



Performance of the OFSP chain in  
Mukono District, Uganda  
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Research  
Program on  
Roots, Tubers  
and Bananas

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# Structure of the presentation



- Introduction to the study
- Objectives
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions & recommendations



# OFSP production and commercialization in Uganda



Since OFSP was introduced to Uganda, a number of initiatives have been made to popularize it

- Mukono district, in central Uganda is a major hub of OFSP promotion initiatives
- The district has proximal access to major urban markets hence a good candidate for commercial production
- However, OFSP is not easily available in major markets in central Uganda

# Objectives of the study



To analyze the dynamics that influence the performance of the OFSP chain:

- Characterize the OFSP chain in central Uganda
- Assess factors that influence farmers decision to participated in the market
- Evaluate constraints faced by OFSP farmers

# Methods:



- A cross sectional study was done and data collected from 123 farmers, 37 traders, 26 consumers and 9 key informants
- Focus groups discussions with 34 farmers
- A two stage model was run to determine factors affecting farmers participation and extent of participation
- Farmer were clustered in three categories: net sellers, autarkic and net buyers



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# Results

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# Characterization of the OFSP chain

- The chain is disorganized with mistrust amongst actors
- 48% of the farmers were commercial root producers
- Their major market was rural consumers (plantation workers)
- OFSP was the least traded variety in urban markets
- Consumer attributes : OFSP scored lowest

# Factors influencing decision to participate : multinomial regression

<b>Independent variables</b>	<b>Autarkic buyers</b>	<b>Net buyers</b>
Years growing OFSP	0.100	0.061*
Labour costs	0.008***	0.200
Fertilizer use	0.000***	0.093*
Rank of OFSP	0.019**	0.776
Constant	0.295	0.035



# Factors influencing extent of participation in the market : Tobit regression



<b>Independent variables</b>	<b>p - value</b>
Sex of h/head	0.059*
Years growing OFSP	0.045**
Log labour costs	0.000***
Fertilizer use	0.002***
Ranking of OFSP	0.067*
Access to extension svcs	0.035**
Constant	0

# Evaluation of constraints faced by commercial farmers



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- **Production constraints:** drought, pests and diseases, access to inputs (credit)
- **Post-harvest related constraints:** high perishability, drudgery and bulkiness
- **Market related constraints:** few reliable buyers, price fluctuation, limited access to market intelligence, poor roads and low preference of OFSP by traders and consumers

# Conclusions and recommendations



- Higher fertilizer use than anticipated – nearly all vine multipliers used foliar fertilizer – vines are a high value crop
- Rural consumers appreciate OFSP – can we use similar strategies to increase urban consumers?
- OFSP is a woman's crop, but where are the commercial women farmers? We need strategies to increase their visibility
- Improve linkages between chain actors and supporters (Agricultural Innovation Systems)