

# Highlights from Sweetpotato Action for Security and Health in Africa Phase 2, Year 4



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



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& SPHI Co-Leader  
13 November 2018, Nairobi, Kenya

# More Causes for Celebration!



Maria Isabel Andrade named Woman of the Year in Cabo Verde on 6<sup>th</sup> July



Tawanda wins Emerging Leaders Network Award on 16<sup>th</sup> July



# Successful Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> Annual SPHI Technical Meeting in Nairobi



Processing Exhibition

SASHA is the research & capacity strengthening support underpinning the broader SPHI



4 ½ day  
Deep-Dive  
Workshops



2018 Meeting:  
21 SASHA briefs  
24 Other briefs  
*plus*  
Your Passport to  
Good Health  
Now at 4th edition



# Core Activity:

## Breeding *in Africa for Africa*

- Generate populations to meet needs of users
- "Accelerated" sweetpotato breeding approach to produce varieties in 3-4 years instead of 7-8 years
- By 2018, 76 varieties bred in Africa released by 11 countries; 51 OFSP



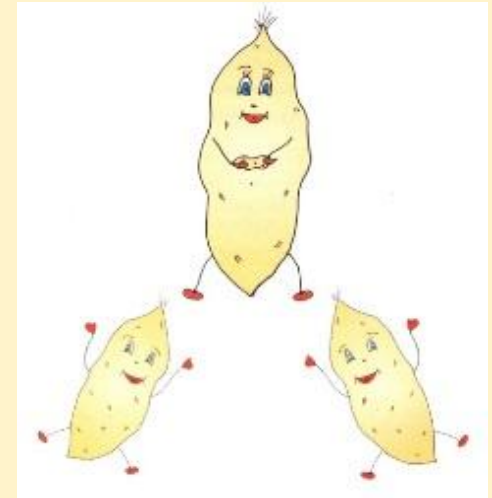
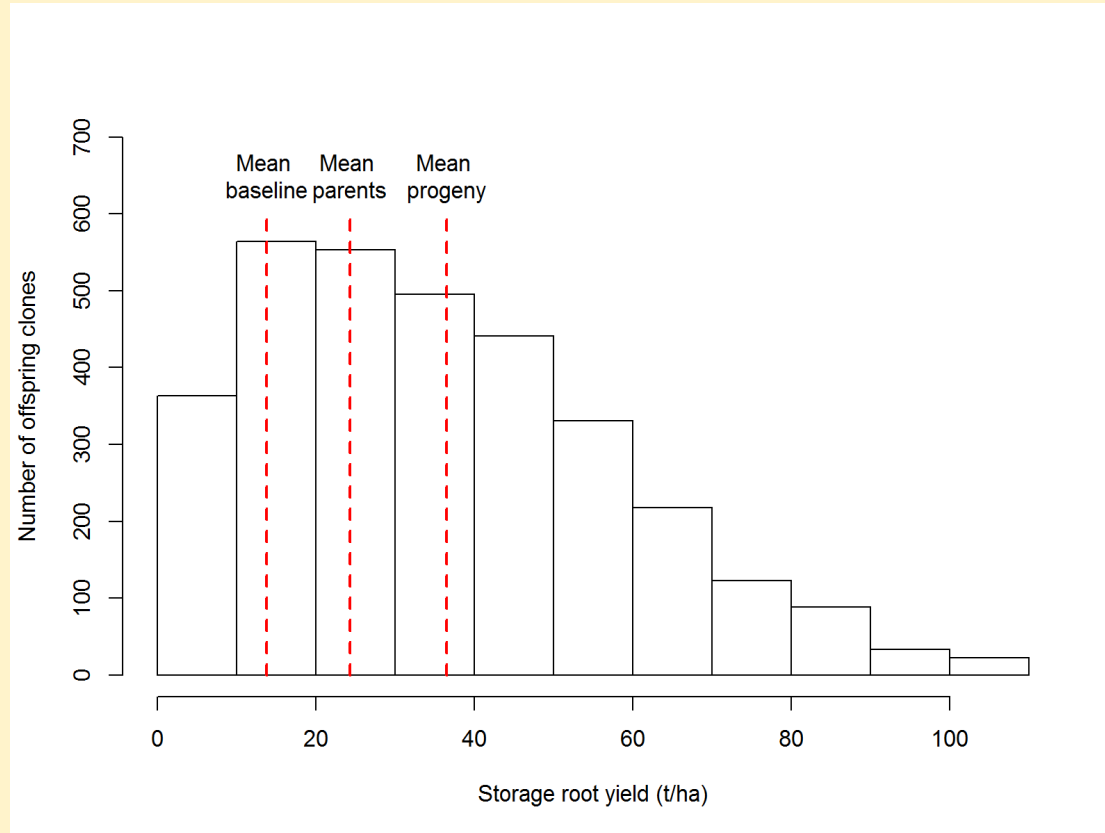
A controlled cross



