



International Scientific Workshop
BMSB (Halyomorpha halys) – Global Challenge
International Experience for the Best Solutions

Date: March 8th, 2018 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Venue: Expo Georgia, Pavilion # 3, 118 Tsereteli Ave. Tbilisi

The event is sponsored and organized by USAID/REAP and TRECE Inc (USA)

The invasive pest, **Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB)**, is an important challenge not only for the Georgian economy and agriculture, but also for many other countries worldwide. Science and research play a leading role in monitoring and managing the BMSB and is important for the introduction and implementation of effective tools and applications to combat the BMSB.

During the week of March 5, a Scientific Mission from the United States will travel to Georgia to observe the BMSB situation. On March 8, the Scientific Mission will take part in a scientific conference to expand the collaboration between US and Georgian scientists and to exchange scientific knowledge, data and experience.

During the event, leading US scientists will introduce recent achievements, results of research and prospective technologies for cost-effectively monitoring and managing the BMSB. At the same time, Georgian scientists will present their research data and vision for combatting the BMSB while establishing linkages with US colleagues for future joint research projects.

The scientists represent leading US universities and Research Centers from the United States Department of Agriculture/Agriculture Research Service, Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Pennsylvania State University, and Oklahoma State University. Their Georgian colleagues represent the Georgian National Academy of Sciences, Georgian Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Georgian Academy of Science of Preventive Medicine, Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgian

Agricultural University, Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi State Medical University, Agricultural Research Scientific Center of Ministry of Environmental and Agriculture of Georgia. Scientists and officials from the Region will attend the conference to share their experiences.

USAID/REAP: *USAID's Restoring Efficiency to Agriculture Production (REAP) is a market-driven and result-oriented enterprise development project that increases incomes and employment in rural area by delivering firm-level investment and tailor-made technical assistance to agribusiness enterprises that provide inputs, services, training and cash markets to smallholder farmers. REAP catalyzes increased private sector investment and commercial finance to the sector, mitigates risks for rural SMEs and entrepreneurs, and expands commercially sustainable linkages among producers, postharvest enterprises and end markets. To ensure the long term sustainability and success of these investments, REAP delivers market driven tailored technical assistance and group trainings to agribusiness enterprises and smallholder producers. Utilizing a \$6 million matching grant fund, REAP invested in 70 agribusinesses. To date, these agribusinesses have created more than 900 new rural jobs, generated more than \$40 million in new sales, trained more than 130,000 farmers and invested more than \$19 million into the agricultural sector.*

About USAID in Georgia: *Over the past 25 years, the American people, through USAID, have invested over \$1.5 billion in Georgia. USAID projects are designed to support Georgia's transition to a free and prosperous democracy and include initiatives to accelerate economic growth, develop democratic institutions, and improve health and education. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance to more than 100 countries. For more information, please visit <http://georgia.usaid.gov>*

About Trécé Incorporated: *Trece is the leading supplier of pheromone-based insect monitoring systems in the United States and has introduced more new pheromone and kairomone based insect control technology and more new products to the US market and certain other countries than all other companies in the pheromone based products field in recent years. Trece is vertically integrated to include basic manufacturing, assembly manufacturing chemical and formulation R&D and marketing in many countries where high-value crops such as apples, pears, peaches, grapes and nut crops are grown. Trece has worked with USDA and certain universities in recent years to develop the chemistry, formulations and traps necessary to monitor BMSB and are now working with these entities to develop pheromone based control products for the management of this insect. <http://www.trece.com/>*