



CONSORTIUM FOR
RED PALM WEEVIL
CONTROL



Consortium for Red Palm Weevil Control

Socioeconomic Impact and
Policy Assessments of the Red
Palm Weevil in UAE, Egypt, and
Morocco

Informed Consent Information Sheet:
Key Informants Interviews (KII's) Instrument

June 2026

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About C4RPWC

The Consortium for the Red Palm Weevil Control Program (C4RPWC), led by ICARDA, brings together national and international partners to develop, validate and scale science based solutions for sustainable red palm weevil management.

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Acronyms

C4RWPC	Consortium for Red Palm Weevil Control
ICARDA	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas

Target Countries: UAE & Egypt

Target Respondents: Experts & Policymakers

Instructions to the enumerator

Please present the full consent information to the expert or policymaker in a clear and respectful way. Give them sufficient time to ask questions and seek clarification. After they fully understand the purpose of the study and voluntarily agree to participate, document their verbal informed consent.

Why is this study being done?

We are conducting this study to understand how the Red Palm Weevil (RPW) is affecting date farmers, including how much production is being lost and which control methods are proving most effective. The information you provide will support us and other researchers in developing improved solutions and new technologies to protect date palms and strengthen farmers' harvests and income. Your insights are especially valuable because you work directly with date palms and understand the challenges firsthand. Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and you are free to decide whether or not to take part.

What happens if you participate in this study?

If you agree to participate, we will ask you questions about date farming in your area, including pests such as the Red Palm Weevil and the challenges farmers encounter. Your responses will help us gain a clearer understanding of the situation on the ground.

Are there any risks or discomforts?

There are no known risks or harm from taking part in this study. You can speak freely, and you do not have to answer any question that makes you uncomfortable.

What are the benefits?

The information you provide will help researchers and government agencies develop better support, technologies, and services to protect date palms, reduce losses, and improve farmers' income. While you may not receive immediate personal benefit, your contribution will help improve future programs for farmers.

Confidentiality (your privacy)

Everything you share will be kept private and confidential. Your name will not appear in any report or publication. Only the research team will see the information, and it will be used for research purposes only. We may share the data with other researchers, but all personal details will be removed first.

Your choice to participate (Voluntary)

Taking part in this study is your decision. You can refuse to participate, stop at any time, or skip any question you do not want to answer. There are no penalties or negative consequences for choosing not to participate.

Consent question

Are you willing to take part in this interview? _____ 1=Yes; 0=No

Date visit: (DD/MM/YYYY)	Response
Respondent name:	
Enumerator name:	
Supervisor's name:	
Variable	
Country (1= UAE, 2= Egypt)	

Module 0: Summary of EXPERTS Survey Participants

Name of the expert/policymakers	Highest degree or diploma 1= BSc, 2= MSc, 3= PhD, 4= certificate	Telephone	Age	Gender (1=Male; 2=Female)
A	B	C	D	E

MODULE 1: GENERAL INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

- 1.1. Approximately how many farmers are currently engaged in date palm farming (at any scale) in the country? _____ (if exact estimate is difficult, please provide in range)
- 1.2. Is the number increasing, decreasing, or stable over the last 5–10 years? 1= Increasing, 2= decreasing, 3= stable, 4= do not know

1.3. Are most farmers smallholders or commercial scale? 1= Mostly smallholders, 2=Mix of both, 3=Mostly commercial farms, 4= do not know

1.4. What are the dominant improved date palm varieties in the country? List in order of importance.

Variety 1: _____

Variety 2: _____

Variety 3: _____

1.5. Are there NGOs and international organizations working to address RPW in the country? _____ 1= Yes, 0= No

1.6. If yes, how many organizations do you know working in the country? _____ number.
Name of organizations _____

MODULE 2: Dates PRODUCTION and LOSS DATA

2.1 When is the RPW occurred for the first time in the country _____

2.2 How has the level of Red Palm Weevil (RPW) infestation changed since it first appeared?
1= decreased, 2= increased, 3= the same, 4 =do not know

2.3 Dates production, yield, and loss

On average, how many date palm trees does a typical farming household have in the country (if exact estimate is difficult, please provide in range)	Current average date yield (kg/tree) in the country	Expected yield (kg/tree) if no production stresses present (no RPW, no draught, no pests, no diseases, no flood, etc.)	Production loss from expected yield			Proportion (10%) of farmer affected by RPW in the country (if exact estimate is difficult, please provide in range)	Average yield with RPW control measures (kg/tree)
			Average production losses due to RPW (%). (Enumerator: Show 10 dates (or 10 small stones) to represent total min, max, and average potential yields (col: C1-C3). Ask: Out of these 10 dates, how many are lost due to RPW? Record the number × 10%. For example, if they say “3 dates,” write 30%).				
			D	E	F		
A	B	C	Min	Max	Average	G	H

2.4 Approximately how many date palm trees have been removed or have died due to RPW in the country since the first confirmed occurrence? _____

