

Our Mission: It is the express intent of the FMC Middleport Community Advisory Panel (CAP) to provide residents of Middleport credible information regarding community issues, environmental concerns, and FMC plant activities.



VIEWPOINTS

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

## FMC Product Helps Banana Production

*By Janet Lyndaker, Middleport CAP Member*

On June 22, 2011, FMC Middleport was visited by Gladys Palomo, Plant Manager from Guatemala and Charlie Dawson of Chemplast International. After a day of learning about the products mixed and packaged at the Middleport plant, the guests attended our CAP meeting and discussed the partnership between FMC Guatemala and Chemplast.

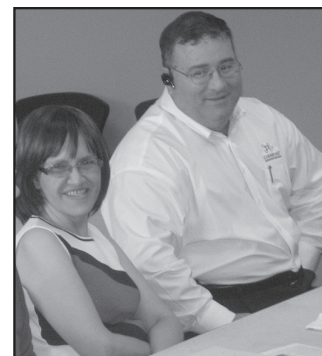
Chemplast International produces the masterbatch for a product known as Biflex® treebags. Biflex® treebags are insecticide-impregnated bags used to prevent insect infestation of bananas as they grow.

The use of these treebags not only produces higher quality bananas but also a greater volume of harvested fruit. The use of bifenthrin as the active ingredient in Biflex® is also critical because it allows for an effective level of insecticide at 1/10th of the concentration of other insecticides, making it safer for the workers who manufacture the bags, as well as for the workers who use the bags at the banana farms.



In addition, the use of Biflex® treebags increases profitability for farmers over other methods of insect control. Mr. Dawson noted that Chiquita, Dole and Del Monte are the three top banana producers.

FMC plays an important role in the manufacture of Biflex® treebags because Biflex® is an FMC product and trademark. All of Chemplast's masterbatches for the treebags are produced at their manufacturing facility in Guatemala, which is the foundation of the partnership between Chemplast and FMC Guatemala.



*Gladys Palomo, Plant Manager from Guatemala and Charlie Dawson of Chemplast International visited the CAP at their June meeting.*

### THE MIDDLEPORT CAP MEMBERS

Archie Ames  
Dan Dodge  
Beth Fisher & Mike Fisher  
Rebecca Hinkson  
Ron Houseman  
Janet Lyndaker  
Bryan Wollenberg

Ann Howard - Facilitator  
Andy Twarowski - FMC Plant Manager  
Alyssa Cruikshank - FMC Community Liaison  
Bob Wojcik - FMC Environmental Manager  
Mike Hinton - NYS DEC Representative

# Special CAP Alumni Meeting Held to Update Members on CMS

Brian McGinnis, Corporate Manger, Environmental Remediation, visited the May 16, 2011 CAP meeting to discuss the release of the Draft Corrective Measures Study (CMS) Report for the historic air deposition and Culvert 105 study areas.

The Draft CMS, which was made available for public comment on May 17, 2011, contains eight possible corrective measure alternatives (CMAs). All eight of the CMAs were developed in cooperation with the Agencies. FMC is recommending CMA 3 as their primary choice for remedial activities. During the meeting, Brian explained the clean-up levels and costs associated with CMA 3, and how they compare to those of some of the other CMAs.

Brian said that FMC's Report shows that all the alternatives have outcomes of acceptable risk levels in the community, and that CMA

3 proposes its clean-up level of 20 parts per million (ppm) on average because 20ppm is the local background arsenic concentration.

FMC is also proposing to use a CAMU, or corrective action management unit, for excavated soil storage.

The Agencies held public meetings in two sessions to address the Draft CMS Report on June 14 at the Middleport Fire Hall. All residents in the Roy-Hart School District were mailed meeting notices and a transcript of the evening session is available online at [cms.middleportny.com](http://cms.middleportny.com).

Brian said that FMC will keep the community up-to-date on the next phase of the environmental program in Middleport and he encouraged CAP members to read more about the Draft CMS Report at [cms.middleportny.com](http://cms.middleportny.com).

