



**Sustainable  
sweetpotato pre-basic  
seed production Y4  
Year End Report: June  
2017 – May 2018**



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

NDIRIGWE JEAN-RAB/RWANDA  
Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: 9th  
Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production – SGA  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Kigali, Rwanda

# Production: capacities

Period: current status at end Year 4 (May 2018)

<b>Facilities</b>	<b>No. units</b>	<b>Irrigation (Y/N)</b>	<b>Total m<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>% of capacity utilized for production</b>	<b>Status of facility: good, average, poor</b>	<b>Planned rehabilitation? If yes, when</b>
Screen house	2	Y	440	95	Good	Not yet
Mobile net tunnels	2	Y	192	100	Good	Not yet
Open field multiplication	2	Y	520	100	Good	NA
Basic seed multipliers						

# Production & Sales: targets vs actuals? June 17 – May 18

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Production target (No.)</b>	<b>Production achieved (No.)</b>	<b>Revenue target (local currency)</b>	<b>Revenue Achieved (local currency)</b>
<b>TC micro-propagation plantlets</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Pre- basic cuttings</b>	3000	2713	NA	NA
<b>Basic cuttings</b>	135000	202500	854000	\$1000
<b>Open field multiplication</b>	810540	175600	2562512	\$3000.6

# Comments on production targets



- Actions taken during year 4 to increase multiplication rates:
  - Still we will apply urea to stimulate the growth and cut when vines are enough long in SC&MNT
- Actions taken during Y4 to reduce costs of production:
  - Increase cuttings production at SC and the number of ratoons and generations as well as at nursery
  - Promote and advocate sell of vines by partners/DVM
  - Reduce amount of Plantlets at TC
- Key challenges during year 4:
  - Still tracking sale of DVMs across the stations
  - Turnover of senior management of RAB (DG, Head of Corporate Services, DF-RAB and DDG)
- Lessons to share for Y4:
  - When SP seed multipliers use SP seed standard, it gives more credit to buyers and stimulate buyers to rely on DVMs

# Use of business plan tools



- Is your multiplication calendar on track:
  - Our BZPLN vs our target is going well
  - The heavy rain has favored or increase the vines production
  - Customer seed requirements: We sold some vines although the demand was low
  - Production level: Has increased of basic seeds (MNT and SC) but decreased in open field multiplication
  - Sales/Revenue: \$4000.6 (Sales and not a revenue)
- What changes will you make to your multiplication calendar for the next 6 months? **Increase the multiplication in open field**

# Use of business plan tools



- Have your production costs changed?
  - If so, explain: **NO**
  - What is change in break even cost:-
- What is current pricing strategy(for 3-node cutting)
  - Pre-basic: **31 Frw**
  - Basic price: **10 Frw**
- Will you adjust your prices to reflect changes in production costs or market competition?
  - Explain: **The price of pre-basic is \$0.036 vs 0,040 set in our BZPLN due to the devaluation of our local currency. We will adjust or increase at 35 Frw or 40 Frw at long run. For Basic seed, the price will remain as such.**

# Use of revolving fund

<b>Description</b>	<b>Local currency</b>
<i>a. Balance of Revolving Fund bought forward from last reporting period: (30/11/2017)</i>	\$ 1,566.03
<i>b. Gross income for this reporting period (1/12/17- 30/3/18)</i>	\$ 4005.85
<i>c. Total disbursements towards seed production activities</i>	\$ 0.00
<i>d. Other costs met from the revolving fund:</i>	\$0.00
<i>e. Balance of funds at end of reporting period available to be carried forward to the next reporting period</i>	\$5389.52

US\$ exchange rate: 853.75

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?	
FtF-Project	50,000 cuttings @ 31 Frw (Pre-basic)	Not yet	Outstanding payment



# Quality management: June 2017 - May 2018



- Number of varieties under multiplication: **11 (in TC)**
- What additional varieties have been introduced in Y4? **13 varieties have been introduced from Mozambique**
- What new varieties are in release pipeline & will be multiplied in Y5? 3 varieties (**2 OFSP and 1 WFSP to be released**)
- No. varieties tested over June 17 – May 18, method, & results
- **Out of sweetpotato sampled, 10 % showed infection of the 10 sweetpotato viruses**
- Seed standards and inspection protocol
  - **SP seed standard approved**
  - Are external inspections being conducted for field multiplication? **NO**

# Stakeholder meetings: June 2017 – May 2018, and planned



Date of meeting held	No. participants (M/F)	Types of participant	Main topics	Follow up actions
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Planned meetings (June 18 – Dec 18)</b>				
Proposed Date	No. participants	Types of participants	Main topics	
July 2018	40	Stakeholders meeting	Define growing calendar & OFSP awareness	\$1200

# Training – in-country (June 2017- May 2018)

Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Comments
20-22/12/2017	Tissue Culture Training	3/5	Yes	Well conducted and supported by Rosemary
<b>Planned for June 2018 – Dec 2018</b>				
Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	
August 2018	Virus indexing/Elisa Lab tests on different samples	8 Technicians/RAB	Elisa kit needed	\$1000
Sept. 2017	Trainings of SP &DVM in different modules ( in TC/ hardening and quality assurance)	60	Yes	\$2200

# June 18 - Dec 2018: key areas for strengthening performance of bizplan



- **Technical**

1. Increase vines/seed production in MNT, Screenhouse and nursery
2. Use urea to increase vines production and spray regular to prevent pests attack in nursery
3. Strengthen linkages with DVMs to get registration

- **Institutional**

1. Look more support from new RAB senior manager to support the sweetpotato seed and RF initiative
2. Increase seed demand/ Advocate and increase awareness of SP

- **Financial**

1. Organize regular RF committee meeting
2. Monitor RF and keep sales record

# 2 BEST PHOTOS



**Photo 1: Vines cut by Kayitare/ Increase of vines production  
in Mobile Net Tunnel  
Rubona research station/ 10<sup>th</sup>/04/2018  
Photo credit: Kayinamura Venuste**



**Photo 2: SP sampling by Rosemary for virus indexing  
at Rubona research station  
17<sup>th</sup>/12/2017  
Photo credit: Anastasie**