador to Uzbekistan, George Krol, visited an ALP field site consisting of a CoolBot cold storage on October 11. The Ambassador's visit coincided with the persimmon and pomegranate harvest season and he witnessed the multiple varieties available on the Uzbek marketplace.

The regional USAID/CAR Mission Director (acting)/Regional Legal Advisor, a Program Development Officer from the Program office, and the Director of the Economic Development Office visited ALP in November.

At the end of October, several ALP staff attended a training session at USAID held by the USAID Regional Communications Advisor, Michelle Blau, on targeting public outreach.

##### **Collaboration**

Collaboration continued to deepen this month between ALP and the German development assistance agency (GIZ) who informed the project of a final agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investment and Trade (MFERIT) to install three intensive orchard demonstration plots in Surkhandarya and Khorezm provinces and Karakalpakstan. GIZ staff will base their demonstration plots on the ALP model for and experience with advanced irrigation systems for intensive orchards. ALP shared the contacts of local suppliers of trellises, saplings and irrigation systems, and responded to GIZ requests for access to ALP technical staff to assist with the technical specifications for their demonstration plots. The ALP engineer visited the prospective fruit tree demonstration plots planned by GIZ in 2 non-ALP provinces at the latter's request and assisted the German project with advanced irrigation designs.

A JICA delegation also visited the ALP advanced irrigation sites installed at Shreder Horticultural Institute's Tashkent main office and Ferghana branch.

ALP staff met with three representatives of USAID's Regional Export Cooperation (REC) project on October 19. The meetings included discussions of possible collaborative activities with the REC team keenly interested in ALP's legal status, the Uzbek registration process and banking procedures.

Project staff met with an UNDP team designing a proposal to foster regional cooperation and coordination in Central Asia. ALP staff shared ideas with the design team and

provided contact information for USAID's REC project and suggested UNDP contact them for additional input.

### **Other**

The DAI Home Office formally announced a reorganization from a technical to geographic structure with ALP now in the Asia Region and supported by a Home Office (HO) Project Delivery Team consisting of a Project Team Director, a Project Manager and a Project Associate. The Home Office will reassign its current project team leaders, managers and associates to new teams in December with the new structure taking effect on the first of January, 2013.

Per a Government of Uzbekistan mandate, November marked the announcement from the project's bank that all salary payments to local staff will be made on bank debit (plastic) cards which are only convertible to cash at a 20% premium, effectively reducing purchasing power. Two support staff tendered their resignations; the IT manager (immediately) and an office assistant/driver (year's end). The plastic cards will become effective early in 2014.

## **B. PROJECT ACTIVITIES UNDER COMPONENTS**

**B.1. Component 1: Improving Farm Level Productivity:** The central objective of this activity is to increase incomes through improved competitiveness of selected agriculture value-chains. This is done by addressing the causes of low productivity in the production of grapes and other fruits. The project improves productivity by addressing the following farm level constraints:

- a. Improving On-farm Water Management.** This quarter ALP started an assessment of irrigation and drainage systems and institutional structures of 10 ALP partner organizations (five WUAs and five Agrifirms) that originally worked with the AgLinks project in Samarkand, Ferghana and Namangan provinces. The assessment is being implemented by two independent consultants: an irrigation and drainage specialist and an institutional development specialist. This activity started in November and the final report, including specific recommendations to address institutional and technical issues of each partner, will be provided in early Q2 of FY 2013.
- b. Improving Plant Material and Agronomic Practices.** Two critical constraints to improved productivity are the shortage of quality seeds and plant material and weak knowledge base of producers. To address these constraints, AgLinks Plus will provide plant material, training and cost-shared inputs. In particular, activities included the activities described below.

**New Seeds and Plant Material.** In November, ALP hired international consultant John Driver to design a tissue culture lab and supervise its establishment at the Shreder Horticulture Research Institute in Tashkent. He was also tasked to train local staff and provide affiliated advanced nursery trainings to both public and private sector nurseries in targeted districts to ensure “true to type” propagation of new improved plant material for the rejuvenation of Uzbekistan fruit orchards.

During his consultancy, Mr. Driver also visited partner nurseries and conducted field training on pome and stone fruits rootstock propagation. One stop included a visit with an alumnus from HEP-2, Mr. Tojiddin Toshpulatov, a farmer from Namangan, who decided to implement a new propagation technology: growing trees in a plastic pot. The ALP project had provided him with 1,500 pots in late November that he used to plant several rootstocks of apples and cherries. The advantages of this technique included 1) producing fruit trees without acquiring any additional land; 2) propagation of a large number of trees in one year instead of two (due to less land required); and 3) trees grown in the pot give the farmer an opportunity to plant them in



*HEP-2 alumni Tojiddin Toshpulatov showing implementation of new technique learned in US (Namangan)*

the orchard at any time of the year as opposed to only in spring (because root environment doesn't change). John Driver was pleased to see this technology in Uzbekistan and gave his further recommendations.

