

**Sustainable
sweetpotato pre-basic
seed production Y4
Mid Year Report: June
2017 – November 2017**



Sweetpotato Action for
Security and **Health** in **Africa**



Name, institution: Benard Yada, NaCRRRI, Uganda
Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: 8th
Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production – SGA
Progress Review. Nairobi, Kenya 21-22 November 2017

Production: capacities

Period: current status at mid year 4 (Nov. 2017)

Facilities	No. units	Irrigation (Y/N)	Total m ²	Method (poly, pot, bench/trough, open)	RMT/ Conventional	Total no. of plants	Multiplication Rate
Screen house	1	Y	145	Wooden trough	Conventional	9000 (cuttings)	5
Mobile net tunnels	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Open field multiplication	Acres	Y	4046	Ridges	Conventional	64,000	8-10
Basic seed multipliers							

Production: targets vs actuals?

Stage	Activities	Unit (& size)	Planned no. (for period: June - December 2017)	Achieved: June - November 2017	% achievement
1	TC initiation	Plantlets	NA	NA	NA
	TC micro-propagation	Plantlets	300	300	100
2	Hardening	Plants	240	240	100
3	Screen house multiplication	Cuttings	6000	6000	100
	Mobile net tunnel multiplication	Cuttings	NA	NA	NA
4	Open field multiplication	Cuttings	64,000 (80 bags)	Not sold	NA

- Is your multiplication calendar on track
 - Yes
- What changes will you make to your multiplication calendar for the next 6 months?

- What was your pricing strategy
 - Pre-basic price: **NA**
 - Basic price: **Number of bags demanded by buyer**
- Any deviation and why: **Seed not yet sold**
- What is your profit margin?
- Do you need to change your pricing strategy? If so how?

Use of business plan tools



- What were your marketing activities:
 - A. **Field day at AbiZARDI, West Nile Region**
 - B. **Agricultural Trade shows at Jinja and World Food day celebrations**
 - C. **Publication in newspaper**
- Which marketing activity bought most orders?
Trade shows
- Do you need to change your marketing strategy? If so how? **Regional Radio Programs**

Use of revolving fund

Description	Local currency or US\$
<i>a. Balance of Revolving Fund bought forward from May 2017</i>	2,051,900
<i>b. Gross income for this reporting period: June to November 2017</i>	Seed not yet sold
<i>c. Total disbursements towards seed production activities: June to November 2017</i>	NIL
<i>d. Other costs met from the revolving fund:</i>	NIL
<i>e. Balance of funds at end of reporting period available to be carried forward to the next reporting period</i>	2,051,900

US\$ exchange rate:

Explain any challenges for the revolving fund

Customer order book: future requirements

Customer name	December 2017 – May 2018		Comments
	Quantity Ordered	Advance payment?	
Not yet profiled			

Comments on production targets



- Actions taken during year 4 to increase multiplication rates:
 - Irrigation of seed during the dry period using irrigation facility from the PEARL project
- Actions taken during year 4 to reduce costs of production:
 - Organizing with AbiZARDI management to plant seed in previous soybean seed field and composting the soybean husks in the field
- Key challenges for year 4:
 - Low multiplication rates of Dimbuka-Bukulula in screen house
 - Small capacity of the pre-basic seed screen house
- Lessons to share for year 4:
 - Well planned crop rotation regimes can help increase seed yields at reduced costs

Quality management: June November 2017



- Number of varieties under multiplication: 3
- What new varieties have been introduced in Y4?
 - A. NA
 - B. NA
- What new varieties will be added during remaining of Y4? NA
- No. varieties tested over June – Nov 17 and results
 - Variety: NASPOT 120 result: Negative (ELISA)
 - Variety: NASPOT 130 result: Negative (ELISA)
 - Variety: Dimbuka-Bukulula result: Negative (ELISA)
- Seed standards and inspection protocol
 - Current status: Completed and in use
 - Are external inspections being conducted for field multiplication Yes

Stakeholder meetings: June 2017 – Nov 2017, and planned



Date of meeting held	No. participants (M/F)	Types of participant	Main topics	Follow up actions
Planned meetings (Dec 17 – May 18)				
Proposed Date	No. participants	Types of participants	Main topics	Proposed budget
February 2018	30	Seed multipliers, MAAIF, NGOs staff	Seed value chain Dissemination strategies Seed inspection and importance	7,000,000

Training – in-country (June Nov 2017)- Not conducted



Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Comments
12 th October 2017	Sweetpotato field day on production technologies and seed systems	Approximately 300	Brochures	Well attended field day by production coordinators, NGO staff and farmers
Planned for Dec 2017 – May 2018				
Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Proposed budget
March, 2018	Sweetpotato field day on production technologies and seed systems	Approximately 1000	Brochures, Posters, Pull up burners, value added products	5,000,000

Marketing strategy: June 2017 – May 2018



	Target group	Message & activity	Time period	Channel/s	Responsible	Proposed budget	Indicator of success
1.	Root producers , CBOs, multipliers	Role of clean seed in enhancing productivity & Field days	March, 2018	Brochures, demo plots, value added products from OFSP	NaCRRI staff	7,000,000	Orders for seed recorded
2.	Multipliers , NGOs, FGs	Effective seed distribution , DVM network marketing	Aug 17- March 18	SMS, radio, TV	NaCRRI staff	5,000,000	Number of visitors for sweetpotato seed

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



- Technical

Capacity building of robust data collection at TC and Screen house, develop automated data collection system, bar coding of TC and screen house material

- Institutional

Full operationalization in to the NARO strategic plan under development

- Financial

Request seed investment funds from NARO to scale-up seed production which can reimbursed after seed sales



Benard Yada and Charles Musoke (HarvestPlus) training cassava seed entrepreneurs on sweetpotato seed business at AbiZARDI. *Photo by P. Musana*

2 BEST PHOTOS



Sweetpotato stakeholders' meeting held at Root Crop conference Hall on 3rd March, 2017. Photo by Everline