

ROOT AND TUBER IMPROVEMENT AND MARKETING PROGRAMME.

SWEETPOTATO VALUE CHAIN



Sweetpotato(*Ipomoea batatas*)

An important staple and a food security crop in most parts of Africa.

▣ Uses

- Eaten boiled or fried.
- Used in the manufacture of syrup, alcohol and starch
- When consumed corrects Vitamin A deficiency in children

Mostly cultivated in the Guinea and Coastal Savanna ecological zones in Ghana.

VARIETIES

- ▣ CRI Otoo
- ▣ Apomuden
- ▣ Sauti
- ▣ Santom Pona
- ▣ Okumkom
- ▣ Faara
- ▣ Teksantom

PLANTING MATERIAL MULTIPLICATION

- Sanitized material are multiplied at three primary sites across the country for distribution to Secondary multipliers.
 - Primary Sites
 - Tono
 - Okyereko
 - Asuansi

Sweetpotato Primary Site at Okyereko



Secondary Multipliers

- Cape Coast Municipal
- Gomoa East District
- Gomoa West District
- Akatsi District
- Kasena Nankana West District

Tertiary Multipliers

- Cape Coast Municipal
- Gomoa East District
- Gomoa West District
- Akatsi District
- Kasena Nankana West District

PROCESSING OF SWEETPOTATO

- A total of 115 women across the country have been trained in the processing of sweetpotato yoghurt called 'Potaghurt'
- 25 have further been supported to access the RTIMP's Micro Enterprise Fund to acquire processing and storage equipment.

MARKET SUPPORT

- Further support to the improve packaging of potaghurt and attract more customers is on the way.
- Processing groups in Cape Coast and Navrongo will soon be supported to set up marketing outlets to boost sales.

EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES

- The programme has signed an agreement with an off-taker who requires 24 metric tons of fresh sweetpotato per week for export.
 - Variety Required
 - Beauregard (Orange Flesh Sweetpotato)

BEAUREGARD, ORANGE FLESH SWEETPOTATO VARIETY



Beauregard Primary Multiplication

- **Purchase 10,000 sterilised vines of Orange flesh sweetpotato from BINARI which are currently being multiplied at**
 - **Okyereko**
 - **Asuansi**

Secondary and Tertiary Multiplication.

- Selected farmers from
 - Gomoa East District,
 - Gomoa West District
 - Cape Coast Municipal
 - Techiman Municipalare being prepared to roll out the activities

Financing

Tripartite Agreement

- Between Farmer, PFI and Off-taker/guarantor
 - The Farmer/Borrower agrees to sell (for the season) sweetpotato roots from his farm to the off-taker/exporter
 - The off-taker/guarantor gives prior information on the quantities of raw roots required, price to be offered and how to arrive at it, as well as time to deliver it.

- The Farmer/Borrower opens and maintain an account at the Rural Bank and submit to the credit rules of the PFI in the appropriation of the said facility.
- Disbursement of funds to the farmer by the PFI will be made to the supply source of inputs and services with the prior knowledge of the off-taker/guarantor

- The PFI shall explicitly declare and explain all terms and conditions for lending to the other parties to the agreement especially interest rates, disbursement procedures, repayment terms, etc.
- The PFI liaises with the Processor / Guarantor to monitor the day-to-day operations of the farmer throughout the season and report to RTIMP to offer any other support they may require

Price Determination



- The Open Book System will be employed
To promote Transparency, Trust and Enforcement.

Terms of Repayment

- The Farmer/Borrower shall agree that payments for the sale of roots supplied to the off-taker will be lodged in their bank accounts with the PFI.
- The Farmer shall agree for the total loan repayment to be made against the total proceeds from the sale of roots supplied to the off-taker/guarantor

Object

- ▣ Empowering farmers to increase their yield per acre and provide him/her with ready market
- ▣ Attract a lot of farmers to take up the cultivation of the beauregard.

Way Forward

- RTIMP is planning a programme with WIAD to introduce some new Sweetpotato recipes across the country.
- Discussions are being concluded with some selected District Assemblies to introduce sweetpotato meals in their School Feeding Programme.



Thank you.