**Improving Agronomic Practices.** Two training programs were conducted during the reporting period: "Best Grape Production Practices" by Andrew Tuebes and "Winter Pruning of Stone Fruits" by Shuhrat Abrorov. Detailed information on participants is presented in Section B4.

**Trellising.** A new order was made to procure over 7,000 posts. Seven types of trellises, including the newly introduced "Lyre" and "T", will be installed in 35 demo plots in newly added locales covering 19.3 ha. of land.

**c. Pest and Disease Management.** A one-page guide on Pest and Disease Management for Grapes was developed based on PERSUAP recommendations (see Annex).

**d. Post-Harvest Storage and Losses.**

**Cold Storage Assessment.** This quarter ALP started a cold storage assessment. This activity was implemented via Unicon-S and assessed the following:

- The effectiveness of forced vacuum cooling and portable forced air-cooling methods
- Precooling benefits to fresh fruit cold chains
- The main obstacles for development and further dissemination of precooling units in existing cold stores
- Ways to improve the cold store sector by implementing precooling systems
- The effect of using sulphur pads on prolonged storage of table grapes

Four cold store owners were provided with sulphur pads that stored grapes and other products (see table below for details):

#	Name	Province	District	Capacity (mt)	Type	HEP03	Products Stored
1	Isokjon Boymatov	Ferghana	Oltiariq	250	air cooled freon	Yes	grapes, persimmons
2	Askaralik Mahkamov			400		Yes	grapes, apricots, apples pears, peaches
3	Rafik Fayziev	Samarkand	Samarkand	400		No	grapes, apricots
4	Azam Azimov			3,000		Yes	all

Preliminary results showed that the newly introduced sulphur pads kept the grapes in excellent shape and prevented moisture losses and rotting. Losses were only 2% compared to 15% when using traditional storage methods. Participating farmers were happy with the results and placed an order with a supplier for 2013. A detailed assessment report will be provided in the beginning of Q2 2013.

**Cold Chain Seminar.** ALP, in collaboration with international experts from the Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA), conducted a seminar targeting Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and potential investors in the Uzbek cold chain. Timed to coincide with AgroFood 2012 Exhibition and Conference (see below), the seminar featured four US specialists presenting industry best practices in design, transport, refrigeration, management and global marketing to enhance profitability. A total of 38 CEOs/Investors, representing one-third of the existing local cold storage capacity and ranging from 50 to 15,000 metric tons, attended the day-long seminar.

**Assistance to AgroFood 2012 Exhibition & Conference.** The Uzbek Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI) requested USAID and ALP to assist and participate in their first agriculture and food related exhibition and conference, AgroFood 2012, held in Tashkent November 28-30. The UCCI Chairman, Dr. Alisher Shaykhov, publicly thanked USAID for its support to the development of the Uzbek agricultural sector, in general, and cold chain, in particular, during his conference opening remarks. ALP partners from the GCCA made presentations on the first day of the conference and attended the exhibition on the second day, making additional contacts in the poultry and meat industries who have interest in cold chain management. The conference and GCCA consultants were interviewed and presented on national TV and radio.

#### e. AgriFirm Production/Marketing Support:



**Fruit Variety Contests.** ALP conducted two variety contests in October covering apples and persimmons with the latter being a first time event for the project. The annual variety contests are held in the harvest season to highlight best farming practices, identify attractive varieties and disseminate information. The events have proven very popular and attract farmers, researchers, processors and local officials to recognize the best fruit produced in the region. USAID-supported variety contests are held for multiple fruit types throughout the harvest season with training

sessions held during the judging process. Thirty-three farmers from Ferghana and Namangan provinces presented their produce. Fruits were judged in three categories: most marketable, most unique and best for processing.

An interesting marketing note from the persimmon variety contest was the presence of Azeri buyers for the Russian market. These buyers reside with local producers in the Ferghana Valley to assure access to produce and sellers and timely market purchases.

The project noted that the persimmon contest conflicted with the cotton harvest season and will avoid this overlap in the future.

## **B.2. Component 2: Public and Private Sector Service Support**

Establishment of Tissue Culture Lab – The project continued process to establish of in-vitro lab at the Shreder Horticulture Research Institute. In December John Driver drafted a list of proposed equipment that will be finalized in Q2.

