



# Quarantine E-news

## Wanted Dead or Alive



Cane toad (*Bufo marinus*) brought into the office by a member of the public

## How are our Exports going?



At present there is laid back in papaya and breadfruit (*off season*). The Tahitian lime are exported every fortnight and a container of taro every month.

“We indeed are sustaining our markets”

**COMPLY & KEEP IT GOING**

## Samoa Quarantine Service

### Quarantine talks SPS

A workshop on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) / Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreements was hosted by SQS in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce Industry and labor and Ministry Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The national workshop was the first of its kind, organized at the request of Samoa under the assistance from the World Trade Organisation consultant, Mr. Erik Wijkstrom. The workshop provided an overview of both agreements.

SPS Agreement is essentially about *health* and *international trade*. It recognizes the need for countries to protect themselves from the risks posed by the entry of pests and diseases as a result of expansion and popularity of international



Participants for the SPS/TBT Samoa Workshop

trade and travel and also seeks to minimize any negative effects of SPS measures on trade. The TBT Agreement on the other end seeks to ensure that standards



and regulations do not create unnecessary barriers to trade. It seeks to create a balance in using measures to achieve the objectives (e.g. human, animal or plant life or health) and preventing unnecessary trade barriers.

Employees from relevant government departments were invited to participate in this event with plans for another workshop in 2011 targeting the stakeholders and more participation from relevant public servants.

### Pesticides in the region: First roundtable sub-regional meeting for Pesticide Regulation

The two day meeting was hosted by SPC with the technical assistance from FAO. The regional workshop was a regional initiative for the five participating countries (Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Samoa) to develop recommendations for a standardized pesticide regulation for the region to increase the capacity to manage the risks/uses of pesticides. Moreover, to discuss

opportunities for alternatives to pesticides and to provide awareness and communication activities for the decision makers and people at the grass root level.

This meeting was a stepping stone for the project in designing a way forward from the issues that needs to be implemented at the regional and na-

tional level.. The FAO sub regional representative commented on the importance of the work done at the national level concerning Pesticides and assure everyone that “ we cannot turn something into pure organic overnight...and in ensuring that we do not tie ourselves with chemicals as it takes awhile to adjust”.

