

Welcome

**Mrs. Bertken De Ledee
and
Mr. Michiel Bourgondien**

Presentation to AGRITERRA

22/11/2008

**Consortium of Indian Farmers
Associations
New Delhi; India**

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CIFA in 2008

- CIFA as an organisation came into existence in 2003, registered in 2006
- Conducted 4 National Farmers Conferences until now; 5th Conclave to be held in December 2008
- CIFA presently in 5 states; is expanding to another four states in 2008

Present structure of CIF

Number of States	4	AP; Karnataka; Tamilnadu; Pondicherry and Madhya Pradesh
New States taken up in 2008	4	Gujarat; Rajasthan; Chattisgarh Punjab and Haryana
Commodities being dealt actively	4	Paddy; Pulses; Sugar cane and Horticulture
Commodities taken up this year	3	Wheat ; Cotton; Oil seeds
State offices being opened this year	3	Karnataka; Tamilnadu and Punjab

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Activities Taken up from 2008 April

Commodity Associations

- State level Sugar cane Commodity activities in Tamilnadu; Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh
- Paddy Commodity Association activities in A.P; Karnataka; Tamilnadu and Punjab ;
- Pulses Commodity Association activities in Karnataka, A.P; Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Madhya Pradesh;
- State level Wheat Commodity Association Punjab and Madhya Pradesh;

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Policy and Advocacy

- CIFA involved in protracted struggle at various levels for enhancement of MSP for Paddy; successful to an extent with an increase of Rs. 100/-
- CIFA instrumental in evolving Loan waiver for farmers; lobbied in various forums
- CIFA organized interactive session with Parliament Member Farmers Forum
- CIFA delegation met Ministers and officials in the Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce and others in GOI on various agri related issues
- CIFA prepared Status papers on 5 commodities

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Policy and Advocacy

- CIFA regularly participated in the deliberations organized by Planning Commission, NABARD; WB; ICAR etc.
- The 5th National Farmers Conclave is scheduled for December 2008
- CIFA's interaction with Scientific community and institutions
- CIFA's activities with Industry; Agro processing and Retail chains

Past achievements

- CIFA instrumental in reducing the interest rate for agricultural credit to 7 %
- Excise Duty on Tractors reduced from 16 % to 0 % in three phases.
- CIFA EC members are part of various GOI committees on Agriculture (Biotechnology committee; 11th Five year plan; BIS; NIRD; Planning Commission; ICAR

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Trainings conducted

- South Indian Pulses Farmers technical workshop during October 08 in Gulbarga of Karnataka
- Sugar cane associations meeting in Chittoor of A.P for the states of Tamilnadu; Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- Wheat and Paddy commodity meeting in Madhya Pradesh during October 08 in Hoshangabad
- Paddy commodity Associations meeting in Karnataka in October 08;
- Online commodity trading workshops held in AP; Tamilnadu and Pondichery
- Technology Transfer Training on Wheat in Maharastra and Madhya Pradesh
- Horticulture workshop (for banana) in Salem of Tamilnadu
- Leadership trainings in Karnataka
- MOU between CIFA and MANAGE (Ministry of Agriculture) for trainings to ATMA groups (WB Programme) is in advanced stage; will fructify in a month

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Market Linkages:

- Coca cola agreed to buy Mangoes from Mango Farmers of Tamilnadu from the areas of Vellore and Krishnagiri abetting Chittoor of AP.
- Cotton farmers marketing linkage programme with *Marks and Spencer* is in advanced stage in Andhra Pradesh
- Vegetable Farmers linkage with retail chains will be taken up in Punjab and Haryana abetting Delhi; talks with *MORE* are in progress.
- Market yard – Industry linkage being planned in AP for Paddy and Cotton
- Turmeric and Chillee Farmers linking to Commodity Online trading is in progress; Cooperative societies are being made

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Publications; Magazine & Website:

- Published 4books in 2008;
 - *Pepper and its problems*
 - *ICAR and its effectiveness*
 - *Pulses*
 - *Horns of Dilemma*
 - *Why weaker sections are ignored*
- Website revamped; professionals inducted;
- Magazine – *Agro Policy & Advocacy* published monthly