## **B.3. Component 3: Agro-Processing and Exports**

Farmer Isoqjon from Altyaryk District of Ferghana Province, used the sulphur pads in his shipment to Russia and reported that his grapes survived longer and looked better than previous exports.

## **B.4. Component 4: Training and Human Resource Development (HRD):**

The trainings provided by ALP this quarter included fall grape activities, household processing for women and winter pruning activities. The project initiated the National Exchange Program based on the success of HEP success. Detailed information on each training is provided in the table below.

Province	Type	Name	Grape production techniques (Andrew Teubes)		Household Processing (Marifat Nazarova)		National Exchange Program - 1		Winter Pruning (Shuhrat Abrorov)		Total
			F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
Dates			3 -5 Oct		2-14 Nov		21-22 Nov		13 Dec		
			F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	
Samarkand	WUA	Karshiboy Mirob	2	19							21
	WUA	Hujabuston Suv Tarmogi	0	16							16
	AF	Dilkusho Sifat	9	33							42
	AF	Istiklol MevaSabzovot	1	24							25
Ferghana	NA						0	24			24
	AF	Sulaymonov							0	38	38
Namangan	AF	Turakurgan Sohikorlari			116	4					120
<b>Total - 286 (128 Female, 158 Male)</b>			<b>12</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>286</b>

**Horticultural Exchange Program (HEP). HEP-04** was held from September 19 to October 15, 2012 in California. The main theme of HEP04 was “Best Production Practices for Grapes” and included a total of 10 participants; five from the public sector and five from the private sector. Public sector attendees included members of the Shreder Horticultural Research Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (MAWR). All of the private sector participants were grape producers. HEP04 provided delegates exposure to California’s table grape and raisin industries along



*Josh Chase (Foundation Plant Services) demonstrating in-vitro lab capacities (California)*

with leading academic and practical experts. Virtually all aspects of grape preparation, cultivation, harvesting, and processing were covered during the three-week visit (one week each in Fresno, Davis and Napa areas). Visits and seminars were highly interactive with participants receiving hands-on experience and freedom to ask many questions.

**National Exchange Program (NEP).** Inspired by the impact of the international Horticultural Exchange Program (HEP), ALP organized a National Exchange Program (NEP) to replicate and extend this success within Uzbekistan. The first national study tour, from November 21-22, focused on winter preparations relevant to horticulturalists. A total of 24 people exchanged knowledge and experience during NEP01 including representatives of partner organizations from Samarkand and Namangan provinces. Visitors to Ferghana Province learned best practices in post-harvest handling and storage, as well as winter pruning of fruit trees and grape vines. Hosting Ferghana farmers included previous HEP participants who demonstrated techniques learned in the United States and adapted to local conditions.



*HEP-4 alumnus Haydarov demonstrating grape winter storage technique (on the vine) (Ferghana)*

## **C. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

### **C.1. Monitoring.**

Below is a list of activities completed during the first quarter of 2013. All mitigation measures that were envisioned were followed and obeyed and no adverse effects from the activities were recorded.

1. Category 1 – No risk  
Apple and Persimmon Variety Contests - completed.  
ALP-33: CEO/Investor cold chain training - Category 1 (no risk), completed. The consultants covered environmental concerns in their presentations.  
ALP-30: Assessment of irrigation and drainage networks at targeted districts of Samarkand, Namangan and Ferghana provinces, partly completed: consultants visited targeted districts and conducted an assessment of local water systems, and prioritized all irrigation and drainage networks that need rehabilitation.  
ALP-32: Design development a tissue culture lab for Shreder Institute, and train Institute's staff on operation and maintenance of tissue culture lab, completed: Environmental issues were addressed during the training.
2. Category 2 - No significant risk of negative environmental impact, with environmental issues addressed by the host owner/operators and ALP staff  
ALP-28: HEP04 Grape Best Practices exchange visit, completed  
ALP-34: The first National Exchange Program, completed
3. Category 3 – Possible risks to be mitigated with measures to limit impact  
ALP-31: Pre-cooling assessment, completed.

