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| Title of activity: | Determining the Pest status of rice in Uganda |
| Abstract (250 words): | With support from USAID/COMPETE, a Rice Pests’ surveillance exercise was conducted in Eastern, Central, Northern and Western Uganda, to come up with a Pests List for Rice. The pests list was to be uploaded into the East African Pest Information Committee (EAPIC) website, so as to facilitate trade through a harmonized Rice Pest Risk Analysis for East Africa. This initiative is aimed at developing official, internet-accessible, country specific and regional pests reporting methods, to support Sanitary and Phytosanitary requirements for East Africa. The objective of this exercise was to conduct **pest surveillance for priority crops** in the East African Region  To establish existing pests of rice in the country, prominent rice farms were targeted, using a preliminary list of pests as a checklist. The preliminary list was a combination of pests listed in the CABI Crop Protection Compendium, 2007, from a review of available literature, discussions with scientists from National Crop Resources Research Institute-Namulonge (NaCRRI), rice farmers and district production staff.  While in the field, suspected diseased rice plants, insects, and soil were collected and sent to the National Diagnostic Laboratory for proper identification. The list of pests and diseases on the checklist was later verified against pests and diseases collections from the field, and listed |
| Indicate the type of surveillance conducted whether General or Specific (i.e. Pest, Commodity / Host, Random, or Targeted survey): | Commodity surveillance targeting general pest list of rice |
| Summarize the reason for taking the surveillance action: | To establish existing pests of rice in the country |
| Summarize the immediate benefit, result or outcome of the surveillance action: | Pest status of rice documented to help harmonize phytosanitary measures for the movement of rice grain in the East Africa Region |
| Provide a narrative of your country’s best practice in pest surveillance case: | |
| **Stakeholder involved**  -National research organization  -Farmers/producers,  - Laboratory diagnosticians  -staff of National Plant protection Organization  -Extension staff of the local government  **Sources of information**   * Crop Protection compendium * Internet resources * Country reports on rice * JICA /FAO reports * Unpublished field reports * National rice development strategy reports * Previous field reports on rice   **Management /dissemination of information**   * Surveillance report was verified using the diagnostic laboratory * The reported pest list fed into the East Africa Information committee (EAPIC) portal * Soft copies maintained in the NPPO and well as hard copies for further reference   **Survey method**   1. General surveillance targeting rice as a commodity 2. Site specific surveys in the fields 3. While on the farms, diseased rice plants, insects, and soil were collected and sent to the National Diagnostic Laboratory at Namalere for proper identification.   **Pest diagnostic Support**  The verification of pest specimens was done at the Central MAAIF diagnostic Laboratory for pest identification.  Record keeping  The report including the list of pests on rice and other information was uploaded in the EAPIC portal, while the hard copy is kept in the MAAIF data base repository.  **Financing**  The funds were sourced from USAID/COMPETE a project that supports safe grain trade in East and Southern Africa.  Challenges faced and how they were overcome   1. The funds were not enough to cover all the rice growing areas but the survey team made sure to select a representative sample of the rice growing regions in the country. Further, collaboration with other stakeholders working on rice provided valuable support. 2. Infrastructure challenges especially poor roads and ill-equipped diagnostic laboratory. To overcome the challenges, expert advice was sought from the university and well established government laboratory. 3. Technical personnel not well in disease/pest identification are still a challenge to date but collaboration with CABI, FERA and COPE would be of help.   The survey was supported by the government with in kind contribution of vehicles. Diagnostic facilities and computer facilities with internet connectivity.  The overall outcome of the survey is a pest list for rice including bacteria, fungi, insects, nematodes etc that help to carry out pest risk analysis and facilitation of trade. | |
| If you wish to provide links or attachments in support of the best practice case provided please list their titles below: | |
| . NPPO report Pests and Diseases of Rice In Uganda | |