2.5 At which age category are date palm trees most severely affected by RPW infestation? 1= < 5 years, 2=5-10 years, 3= > 10 years, 4= do not know

2.6 What is the cost of replanting one palm (seedling + labor + inputs)? ____ (currency/tree)

2.7 After replanting, how many years does a palm take to reach full bearing capacity? ____ years

2.8 On average, how many kilograms of palm dates does a healthy palm tree produce? _____ kg per tree

2.9 On average, how many kilograms of dates did the infested but surviving trees produce? _____ kg per tree

2.10 On average, how many years does a healthy palm tree usually keep producing good yields? [Write the number of productive years: _____ years]

2.11 Average price of RPW infested date fruit _____ currency/kg

2.12 Average price of RPW free date fruit _____ currency/kg

MODULE 3: Input use

3.1 Chemical insecticides use

Chemical use	Do farmers use [...] 1= yes, 0=No	How effective is [...] to control RPW on scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is most effective (Note: rank applies only for yes responses)	Has the number of RPW-infested trees in decreased because of applying this [...] RPW control methods? 1= yes, 0=no, 3= Not sure	If yes, how would you rate the level of reduction? Very small reduction (1–25%) 2 = Moderate reduction (26–50%) 3 = Significant reduction (51–75%) 4 = Major reduction (76–100%) 5 = Cannot estimate	Has the yield increased because of applying this [...] RPW control methods?	If yes, how would you rate the level of increase? Very small increase (1–25%) 2 = Moderate increase (26–50%) 3 = Significant increase (51–75%) 4 = Major increase (76–100%) 5 = Cannot estimate

Imidacloprid						
Thiamethoxam						
Fipronil						
Emamectin benzoate						
Fenitrothion						
Deltamethrin						
Spirotetramat						
Other (please specify)						

3.2 How is the trend of chemical use since the RPW infestation? 1= decreased, 2= increased, 3= the same, 4 =do not know

3.3 Pheromone use

Pheromone and non-pheromone attractants use	Do farmers use [...] 1= yes, 0=No	How effective is [...] to control RPW on scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is most effective (Note: rank applies only for yes responses)	Has the number of RPW-infested trees in decreased because of applying this [...] RPW control methods? 1= yes, 0=no, 3= Not sure	If yes, how would you rate the level of reduction? Very small reduction (1–25%) 2 = Moderate reduction (26–50%) 3 = Significant reduction (51–75%) 4 = Major reduction (76–100%) 5 = Cannot estimate	Has the yield increased because of applying this [...] RPW control methods?	If yes, how would you rate the level of increase? Very small increase (1–25%) 2 = Moderate increase (26–50%) 3 = Significant increase (51–75%) 4 = Major increase (76–100%) 5 = Cannot estimate
Pheromone attractants use						
Ferrugineol						
Ferrugineone						
Ferrolure						
Non-pheromone attractants use						

Palm debris						
Date fruits						
Sugarcane						
Bananas						
Other (please specify)						

3.5 Which types of pheromone traps have farmers used? (tick all that apply)

- Wet trap _____
- Dry trap _____
- Smart trap _____
- Multi-Funnel trap _____
- Improvised bucket trap _____
- Other (please specify): _____
- Has the use of Pheromone and non-pheromone attractants and traps lead to the reduction in the use of chemicals? 1= yes, 0=no, 3= Not sure

3.6 If yes, by approximately how much has chemical use reduced?

- Slight reduction (1-25%)_____
- Moderate reduction (26-50%)_____
- Significant reduction (51-75%)_____
- Major reduction (76-100%)_____
- Cannot estimate_____

3.7 Biological control methods

Biological control agents	Do farmers use [...] 1= yes, 0=No	How effective is [...] to control RPW on scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is most effective (Note: rank applies only for yes responses)
Pheromone attractants use		
Entomopathogenic fungi		
Entomopathogenic nematodes		
Parasitoid wasps		
Predatory insects		
Other (please specify)		

3.8 Has the number of RPW-infested trees in your area decreased because of applying RPW control methods?

Module 4. Knowledge and awareness of recommended GAP

1. Are you aware of the recommended Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for safely disposing of date palm trees that are severely infested by the RPW? 1= Yes, 0= No
2. Which recommended disposal methods are you aware of? (Tick all that apply)
 - Cutting, shredding, and deep burning_____
 - Chipping and solarizing_____
 - Deep burial in an approved site_____
 - Removal and treatment at a designated facility_____
 - Biological or microbial treatment before disposal_____
 - Other (specify): _____
3. Who provided the guidance or training on proper disposal? (Tick all that apply)
 - Extension agent/ministry_____
 - Research or university_____
 - NPPO / Quarantine authority_____
 - Local cooperative or association_____
 - NGO/international organization_____
 - Other (specify): _____
4. How confident are you that farmers follow GAP for disposal?
1 = Not at all, 2 = Slightly, 3 = Moderately, 4 = Mostly, 5 = Fully
5. What barriers prevent correct disposal of infested trees?
1= Lack of knowledge, 2=High cost, 3=Limited access to tools/equipment, 4=No enforcement or monitoring, 6 =Labor requirements, 7= Cultural beliefs/traditions, 8=Other (specify): _____