### **C.2. Mitigation.**

AgLinks Plus promotes environmentally friendly agrotechnologies and techniques to mitigate possible adverse impact of agricultural activities. The proper use of agrochemicals as a means for pest and disease control in orchards is always on the project agenda. The basis for the mitigation of potential negative environmental impact of agrochemicals use is the PERSUAP and pest and disease control manual published by the project in cooperation with the National Plant Protection Institute. In every single pest and disease control training program a special session is reserved for the safe use of agrochemicals. Trainers always highlight this key aspect. New project activities, such as using pheromone traps for optimal scheduling of chemicals application, also helps to mitigate undesirable environmental side effects. Farmers will know exactly when to apply chemicals and how much to apply, instead of using them blindly. Another activity of the project, promoting drip irrigation systems, is also directly linked to improving environmental issues of irrigated agriculture through the mitigation of water loss and water erosion of arable lands.

### **C.3. Issue(s).**

No other major issues were identified during this quarter.

## **ANNEXES**

1 - Monthly Report for October 2012

2 - Monthly Report for December 2012

3 – One-Pager Technical Handout – Grape PERSUAP

**USAID AgLinks Plus Project**  
Monthly Report #9 – October 2012

Contract # EDH-I-00-05-00004-00  
TO # AID-176-TO-11-00002-00

**ADMINISTRATION.** The US Ambassador to Uzbekistan, George Krol, visited an ALP field site consisting of a CoolBot cold storage on 11th October. The Ambassador's visit coincided with the persimmon and pomegranate harvest season and he witnessed the multiple varieties available on the Uzbek marketplace. ALP staff met with 3 representatives of USAID's Regional Export Cooperation (REC) project on 19th October. The meetings included discussions of possible collaborative activities with the REC team keenly interested in ALP's legal status, the Uzbek registration process and banking procedures. A new IT system was installed and introductory training provided on DAI's proprietary Technical and Administrative Management Information System (TAMIS). At the end of the month ALP staff also attended a training session at USAID held by the USAID Regional Communications Advisor, Michelle Blau, on targeting public outreach.

Collaboration continued to deepen this month between ALP and the German development assistance agency (GIZ) who informed the project of final agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investment and Trade (MFERIT) to install 3 intensive orchard demonstration plots in Surkhandarya and Khorezm provinces and Karakalpakstan. GIZ staff will base their demonstration plots on the ALP model for and experience with advanced irrigation systems for intensive orchards. ALP shared contacts of local suppliers of trellises, saplings and irrigation systems while GIZ requested access to ALP technical staff to assist them with the technical specifications for their demonstration plots. Joint site visits of GIZ and ALP technical staff will be organized in mid-November beginning with the ALP irrigation engineer to assist in site design and technical specifications. A JICA delegation also visited the ALP advanced irrigation sites installed at Shreder Horticultural Institute's Tashkent main office and Ferghana branch.

**TECHNICAL.** October was characterized by final harvest related activities including variety contests and the beginning of collection of 2012 horticultural season results.

**Horticultural Exchange Program (HEP).** The 4th and final FY 2012 quarterly HEP was held from 19 September to 15 October 2012 in California. The main theme of HEP04 was "Best Production Practices for Grapes" and included a total of 10 participants; 5 from the public sector and 5 from the private sector. Public sector attendees included members of the Shreder Horticultural Research Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (MAWR). All of the private sector participants were grape producers.



*HEP04 Participants Examine Field Dried Grapes (raisins)*

HEP04 provided delegates exposure to California's table grape and raisin industries along with leading academic and practical experts. Virtually all aspects of grape preparation, cultivation, harvesting, and processing were covered during the 3 week visit (one week each in Fresno, Davis and Napa areas). Visits and seminars were highly interactive with participants receiving hands-on experience and freedom to ask lots of questions.

**Fruit Variety Contests.** ALP conducted 2 Variety Contests in October covering apples and persimmons with the latter being a first time event for the project. The annual variety contests are held in the harvest season to highlight best farming practices, identify attractive varieties and disseminate information. The events have proven very popular and attract farmers, researchers,

processors and local officials to recognize the best fruit produced in the region. USAID supported variety contests are held for multiple fruit types throughout the harvest season with training sessions held during the judging process. Fruits are judged by a panel of local horticultural experts in 3 categories: processing, uniqueness, and most marketable.

An interesting marketing note from the persimmon variety contest was the presence of Azeri buyers for the Russian market.

These buyers reside with local producers in the Ferghana Valley to assure access to produce, make personal connections and time market purchases. Another note from the inaugural persimmon contest is to schedule subsequent contests to avoid overlap with the cotton harvest at this time of year.

