PROMOTING USE OF TRIPLE 'S' METHOD IN NORTHERN UGANDA

(DEVELOPING AND DISSEMINATING BIOFORTIFIED CROPS (DDBC) PROJECT)

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Objectives

The activity undertaken to promote the use of the Triple S method at scale and build a cadre of trained extensionists to monitor its adoption

Background: Sweetpotato in food systems

- Estimated 53% of hhs in N. Ug experience food insecurity during the mths of Apr - Jun (UCA 2010, MAAIF 2011)

- Early sweetpotato planting, a potential food insecurity remedy, becomes compromised by lack of vines to plant

- Periodic lucrative food supply market following in the food gap prior to main grain harvests remains unexploited.

- The poverty and food insecurity cycle continues unabated.

Status of access to vines at onset of rains: Why irrigated root beds

- Long dry season desiccates planting material
- Pronounced lack of planting material at on set of rains
- Farmers fail to plant, neither afford to buy nor even get vines to buy, others plant less than expected
- More difficult to maintain a growing crop in the swamp during dry season
- Sprouts from previous fields can only be ready to plant two months after the rains start
- Thus, establishing minimally irrigated root beds prior to beginning of rains generate vines for early planting

Promotion of the Triple S Approach

- CBO cadres including field staff t World vision, local Government and interested schools like Aboke were trained
- Farmer groups identified, sensitised and trained
- On farm demos established in each of the 4 districts using different vars to validate the application of Triple S method
- Previous farmers' fields also identified for comparison
- Participatory review of Triple S leaflet and dev. of 3S calendar
- Data on 30-cm long vines collected at 60 and 90 DAP

Positive selection of seed roots

Storage in sand for sprouting

Sprouted ready for planting in root beds

Root beds established and watering around plants

Number of cadres and farmers trained in 2014

	Number of cadres and farmers		
District	CBO cadres	Groups	Total # of farmers
Gulu	4	6	121
Oyam	2	2	36
Kole	3	3	72
Lira	1	1	18
Total	10	11	247

Happy with Kabode performance

Average number of 30-cm long vines produced per Triple S root in 2014

	Number of 30-cm long cuttings per root			
Variety	Av. # shoots	Lot 1	Lot 2	Total
Ejumula	8	35	47	82
Kabode	4	20	27	47
Kakamega	4	43	19	62

Ejumula shoots

Sweetpotato vine stump concept: Second lot of vines

Ejumula variety

Kabode variety

of cuttings harvested from 100 roots of Ejumula, Kabode and Kakamega varieties

Variety	# of cuttings		# of heaps and area planted in acres		
	60 DAP	90 DAP	60 DAP	90 DAP	Total acres
Ejumula	3500	4700	1167	1567	0.68
Kabode	2000	2700	667	900	0.39
Kakamega	4300	1900	1433	633	0.51

Sweetpotato sequence planting

Emerging **issues**

- Need plan for seed root production – we aim at small roots so plant spacing may be narrowed
- Use roots coming from clean (tissue culture material)
- Root storage protocol to observe root curing, age at harvest and sand should not be very fine
- Triple S calendar developed
- Technology to be scaled out in other DDBC project implementing areas including Kamwenge and Isingiro districts

Draft Triple S calendar 2015


Photo courtesy of Sam Namanda (CIP)

Participatory review of the Sweetpotato seed root Storage in Sand and Sprouting protocol

~ January 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Protocol reviews and establishment of irrigated root beds				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31


Photos courtesy of Stephen Odongo (World Vision)


Selecting and storing clean roots in sand in a basin for sprouting

Nov 2015	~ December 2015 ~					Jan 2016
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes: main harvesting, selecting and storing seed roots under sand medium	

Thank you for listening