The Speedbreeders  
at crossing block

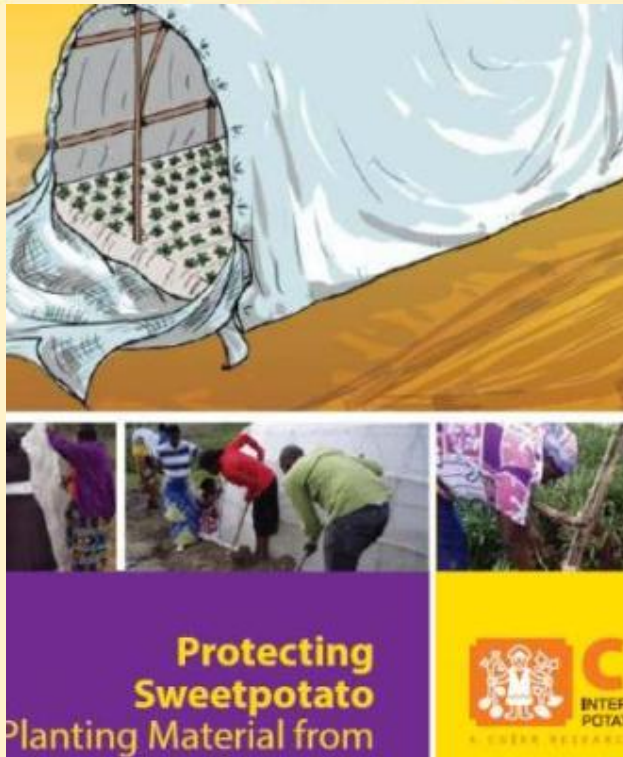


# Proof of concept for heterosis: More Positive Evidence in Low Sweet and High Iron Populations

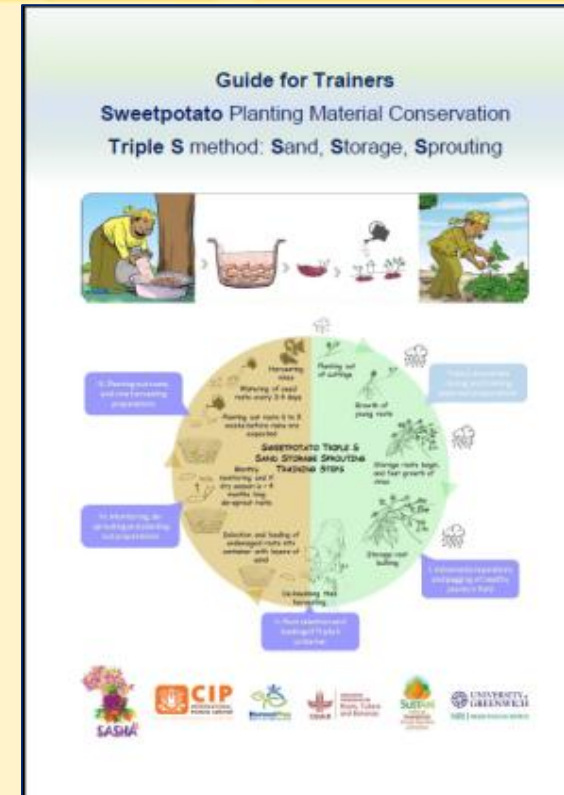


**High Iron: Yield increases >35% heterosis increment - very high selection intensities applicable**

# Progress in Improving & Validating Improved Seed Systems Technologies



Net tunnels to Protect Against Viruses  
Economic evidence less supportive



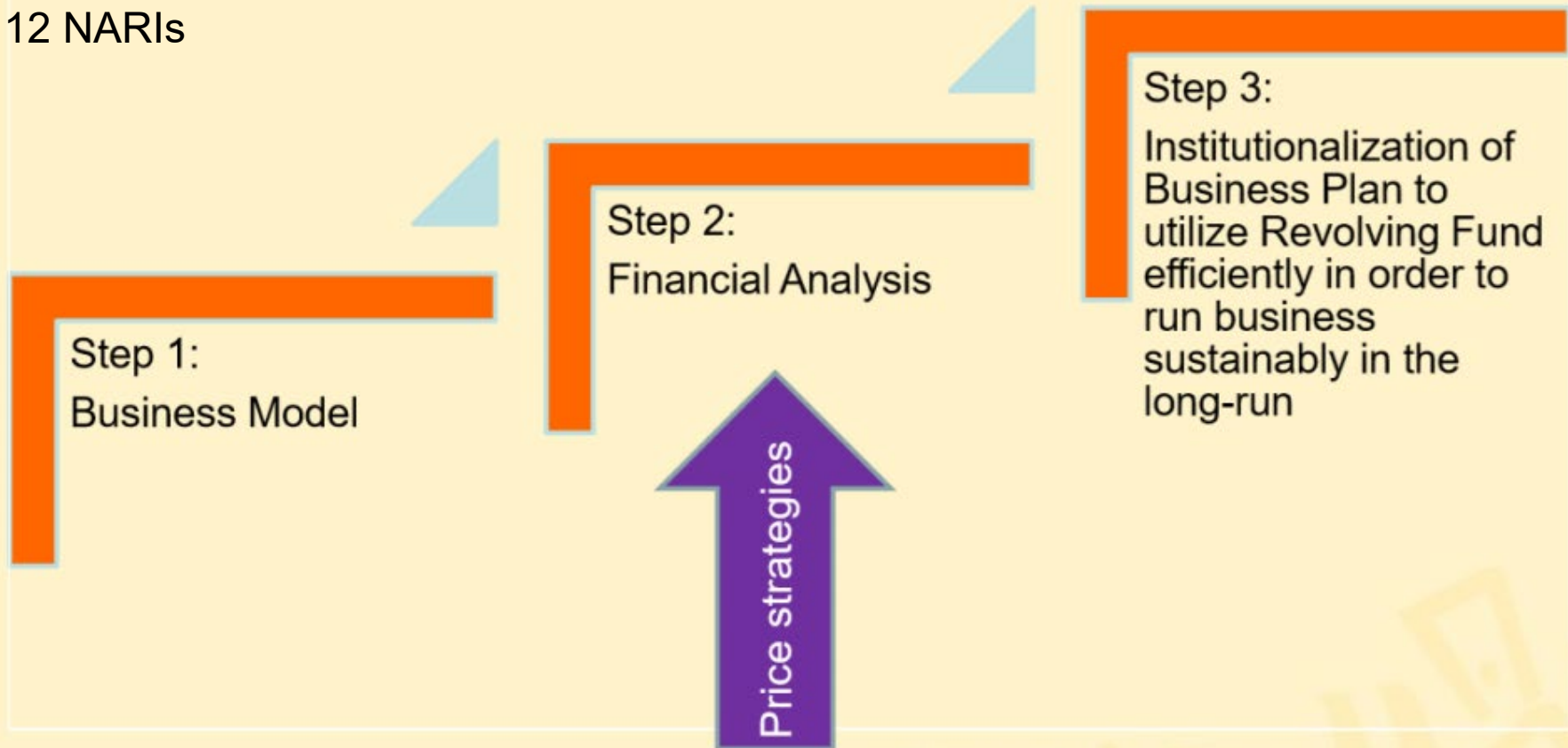
Training  
Materials  
&  
2 Videos

Triple S: Roots as Source of Planting  
Material in Areas with Long Dry Seasons



# Progress in Institutionalizing Early Generation Seed Business Approach

12 NARIs



# Research Results Starting to Come In..

## Reflected in the Briefs:

- Sweetpotato vine production & other benefits of Rice-SP Rotation
- Better understanding of Triple S
- Irrigation Experiments
  - Net tunnels vs open fields
- ClonDiag & LAMP validations
- Begomovirus findings
- Financial feasibility of different multiplication strategies
- Understanding the “Missing Middle”





# To Reach Urban Consumers, Growing Interest in OFSP Processed Products

- 1) Increased interest in diversified products from OFSP, esp. for urban consumers
- 2) Food processing can improve bioavailability by disrupting plant tissues, etc.
- 3) OFSP puree (boiled and mashed) more economically viable than OFSP flour
- 4) Challenge it to get products highly commercialized– the supply problem



Vacuum-packed purée



Hi-fiber puree– peel left on...