#	Fruit	Date	Venue	Number of participants	Province	Districts	Varieties presented
1	Apple	12-Oct-12	Shreder Institute branch	20	Samarkand	Samarkand Payarik Taylak	13
2	Persimmon	16-Oct-12	Turakurgan AF	22	Namangan	Turakurgan Buramatut Kurgoncha	9

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.** Initial Environmental Screenings (IES) were produced for each of 4 major activities either completed or underway in October 2012. All mitigation measures outlined in the respective IES documents were followed with no significant impacts recorded. Category 1 (no risk) was identified for both the Apple and Persimmon Variety Contests. The HEP04 Grape Best Practices exchange visit was deemed Category 2 (no significant risk, measures to improve environmental impact) and training session content was fully consistent with the high environmental standards practiced in California. The pre-cooling assessment (ALP-31) was judged Category 3 (possible impact but can be mitigated). This activity is still underway and the final report will include a thorough accounting of any potential environmental impacts and how best to reduce them.



*Persimmon Variety Contest – Winners & Judges*

**NEXT MONTH.** The following major activities are anticipated for November 2012:

- 1st week – conduct household processing training for women;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> week – disseminate request for nominees for HEP05 among partners;
- 3rd week – provide trellis installation consultation to farmers; analyze annual survey data
- 4<sup>th</sup> week – conduct national exchange program (grapes) - Samarkand to Ferghana Valley

**USAID AgLinks Plus Project**

Monthly Report #10 – November 2012

Contract # EDH-I-00-05-00004-00

TO # AID-176-TO-11-00002-00

**ADMINISTRATION.** November marked the start of salary payments to local staff on bank requested debit (plastic) cards which are only convertible to cash at a 20% premium effectively reducing purchasing power. Two support staff tendered their resignations; the IT manager (immediately) and an office assistant/driver (year's end). Project staff met with a UNDP team designing a proposal to foster regional cooperation and coordination in Central Asia. ALP staff shared ideas with the design team and provided contact information for USAID's Regional Economic Cooperation (REC) project and suggested UNDP contact them for additional input. The ALP engineer visited the prospective fruit tree demonstration plots planned by GIZ in 2 non-ALP provinces at the latter's request and will assist the German project with advanced irrigation designs.

USAID/CAR visitors to ALP in November included the Regional Mission Director (acting)/Regional Legal Advisor, a Program Development Officer from the Program office and the Director of the Economic Development Office. The DAI Home Office formally announced a reorganization from a technical to geographic structure with ALP now in the "Asia Region" and supported by a Home Office (HO) "Project Delivery Team" consisting of a Project Team Director, a Project Manager and a Project Associate. The Home Office will reassign its current project team leaders, managers and associates to new teams in December with the new structure taking effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

**TECHNICAL.** November was characterized by preparations for the onset of winter including a farmer exchange program at the national level, deepening of support to the nascent cold chain in Uzbekistan and collaboration with the local Chamber of Commerce on their first agriculture and food conference.



Farmer Abdvohid Mirzajonov demonstrates advanced grape pruning methods (Ferghana Province) Photo: Shuhrat Abrorov

**National Exchange Program (NEP).** Inspired by the impact of the international Horticultural Exchange Program (HEP), ALP organized a National Exchange Program (NEP) to replicate and extend this success within Uzbekistan. The first national study tour, from 21 to 22 November, focused on winter preparations relevant to horticulturalists. A total of 24 people exchanged knowledge and experience during NEP01 including representatives of partner organizations from Samarkand and Namangan provinces. Visitors to Fergana Province learned best practices in post-harvest handling and storage, as well as winter pruning of fruit trees and grape vines. Hosting Ferghana farmers included previous HEP participants who demonstrated techniques learned in the United States and adapted to local conditions.

**Horticultural Exchange Program (HEP) 05.** The participant selection process for the HEP05 program was underway throughout this month. A total of 10 finalists and 2 alternates were identified from a total of 37 applicants sourced from the three HEP program stakeholders; USAID, the Ministry of Agricultural and Water Resources (MAWR) and ALP. One representative from each of these stakeholders comprised the panel which reviewed and scored the applicants with 18 nominees called for interviews. Finalists represented the MAWR (2), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1), Agricultural Researchers (2) and Farmers (5); all of the latter are owner/operators of intensive orchards or vineyards. ALP staff began collection, verification and submission of the required documents to be uploaded to the TraiNet/Visa Compliance System (VCS) to obtain US J-1 visas. HEP05 is scheduled from January 17 to February 10, 2013 and will focus on "Intensive Orchards and Vineyards".

**Cold Chain Seminar.** ALP, in collaboration with international experts from the Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA), conducted a seminar targeted to Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and potential investors in the Uzbek cold chain. Timed to coincide with AgroFood 2012 (see below) the seminar featured four US specialists presenting industry best practices in design, transport, refrigeration, management and global marketing to enhance profitability. A total of 38 CEOs/Investors, representing one-third of the existing local cold storage capacity and ranging from 50 to 15,000 metric tons, attended the day-long seminar.



