

Persimmon Seminar in Collaboration with Black Sea Agricultural Research Institute

The persimmon seminar for agricultural engineers was conducted in Trabzon on January 21, 2010. Four counterparts and two staffs in charge of extension areas in Trabzon participated in the seminar. Dr. Mustafa AKBULUT of Black Sea Agricultural Research Institute was invited by the Project and he gave lecture to the participants. After the classroom lecture, the participants had practice in pruning of persimmon in Kuruçam under the guidance of the researcher.

In the lecture, Dr. AKBULUT explained the production statistics of persimmon in the world and in Turkey, major varieties and characteristics of persimmon, production of seedlings and general information of persimmon cultivation. The Research Institute certified six varieties in 2009; Akbulut, Ayder, İrem, Kaplan, Onur and Yeşilirmak and recommends these varieties for the cultivation in Black Sea region. After this general



information, he lectured practical techniques of pruning, which is one of important issues for the management. The participants learned pruning theory and method by using schematic pictures of branches by various growing stages.



Demonstration of pruning by Dr. AKBULUT

Dr. AKBULUT and the participants moved to Kuruçam, one of the model areas, after the lecture. There are persimmon trees which were planted 2 years ago under the support of the Project. As winter is the right season for pruning persimmon trees, the practice was conducted by using the trees. The researcher explained and showed how to prune the persimmon trees at this stage; which branches should be cut, which branched should be remained and the reasons. After the demonstration, every participant and a farmer tried to prune the persimmon trees and learned how to prune them through the exercise.



Pruning practice in the persimmon field

In this special seminar, the participants could learn persimmon cultivation techniques, especially pruning, through the cooperation of the Research Institute. The participants will teach the techniques which were learned in the seminar to other agriculture staffs and farmers concerning to the Project. This seminar was practical and effective for the agricultural engineers to improve their knowledge and also for dissemination of knowledge in the Research Institutes to people who actually demand the knowledge.