Information to Collect for
Lead Training Events (PMTF)

Name or Subject of Training: Budding Training for Kerman/Peters “California Cultivar”

Date(s) of Training: June 7, 2015

Location: DAIL Urdukhan Research Farm – In coordination with PHDTP (Perennia Horticulture Development Transition Project)

Summary Description:
After 1 year of planning with Dr. Louise Ferguson, Herat DAIL and AAEP organized a budding training with the objective of introducing improved pistachio cultivars to the Regional Government Research Farm.
Dr. Ferguson assisted in the process of acquiring Kerman and Peters budwood from pistachio farmers in California, USA. With approval and documentation from GoIRA and certification from the USDA the program brought 60 scions into Afghanistan.
Dr. Ferguson and AAEP’s Mohammad Shah Rauf led the activity with a group of advanced pistachio growers/budders.

Participants Description:
13 participants including: DAIL DAIL Ext., Farmers, NGO ag specialists, and 1 HUFA professor, 1 from Badghis DAIL.

The training was not to teach budding, rather to execute successful buds onto native rootstock. Participants were able to ask questions and participate in classroom discussion

Trainers:
Dr. Louise Ferguson, Extension Specialist, UC Davis
Mohammad Shah Rauf, Regional Extension Officer, AAEP

Rationale for Training: (Why did we sponsor this training? What Goal of AAEP II does it connect to?)

The training has been a year in the making. Although local/native varieties are excellent, farmers who want to enter the international market will need to have choices in the cultivar they are growing. Kerman is an internationally popular cultivar however it is rare in Afghanistan. Establishing “mother trees” at the DAIL Research Centers will provide farmers a source of budwood.

Goal: Specific objectives 1 and 2 (build capacity and improve income generation)
Value of Training: (What did the participants learn? How will they apply it?)
The participants were all experienced in budding. They shared their expertise to establish a “seed bank” at the DAIL Research Farm. If/when the buds emerge, DAIL’s Urdukhan Farm Pistachio Orchard will be an asset to Extension Workers as they provide budwood to farmers. There is no “government certified” Kerman budwood in the region. Extension workers and farmers can also use the same budding techniques on quality local cultivars.

Topics Covered:
Budding:
- Time of year
- Methods
- Environmental considerations (wind, heat, water, soil structure)
- Growth/fruited characteristics
- Nurseries (direct seeding vs. pots)
- Value of native rootstock
- Field work – w/ participants

*Attach 4 good photographs and email to AAEP II Communications Director within 2 to 3 days after event.*