Pat Hughes (GCCA) presents cold chain industry best practices (Tashkent) Photo: Sunnat Jalalov

**Assistance to AgroFood 2012 Exhibition & Conference.** The Uzbek Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI) requested USAID and ALP to assist and participate in their first agriculture and food related exhibition and conference, AgroFood 2012, held in Tashkent from 28 to 30 November. The UCCI Chairman, Dr. Alisher Shaykhov, publicly thanked USAID for its support to the development of the Uzbek agricultural sector, in general, and cold chain, in particular, during his conference opening remarks. ALP partners from the GCCA made presentations on Day1 of the conference and attended the exhibition on Day 2, making additional contacts in the poultry and meat industries with interests in cold chain management. The conference and GCCA consultants were interviewed and presented on national TV and radio.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.** Initial Environmental Screenings (IES) were produced for two major activities completed in November 2012. All mitigation measures outlined in the respective IES documents were followed with no significant impacts recorded. Category 1 (no risk) was identified for the CEO/Investor cold chain training (ALP-33) and the consultants covered environmental concerns in their presentations. The first National Exchange Program (ALP-34) was deemed a Category 2 (no significant risk, measures to improve environmental impact) with environmental issues addressed by the host owner/operators and ALP staff.

**NEXT MONTH.** The following major activities are anticipated for December 2012:

- 1<sup>st</sup> week – GCCA consultants make technical assistance site visits to individual cold stores.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> week – Tissue culture consultant finalizes design; HEP05 participants to Trainet/VCS.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> week – Winter pruning training in Ferghana Province; identify potential expansion sites.
- 4<sup>th</sup> week - Identify potential expansion partners and sites in Samarkand Province.

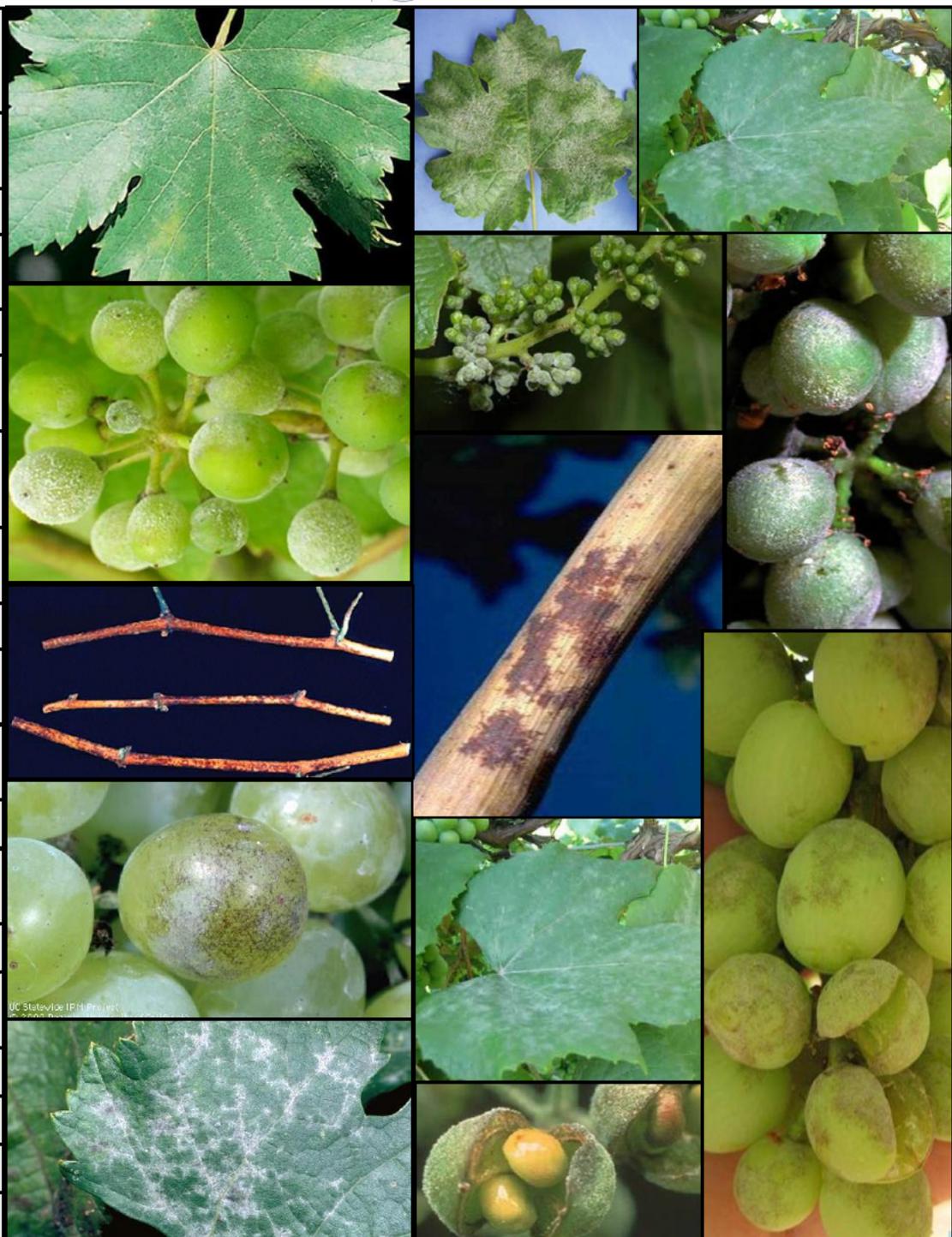
# ТОҚ ЗАРАКУНАНДАЛАРИГА ҚАРШИ КУРАШ ЧОРАЛАРИ!



