Sustainable sweetpotato pre-basic seed production Y3 Annual Report: June 2016 – May 2017

SASHA

Sweetpotato Action for Security and Health in Africa

Name, institution: **BioCrops (U) Ltd**

Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: 7th Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production – SGA Progress Review. Mukono Uganda 12th June 2017

Production: capacities?

Period: current status at end of Y3 (May 31, 2017)

Facilities	No. units	Irrigation (Y/N)	Total m^2	Method (poly, pot, bench/trough, open)	Total no. of plants	Multiplication Rate (2 months)
Screen house	2	No	315	Troughs	16,170	15
Basic seed multipliers	3	No	76	Variety of containers	9,000	3-5
Open field multiplication	3	No	14,000	Flat beds and ridges	630,000	2-3

Production: targets vs actuals?

Names of varieties under pre-basic multiplication:

Period: **June 2016 – May 2017**

Activities	Unit (& size)	Planned No. (June 16 – May 17)	Achieved (June 16 – May 17)	% achievement
TC initiation	Plantlets	Clean stocks maintained routinely		
TC micro-propagation	Plantlets	600	560	93.0
Hardening	Plants	10,000	540	5.4
BioCrops main nursery multiplication	Cuttings	48,000	23,231	48.4
Satellite nursery multiplication	Cuttings	20,000	11,750	58.8
BVM nurseries	Cuttings	98,000	49,732	50.1
Open field multiplication	Cuttings	450,000	50,000	11.1

Comments on production targets

- Actions taken during year 3 to increase multiplication rates:
  - E.g. Increasing survival rates of cuttings by using humidity chamber during hot season
- Actions taken during year 3 to reduce costs of production:
  - E.g. Using low cost nursery and construction materials
- Key challenges for year 3:
  - E.g. Drought & lack of funds for BVMs to put up nurseries
- Lessons to share for year 3:
  - E.g. Raised seed beds gave better plant growth than trough or movable containers and are cheaper.

Quality management: June 2016-May 2017

7 Variety	Type
Ejumula	OFSP
Kakamega	OFSP
Kabode	OFSP
Vita	OFSP
Naspot 1	WFSP
Naspot 8	OFSP
Naspot 12	OFSP

- *I. Sitosa* occasionally used to rule out viral symptoms in suspected plants. All tested negative

- National seed standards and inspection protocols in place and awaits implementation

Stakeholder meetings: June 2016 – May 2017, and planned

Date of meeting held	No. participants (M/F)	Types of participant	Main topics	Follow up actions
4-5 October, 23 Nov 2017	9/18	BVMs, farmers	Benefits of OFSP; dses; how produce clean cuttings	Monitoring field maintenance
7 March 2017	11/23	BVMs, Farmers, local leaders' extension workers	Same as above	Visitation of BVMs
Planned meetings (June 17 – May 18)				
Proposed Date	**No. participants**	**Types of participants**	**Main topics**	**Proposed budget**
	60	BVMs, Farmers, local leaders'	Restoring yield using quality	

Marketing strategy: June 2017 – May 2018

	Target group	Message & activity	Time period	Channel/s	Respo-nsible	Propose d budget	Indicator of success
1.	Vine multipliers	Production technology	During dry seasons	Radio, Demos, Field days	BioCrops	$ 5,550	Sales
2.	Root producers	Benefit & Source of quality vines	Before rains		BioCrops		Acreage planted
3	NGO	Sources of quality vines	Before rains		BioCrops		Cuttings bought
4	Farmers	Sources of quality vines	Before rains		BioCrops		Cuttings bought

June 17 - May 2018: key areas for strengthening performance of bizplan

- Technical
  - Skill BVMs and DVMs as trainers in root processing so as a to create demand for the clean planting materials
- Institutional
  - Strengthen BioCrops linkage with field extension workrs
- Financial
  - Introduce a revolving fund to facilitate operation of the BVMs and DVMs

2 PEST PHOTOS

Farners at Namaliri inspecting the demonstration field before harvesting it to compare yield

- Screen house vine multiplication in raised beds fertilized with chicken manure
- Namaliri-Kasawo District
- Martin Masiko admiring the plant performance