

## SEPALI AND FARMERS MAKE GREAT STRIDES WITH SILKWORM TREE FARMING

5<sup>th</sup> Edition

**SEPALI newsletter:**  
Organization of Silk Producers

August 2011  
English

### Progress from the Month of August:



*The SEPALI team meets with  
Ambodimangatelo*

The meeting last 3 hours and by the end of the meeting, 13 attendees decided to join to SEPALI project. The election of the group leader, Rastefanoely, was accomplished at the same time. The Ambodimangatelo group is SEPALI's 6<sup>th</sup> association. 1000 plastic pots were already filled with rich black soil when the SEPALI team visited this new community. Each new member received 250 plastic seedling containers. The first four registered members got 1000 talandoa seedlings from SEPALI.

In an effort to continue spreading awareness about the silk program, the SEPALI team represented by Mamy, Kerry, and Lalaina arranged a meeting with the Ambodimangatelo community on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. 16 farmers attended the meeting where Mamy explained the procedures of collaboration with SEPALI and answering several questions posed by the new group.



*Nursery of Ambodimangatelo*

### NEWS ABOUT THE TREE FARMING:

The rice farming work period is almost over in all the communities where SEPALI is working, and many members are ready to continue planting trees. We have noticed an important improvement in Ambinanitelo, Marovovonana and in Ambodivoangy. The seeds that we sowed in Ambalamahogo two months ago are germinating and we hope that all new members who want to join to SEPALI will have plenty of seedlings available for transplantation. At the SEPALI demonstration site in Manambia, 40,000 seeds are germinating and we hope that those new seedlings will be sufficient to support 150 new members in the coming months.

### NEW FARMER SETS UP A SUCCESSFUL NURSERY



*Damacien from Ambinanitelo  
with his new nursery*



*Zanamaho, from Ambinanitelo  
working with her family members*



*Bemihavitra Roger from  
Ambinanitelo, making an effort to  
meet his goal of 250 seedlings*

2500 additional seedlings must be provided by SEPALI to the current farmers in order for them to reach the October 15<sup>th</sup> membership deadline.



*TMA members visiting Marivelo's land in Ambodivoangy*

Marivelo's land in Ambodivoangy looks wonderful. She already has 360 mature trees ready to use for the rearing experiment that SEPALI will start next month when the chrysallids are ready to emerge. Marivelo began rearing larvae in June 2011, and continues to participate in trainings.



*Picture of Juvence harvesting talandoha seeds, Marovovonana*

This land belongs to Henri Mani, leader of the FTTFA group in Ambodivoangy. 600 seedlings have been planted on this land since June 2011. If all goes well, Mani should be able to start his first rearing trail in September 2012. The talandoha tree one of the fastest growing species in the region.



*Newly planted Talandoha seedlings*



*Village of Ambohisoa, Marovovonana*

Ambohisoa, Marovovonana is the community where SEPALI has the most motivated group. This group is well organized; all members scheduled their work with SEPALI every Thursday. So far, 5 members have finished planting all 250 trees on their land and the rest of the members are still in the nursery transplanting process. 20 new members are hoping to join this group by December.

#### For the Reader:

Dear readers, this 5<sup>th</sup> edition of SEPALI newsletter is in recognition of the effort made by the newly registered members in order to meet their objectives before the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

I would like to thank all SEPALI partners who donated to allow us to make tee-shirts. The shirts have been very motivational and will be distributed to the farmers who finish planting all 250 trees.

#### New Offices for SEPALI:

In order to strengthen the relationship between SEPALI and its interested members, SEPALI has decided to rent houses in the communities that we work in most often: Ambinanitelo and Ambodivoangy. SEPALI is still looking for a house to rent in Ambohisoa, Marovovonana. The new houses will serve at local offices for the SEPALI team and will be a consistent meeting place for our members. The houses also provide the addition benefit of allowing the SEPALI team to stay in the field for longer periods of time.



*SEPALI office in Ambinanitelo*



*SEPALI office in Ambodivoangy*