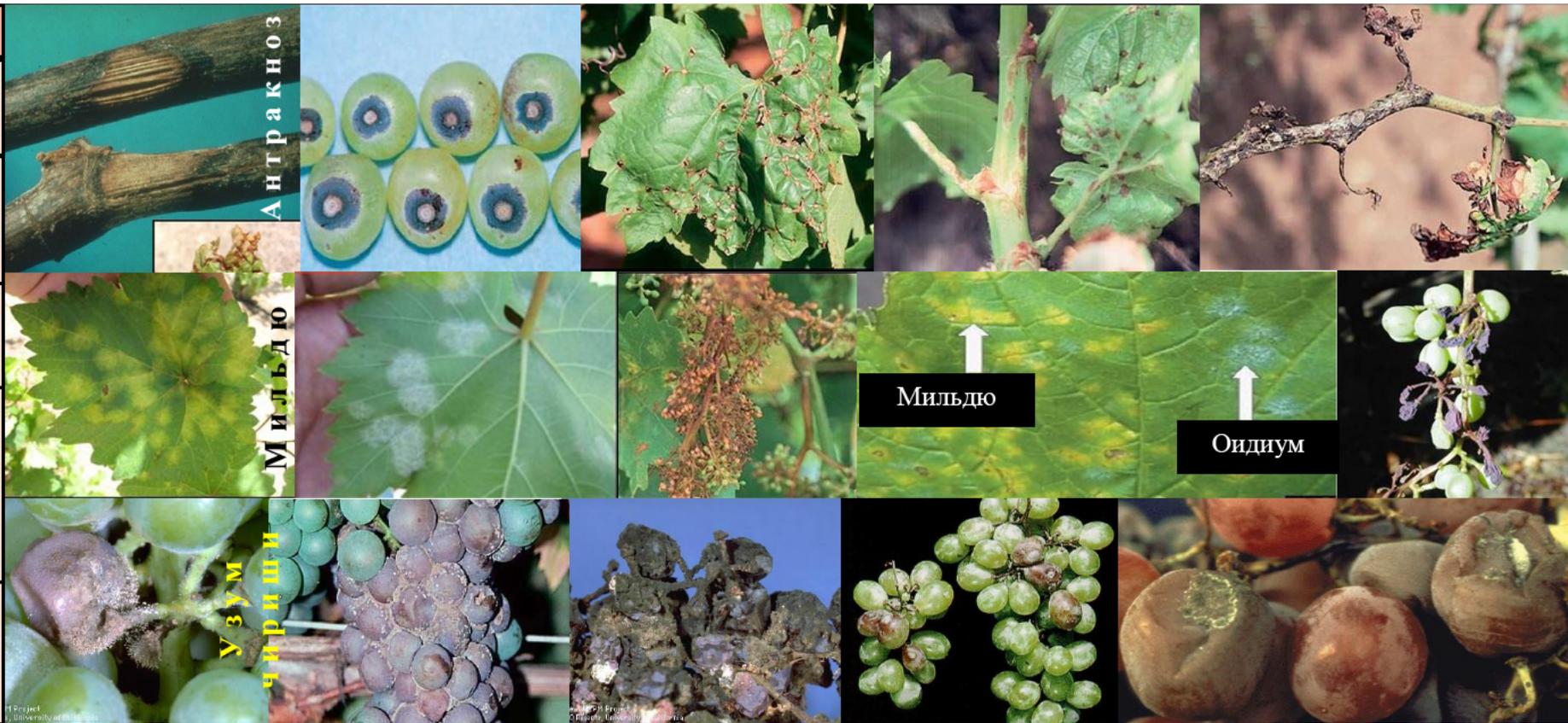
**USAID**  
AMERIKA XALQIDAN

**O'ZBEKISTON**

	Муддати	Препарат Контакт (кг) Системали (ст)	Кўриниши	Сарфи кг/л	Сув сарфи литр
<b>Оидум (ун шудринг, кул, шўр)</b>	Куртак бўртишидан 2-3 ҳафта олдин	ИСО (кг)	Сув б/н пуркаш	50	500
	2-3 см ўсганда	Олтингугурт (кг)	Чанглатиш	15	-
		Намланувчи Олтингугурт (кг)	Сув билан пуркаш	3, камида	500
	+14 кундан кейин	Олтингугурт (кг)	Чанглатиш	15	-
		Намланувчи Олтингугурт (кг)	Сув билан пуркаш	3, камида	500
	+14 кундан кейин Фақат ёнгарчилик/намгарчилик узок давом этганда	<b>Строби</b> , Квадрис Колосаль, Пиларкур	Пуркаш	0.2, 0.8 0.15, 0.15	500
	Гуллаш бошланганда	<b>Строби</b> , Квадрис Колосаль, ТопсинМ	Пуркаш	0.2, 0.8 0.15, 1.0	500
	Узум доналари мошдек катталikka етганда	Олтингугурт (кг)	Чанглатиш	30	-
		Намланувчи Олтингугурт (кг)	Сув б/н пуркаш	3, камида	800
	Узум доналари юмшоклашишида	<b>Броадер</b> <i>Ихтиёрий. Қасаллик кўп бўлганда ишлов берилмади.</i>	Пуркаш	0.3	800
Теримдан кейин	Олтингугурт (кг)	Чанглатиш	30	-	
	Намланувчи Олтингугурт (кг)	Сув билан пуркаш	3, камида	500	
<b>Антракноз</b>	Кесиш вақтида	Зарарланган новда ва шохларни кесиб ташланг.			
	Куртак бўртишидан 2-3 ҳафта олдин	ИСО (кг)	Сув б/н пуркаш	50	500
	10 см ўсганда	Бордо Суюқлиги		1 %	500
		Мис купароси		0.5 %	500
	+14 кундан кейин	Бордо Суюқлиги		1 %	500
