

## CIAT-News - April 2006 Issue: 23

A Newsletter from <http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/>

Recent Products and Developments at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture

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In this Issue:

1. Aid for Seed Security--Advice for Practitioners
2. Managing the Whitefly *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* in String and Field Beans
3. Release of the Most-Detailed Map of the World's Rivers
4. International Course on Remote Sensing

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1. Aid for Seed Security--Advice for Practitioners

These ten Practice Briefs offer advice on how to sustain and strengthen seed systems during disaster response and recovery periods. Up-to-date technical information addresses issues such as introducing new varieties, protecting agrobiodiversity, and exploiting market opportunities during periods of acute and chronic stress. Specific aid-response tools are also offered, including methods for assessing seed system security, guidelines for learning-focused evaluations, and checklists to ensure quality in seed-aid proposal development. The briefs were prepared by CIAT, and Catholic Relief Services (CRS), with CARE-Norway.

[http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/africa/practice\\_briefs.htm](http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/africa/practice_briefs.htm)

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2. Managing the Whitefly *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* in String and Field Beans

The biology and management of the whitefly *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* in string and field beans: a technical manual is now available for agronomists and technicians in Latin America. Likewise, three primers on this worldwide, persistent pest, written for farmers in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Colombia, have also just been published.

[http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/news/more\\_news.htm#whitefly](http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/news/more_news.htm#whitefly)

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3. Release of the Most-Detailed Map of the World's Rivers

The Land Use project has been involved in a WWF-led initiative to map global rivers and watersheds, called HydroSHEDS. This data is now being released for Latin America, with Asia and Africa to follow shortly, providing unrivaled information on the hydrology of the earth. HydroSHEDS uses high resolution topographic data to model flow directions and flow accumulations, resulting in detailed data on river networks and catchment boundaries. The CIAT Land-Use project provided the project with its hole-filled SRTM topographic data.

<http://gisweb.ciat.cgiar.org/sig/inicio.htm#hydrosheds>

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4. International Course on Remote Sensing

An international course for 20 participants on remote sensing will be held during 31 July to 4 August. Themes include the conceptual and methodological bases of SPRING, and its management.

The course, to be conducted in Spanish, is directed at earth sciences professionals to strengthen their capacities in decision-making on territorial planning. Course leaders are CIAT experts involved in the Planning and Territorial Development Project.

Cost is US\$1200, and applications close on 15 June 2006.

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