Articles on shelf-life, microbial loads, beta-carotene retention  
Video on OFSP puree

# Food Analysis & Nutrition Evaluation Laboratory

- Continues to grow in terms of use
  - Other Biofortified Crops
- Installation of Used ICP
  - Mineral analysis
  - Contamination detection
    - No longer need to go to Australia
- Better Sample Management
  - FANEL FLOW
- Staff turnover...
  - Daniel Mbogo— TAAT
  - Derick Malavi-- Promoted





# Improved Knowledge Portal & Enhanced Social Media Presence

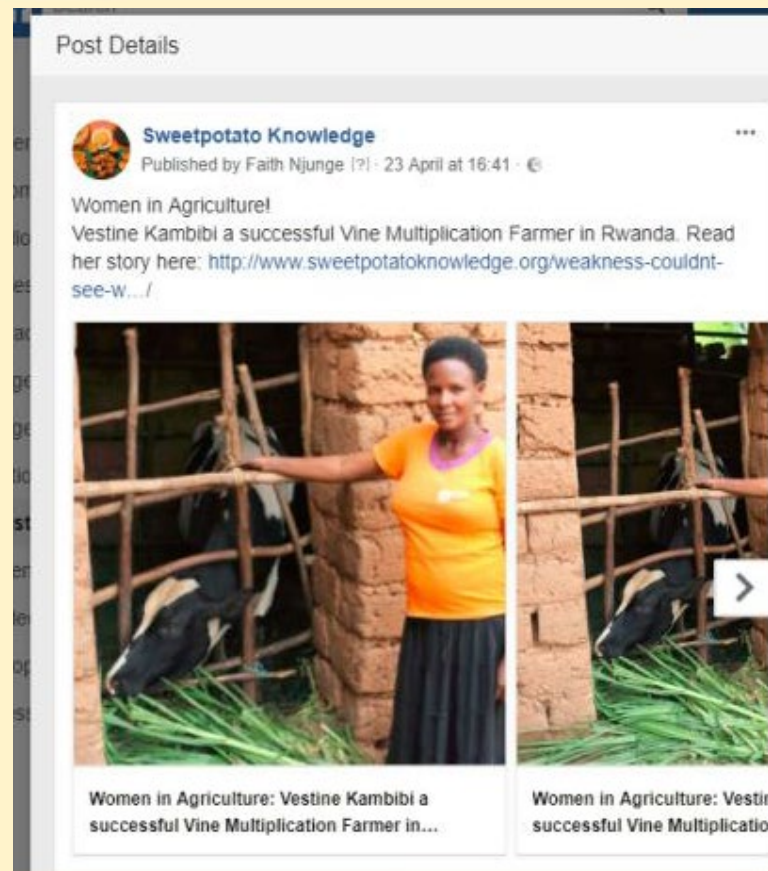


## THE SWEETPOTATO FOR PROFIT AND HEALTH INITIATIVE



New dashboard has three metrics:

- Progress in reaching 10 million households with improved sweetpotato in SSA
- Progress in release of improved sweetpotato varieties in SSA from 2010 to date
- Location of vine multipliers by country



50% of followers on Facebook in 18-24 yr old group

# CoP Meetings.....

## STATA Statistical Package Training

- Linked to MLE CoP meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> March: MLE meeting
- 13-18 March: STATA
- Consultant: Margaret Beaver
- 38 participants (9 women)
- Jointly sponsored with RTB



Marketing, Processing & Utilization CoP  
Lotus Hotel Blantyre, Malawi  
23-24 April 2018, followed by Industry  
Investment Forum, Mt. Sochi, 25 April 2018



# CoP Meetings.....

- **Seed System & Crop Management**
  - 15-17 May Kigali
  - 55 participants, 12 SSA countries



Theme: Engaging youth for improved  
sweetpotato seed and root  
production



## **Speedbreeders & Genomics**

5-8 June 2018

Nairobi, Kenya

50 participants, 14 countries

# Orange-fleshed Sweetpotato Continues to be Recognized



Plenary Session at Global Food Security  
Meeting in Capetown (December 2017)



Special Issue on  
*Biofortification* in  
African Journal of Food,  
Agriculture, Nutrition and  
Development