Мис купароси		0.5 %	500		



Мильдю		
Сув сарфи литр	500	500
Сарфи кг/л	0.2, 0.8 0.15, 0.15	0.2, 0.8 0.15, 0.15
Кўри-ниши	Пуркаш	Пуркаш
Препарат Контакт (кг) Системали (ст)	Строби, Квадрис Колосаль, Пиларкур (ст)	Строби, Квадрис Колосаль, Пиларкур (ст)
Муддати	Куртак бўртгаш вақтида	Тўлик гуллаганда



**Унсимон қуртлар!**  
Чумолилар уларни фойдали хашоротлардан ҳимоя қилиб янги жойларга ташиб улардан чиқадиган суоқлик ейдди. Чумоли йўқ қилганда унсимон қуртларни фойдали хашоротлар назорат қилади. Бунинг учун тиним давридан кейин токларга инсектицидларни пуркамаслик зарур. Акс ҳолда фойдали хашоротлар ўлади ва унсимон қуртлар кўпайиб кетади.



**У.чириши-гуллаш ва 2-марта +14 кунда системали фунгицид сепинг.** Шингил тўлишидан, яъни фунгицид узум доналарини яхши қоплайдиган вақтида ва теримдан 2-3 ҳафта олдин яна сепинг.

Узум шингилхўри тухумини хали гуллаб улгурмаган ток гулига кўяди ва кейинчалик қурт ривожланаётган узум ғурасини ичидан ейдди. Мавсум давомида тухумини шингил бандидан топиш мумкин. Инсектицид сепилмаса фойдали хашоротлар уларни назорат қилади.

Галл бактериал касаллик бўлиб зарарланган ток қаламчаси орқали юқади. Галл одатда қишнинг совуқ температурасидан сўнг ток танасида ҳосил бўлган ёриқларда баҳор ва ёз ойларида ўсади. Бунга қарши курашишнинг хожати йўқ, чунки у токка катта зарар етказмайди.