Module 5. RPW Quarantine and movement control measures, polices, program effectiveness and institutional coordination

A. Quarantine and movement control measures

1. Are formal RPW quarantine protocols currently in place at national, regional, or local levels?_____ 1 = Yes, 0 = No
2. If yes, which quarantine actions are implemented? (Tick all that apply)
 - Restriction on movement of palms / seedlings / offshoots_____
 - Mandatory inspection and certification_____
 - Checkpoints at borders and local trade routes_____
 - Farm-level containment / isolation_____
 - Mandatory tree removal and safe disposal_____
 - Awareness and reporting hotline_____
 - Other (specify): _____



3. Which actors monitor and enforce quarantine? (Tick all that apply) 1= MoA, 2= Plant Protection Agency, 3= Customs, 4=Local Gov't, 5= Police, 6= Research Centers, 7= Universities, 8= Others
4. Rate compliance levels among farmers, traders, nursery operators, and transporters: 1 = Very low, 2 = Low, 3 = Moderate, 4 = High, 5 = Very high

B. Policies, legal framework, and regulatory Systems

5. Are there official policies / directives / decrees / guidelines governing RPW management? _____
1 = Yes, 0 = No
6. If yes, name and year of issuance: _____
7. Do policies specify roles, responsibilities, enforcement procedures, and penalties? _____
1 = Yes, 0 = Partially, 0 = No
8. Are there cross-border or regional agreements supporting containment or early warning? _____ (e.g., Gulf Region, North African networks, FAO, NEPPPO, IPPC)
1 = Yes, 0 = No, If yes, specify: _____

C. Institutional coordination versus fragmentation

5. Which institutions are actively involved in RPW detection, control, research, and policy? (Tick all that apply)
 - Ministry of Agriculture / Plant Health Dept _____
 - National Plant Protection Organization / quarantine agency _____
 - Customs and border control _____
 - Regional / local governments _____
 - Research institutes _____
 - Universities _____
 - Private sector _____
 - Farmers' unions / cooperatives _____
 - Donors / International organizations _____
 - Others (specify): _____
9. How would you describe current coordination among institutions involved in RPW control? 1 = Very fragmented, 2 = Fragmented, 3 = Fair collaboration, 4 = Well coordinated, 5 = Highly coordinated
10. Are there formal coordination platforms or task forces for RPW (e.g., national steering committee)? _____ 1 = Yes, 0 = No
11. If yes, how effective are they? _____ on scale of 1–5 rating, where 5 is most effective
12. What coordination challenges exist?

_____ Provide multiple answers
(e.g., role overlap, limited communication, competition, data silos, donor-driven fragmentation, bureaucracy, weak feedback loops, unclear reporting channels)

13. Are real-time data sharing and surveillance systems used across institutions? _____ 1
= Yes, 2 = Partially, 3 = No

14. If yes, which platform? _____

15. In your opinion, which institution should lead national RPW coordination and why?

D. Implementation and program effectiveness

16. Rate overall implementation of existing RPW response policies/programs: 1 = Not implemented, 2 = Poor, 3 = Partial, 4 = Good, 5 = Very good

17. Have programs led to reduced infestation, improved surveillance, or farmer protection?
1 = Yes, 2 = Partially, 3 = No, 4 = Don't know, Explain: _____

18. What are the key bottlenecks? (Tick all that apply)

- Limited budget _____
- Low human capacity _____
- No research-policy link _____
- Farmer resistance _____
- Slow detection and response _____
- Weak enforcement _____
- Technology gaps _____
- Institutional fragmentation _____
- Others: _____

E. Reform and strengthening suggestions

18. What policy, regulatory, or legal reforms are needed to strengthen control and prevention?

19. What institutional alignment or lead-agency model would improve coordination?

20. What financing, training, incentive or penalty mechanisms should be added?

21. Which international best practices should be adopted or localized?

International best practice	Is your country practicing [...] 1= yes, 0= No	Which practice you recommend for the country (Rank on a scale of 1-13, where 1 = highest priority / most suitable and 13 = lowest priority)
Early detection and rapid response (EDRR)		



Pheromone mass trapping and grid system		
Digital and smart monitoring systems		
Area-wide integrated pest management (IPM)		
Quarantine and certification protocols		
Standardized training and manuals		
Biological control agents		
Hot-water treatment and tree injection		
Palm hygiene and sanitation protocol		
Regional cooperation and info sharing		
Accredited private service providers		
Central coordination taskforce model		
Incentives and penalty compliance system		

Thank you for your time





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