# SPHI

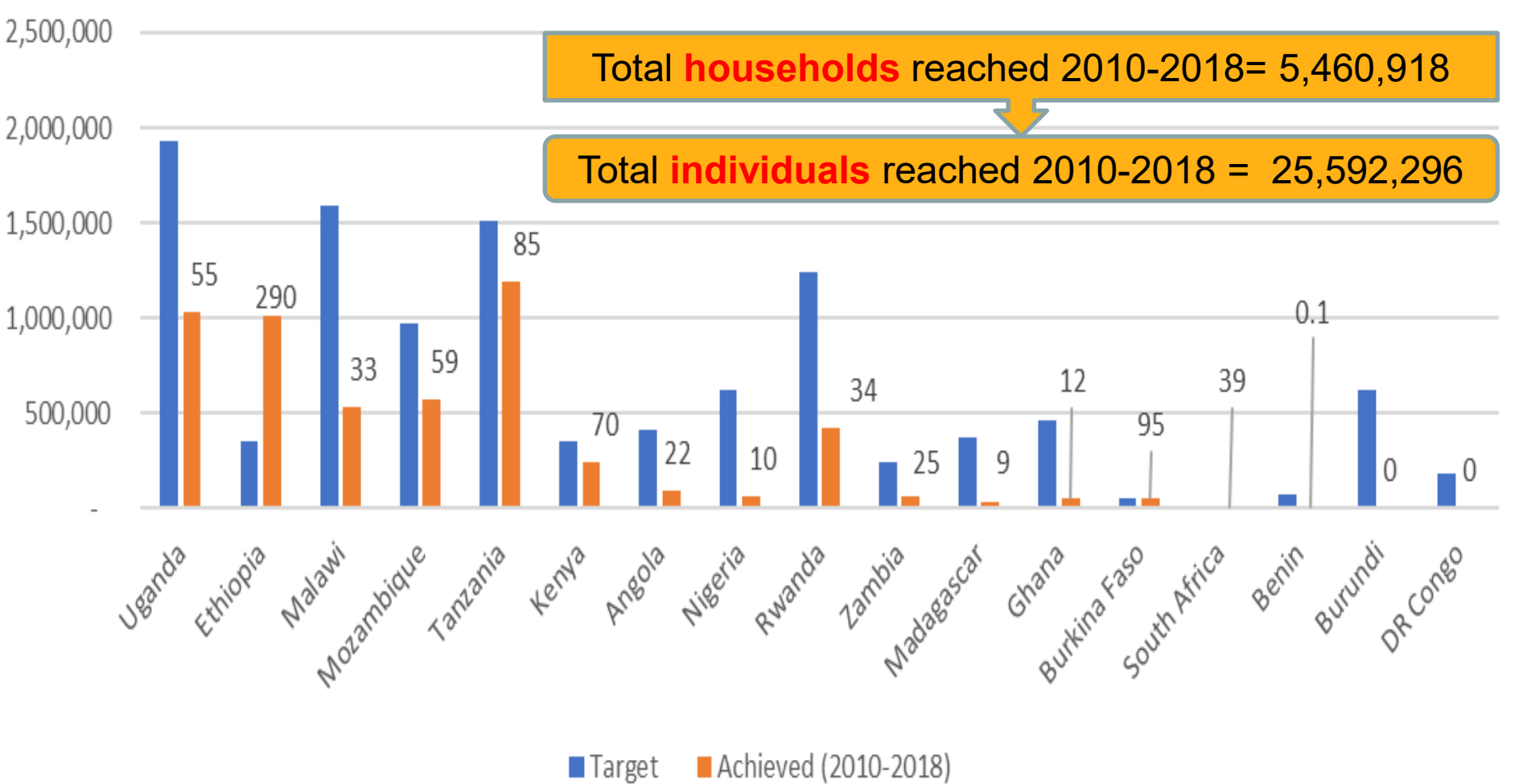
Sweetpotato  
Profit and Health  
Initiative

17 priority  
countries,  
3 sub-regions





# Progress against TARGETS, by Country



# Year 2 of the Excellence in Sweetpotato Awards!!



Communication for Change Award: \$500

Can be brief, video, song, etc..

Produced in 2017 (Jan-Dec)

50% on product quality; 50% on results

Apply by 15<sup>th</sup> August

KNUST team, Sweetpotato yoghurt campaign

Best Scientific Paper on Sweetpotato: \$500

Published 2017 (Jan-Dec)

Apply by 31<sup>th</sup> August

Winner presents paper at annual SPHI meeting

Derick Malavi (CIP) presents winning paper for 2017



Rules and forms available on [www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org](http://www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org)

# Thanks for your attention!



Check on Sweetpotato Recipe  
Section on  
[www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org](http://www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org)