

# Field evaluation of sweetpotato clones for release: Lessons learned and progress made in Northern Ghana during SASHA II

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## BACKGROUND

- Adoption of sweetpotato varieties has increased in Ghana.
- According to Amengor *et al* (2018), mean adoption level across sweetpotato growing locations in Ghana was 79.1% with high adoption rate in the Transition (100%) followed by Coastal Savanna (90.8%) and the Guinea Savanna (87.5%).
- This justifies the need for continuous variety improvement in Ghana.

## METHODS USED

- We started the crosses in 2013
- Clonal evaluation started in northern Ghana from 2015 to 2018.

## RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

- Selected clones consistently gave good root and foliage yields over 3 years across locations.
- PGA14011-43 (orange flesh) is the highest.
- Only PGA14372-3 (Yellow flesh) and PGA14398-4 (cream flesh) consistently have very low weevil damage compared to 3 of the 4 checks.
- Farmers ranked PGA14372-3 first over their own varieties. The rest were ranked after the farmer variety.
- Women also ranked PGA14442-1 (pale orange) as best for its good leaves and attractive root form.
- Sensory results indicated that, PGA14372-3 was low sweet in taste.

## CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❖ PGA14372-3 and PGA14398-4 could be used to replace the cream/white-fleshed sweetpotato varieties in Ghana.
- ❖ PGA14011-43 and PGA14442-1 could be as an addition to the orange-fleshed varieties in Ghana.

## NEXT STEPS

- ❖ Fertilizer experiment being carried out to obtain agronomic package for candidate varieties.
- ❖ Need to know storage shelf-life of candidate varieties.
- ❖ Preparations under way for inspection visit in November, 2019.