## Spring Is a Busy Time at Middleport Plant

FMC Middleport Plant Manager Andy Twarowski summarized plant activities at the plant during the May 16, 2011 CAP meeting.

Andy discussed several new FMC products being mixed and packaged at the Middleport facility. These include the insecticides Mustang, for vegetable crops; Stallion, for crops ranging from alfalfa to sorghum to sunflower; and Steed, for corn and soybean crops.



The plant set a production record for the past ten years in the first four months of 2011.

The plant currently employs 57 permanent and 16 temporary employees. This spring and summer, some unused lab space will be converted into office space, and an unused building will be demolished. Andy noted that FMC Middleport has put approximately \$1.4 million into capital investments to promote growth.

## Employees at FMC Middleport on GUARD Against Injury

*By Bryan Wollenberg, Buffy DuBois, and Glen Wilson, FMC Employees and Middleport CAP members*

Members of the FMC GUARD Safe Work Initiative had an opportunity to present information on this new employee-run safety process at the June 22, 2011 CAP meeting

The GUARD Safe Work Initiative, or Generate United Active Responsible Defense against injury, is a partnership among employees at the plant to help protect everyone from injury.

GUARD targets specific “at risk” tasks or jobs in an effort to help employees perform them safely through immediate positive recognition for performing tasks safely. The group, which started in November of 2010 and has grown to approximately 20 members, was formed by employees who had a desire to develop a safe environment for everybody who works at or visits the FMC Middleport plant. The overall goal of the initiative is to make behavior-based safety automatic.

Participation in the GUARD Safe Work Initiative is important to employees and GUARD members. The Middleport employee Behavior Based Safety initiative is run by employees. It is chaired by Bryan Wollenberg, co-chaired by Buffy DuBois, and facilitated by Glen Wilson.

GUARD is a local process, and not something set forth by management. This is credited as a motivating factor resulting in high employee participation.



*Buffy DuBois and Bryan Wollenberg explain the GUARD logo that was designed by lead operator and GUARD member Dean Ruttly.*

FMC’s Corporate safety program was unveiled after GUARD started at the Middleport site, but the initiative works well in conjunction with it.

GUARD members and other employees can submit anonymous positive and negative reinforcement cards at three different locations across the plant site. At the end of each month, the cards are compiled into a database. Near-miss cards can also be submitted.

As an incentive, at the end of each month, a near-miss card is drawn and the submitter of that card receives 10 gallons of gas pumped by plant manager Andy Twarowski. Another winner will be drawn in December and will receive a gift certificate for dinner.

On three month intervals, the GUARD holds a contest for safety slogan entries. Three slogans are chosen and each is displayed on the board at the entrance to the plant for one month. The slogan for June was “Working Day or Night, Keep Safety in Sight.”

## CAP Member Profile: Beth Fisher

*By Mike Fisher, Middleport CAP Member*

Beth has been a long-time member of the community and a graduate of the Royalton-Hartland School District. She worked for several years as a pharmacy technician until she had her first of three children. Beth has two daughters, Katie and Amanda, and a son, Kevin, and two wonderful grandchildren that she enjoys spending time with.

She loves reading and can be found with a book in her hand in the parking lot of Home Depot whenever her husband is just “picking up a couple of things.” Beth is a member of Ridgewood Bible Church, plays the piano and organ, and accompanies the choir.

Beth joined the CAP after helping serve hot dogs at an FMC Open House event.



*Beth Fisher is Roy-Hart graduate, a mother of three and the wife of CAP member, Mike Fisher.*

VIEWPOINTS

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## Interested in the CAP?

The Middleport CAP meets quarterly at the FMC Middleport facility to learn about the plant, its products, activities and programs. The CAP also stays informed about environmental issues and produces the Viewpoints Newsletter bi-annually to share what they have learned with the community.

**If you are interested in learning more about the CAP or becoming a member, please call us at 735-9769.**

CAP Meeting Notes Available Online at [www.middleport-ny.com](http://www.middleport-ny.com)