

Ensuring safe international exchange of sweetpotato accessions and germplasm management



B.M. Wanjala, R. Gatimu, M. McEwan, R. Mwanga, E. Carey, M. Andrade, J. Kreuze and J. Low

Introduction

- CIP is the custodian of world's largest in vitro germplasm with more than 6,000 sweetpotato accessions maintained.
- Approximately 600 accessions are distributed annually.
- Viruses pose serious threat with more than
 30 viruses identified.
- Movement of germplasm worldwide over the past decades has increased



In vitro sweetpotato accessions at CIP Lima

Our goal

Ensure sustainable production of virus-free sweetpotato for safe movement of germplasm.





What we are doing?

- Virus eradication / cleaning
- Indexing and disease-free germplasm production
- Improving laboratory and field based detection methods
- In vitro, medium-term, long-term conservation
- Safe international exchange of improved germplasm in SSA in collaboration with the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)
- Passport, characterization and evaluation data on germplasm availed to stakeholders
- Characterize germplasm & Identify superior sources of genes
- Train partners in tissue culture techniques, diagnostic of sweetpotato viruses and germplasm conservation