

The MOCCAE's Role in Promoting Projects in Agricultural Production:

- 1. Preparation and provision of agricultural production requirements for farmers, such as compound fertilizers and all kinds of soil conditioners, insecticides, fungicides and IPM requirements, including colored adhesive traps, in addition to seed varieties for protected agriculture, which are highly productive and resistant to diseases and agricultural pests, such as cucumber, tomatoes and pepper seeds, as well as organic seeds and organic farming supplies, such as irrigation pipes, pumps, soil and water testing equipment, as well as covering materials, including polycarbonate sheets, nets, plastic and agricultural cloth.
- 2. Providing specialized agricultural extension staff to carry out guidance visits aimed at raising awareness among farmers and workers in the agricultural sector about the importance of adopting modern agricultural methods that preserve the country's water and soil resources, and don't harm the environment. The extension staff also focus on hydroponic and organic farming systems and instruct farmers to apply good agricultural practices, IPM methods, and how to prepare and handle nutritious solutions during agricultural season. The staff also hold a number of periodic training seminars and courses to build the capabilities of farmers and workers in the agricultural sector in the field of hydroponic and organic farming.
- **3.** Implementing IPM programs, where the Ministry develops programs to combat the main pests and encourage farmers to adopt photovoltaic and pheromone traps, as environmentally safe means of pest control and non-harmful to fruits or human health, as well as the use of safe pesticides to control pests of economic importance. The Ministry continuously follows up on the implementation of pest control programs in farms through its guidance staff.
- **4.** Conducting necessary laboratory tests for hydroponic and organic farming. These include soil and water examination and examining pesticide residue in the produce.
- 5. Introducing a number of modern technologies related to hydroponic farming, where the Ministry is keen on keeping up with the latest developments in hydroponic and organic farming methods, in order to transfer these modern technologies to farmers and encourage them to adopt them. These include utilizing modern fertilization systems and using modern measuring devices to monitor the acidity and concentrations of nutrient solutions, to avoid any problems that may occur during the agriculture and production process.
- **6.** Signing MOUs with institutions and funds to support local farming and production:
 - The Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development in support of farmers and aquaculture projects
 - The Sharjah Foundation to support pioneering Entrepreneurs (RUWAD) to support farmers. beekeepers & fishermen
 - The Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for SME Development in support of farmers. beekeepers and fishermen
 - ANHB General Trading Company on the support and development of the honey bee sector in the UAE
- 7. Signing MOUs with points of sale to support the marketing of farmers' production:
 - Lulu Group International to promote the marketing of UAE agricultural products
 - Union Cooperative Association to endorse the Organic Product brand & to regulate the flow of hydroponic products
 - · Majid Al Futtaim Hypermarkets LLC on the marketing of local agricultural products

