

<b>METHODOLOGY</b>  <b>M 2</b>	<h1>HUM GROUP</h1>
	<b>Tactical methods</b>

Date (25/05/2010)

<b>WHAT IS</b>	<p>The 'hum group' method is a collective brainstorming which makes it possible to take stock of previous experiences or opinions on a current topic.</p> <p>You can use this method if you want to get opinions about a special topic and to encourage participants in a sub-group to work together to produce a result.</p> <p>To use this method, you have to propose sub-groups with a leader in each group.</p>
<b>WHY</b>	<p>This technique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Provides a common understanding of the current levels of knowledge within a group.</li> <li>► Ensures that all participants are allowed to present their opinions.</li> </ul>
<b>HOW</b>	<p>Use the complete group (if it's small) or propose sub-groups of four to five persons. The creation of sub-groups can be crucial; they must be free or oriented only according to the expertise of the participants (geographic origin, type of farm etc.).</p> <p>This method has three separate periods: the 'hum' (five to 10 minutes), the feedback (five minutes) and the discussion (20 to 30 minutes).</p> <p><b>1. HUM</b></p> <p>Put a carefully phrased question onto a flipchart.        Brief the participants to work in sub-groups.        Have each group produce a list of ideas; prompt those who need help.</p> <p><b>2. FEEDBACK</b></p> <p>Write on a flipchart one point from each group until you have a list of points covering all main opinions. No further opinions or comments can be presented during this period.</p> <p><b>3. DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>From the list of points, mentally select which are the most important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>► Indicate a point and ask who suggested it. Start the discussion by asking: 'What made you say this?' 'Can you give me an example?'</li> <li>► Ask for other examples, or points of view. When the point has been explored sufficiently, summarise briefly.</li> <li>► Indicate the next point and repeat the process.</li> </ul>

	At the end of the discussion, link positively with what comes next.
<b>WHAT I NEED</b>	<p>You need two main spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ A working area where each sub-group can discuss to produce an answer to the question without influence from other sub-groups.</li> <li>▶ A flipchart or blackboard where you can write the different ideas during the feedback and discussion phases.</li> </ul> <p>The facilitator should prepare the initial question. The facilitator can browse through the room to check that the answers are consistent over the issue.</p>
<b>EXAMPLES</b>	<p>These are examples of relevant questions in relation to IPM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ IPM techniques you tested on your farm? Key to success?</li> <li>▶ Best techniques to control special pests ?</li> <li>▶ Legal or technical constraints when you use pesticides ?</li> </ul>
<b>SOURCES</b>	Rodwell J., 1994. Participative training skills. Gower, UK.