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GHANA TODAY

DBG positions itself to support green projects

ARTICLE

The turning point in Africa's agriculture

NOTRE CHRONIQUE

La production céréalière russe estimée à 123 Mt en 2023

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MR JOSEPH OCANSEY





TIAST Group, originating from China has been in existence for over 30 years and has extended its services to West Africa with the sole purpose of adding value to the agriculture value chain and promoting the worth of the agricultural industry in Ghana. Through localization and standardization, we are devoted to adding value to the agricultural chain and boosting the agriculture industry's worth in all African countries. Our business scope includes designing, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of agricultural processing machinery. These machines are designed to process a variety of agricultural goods, including tubers like cassava and sweet potato, etc. rubber processing, fibre extraction and processing from sisal and pineapple leaf, and agricultural machinery for planting, harvesting, and other tasks. We also provide financial leasing for our agricultural processing factories through our partnership with Banks which supports up to 70-80% of the total cost of the entire project. This lease is spread out in a 5-year term of payment which is convenient after the project starts running.

TIAST Group ensures offtake services of processed goods to the international market at competitive international market prices. This solves the problem of the unavailability of a ready market and promotes ready sales at the best rate. We have also secured a huge international market demand for most of the products that will be processed for ready export. These products will command competitive prices on the world market and will subsequently gain considerable market traction. TIAST facilitates the training of local employees and personnel on how to operate and maintain these machines through its localization scheme. We have technical staff on hand who are willing to train locals to operate these processing units. We are justifiably proud to be the market leaders in the agricultural industrialization space in Ghana and the sub-region. We are also proud of our footprint in Ghana and the impact we are making in the agricultural space. This life-changing opportunity is provided by TIAST Group for everyone interested in boosting agricultural value and promoting the value chain.

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OUR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIALIZATION AGENDA IS AIMED AT PARTNERING WITH FARMERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES TO ADD VALUE TO THE AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN.

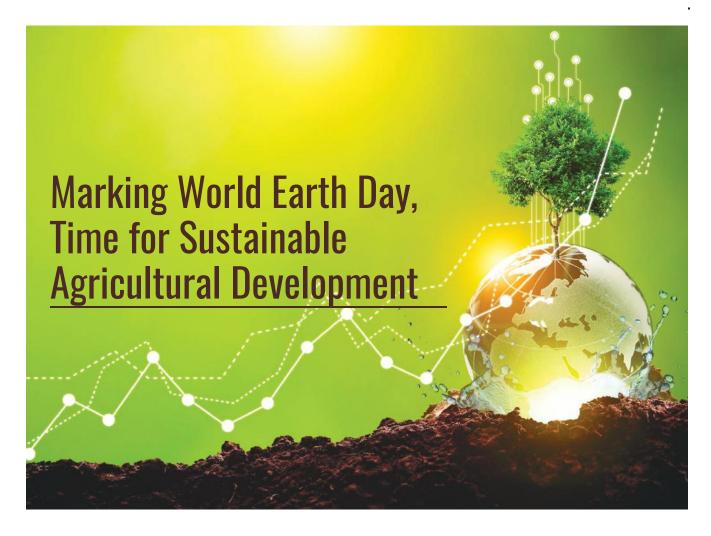
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he theme of World Earth Day 2023
was "Invest in Our Planet", calling for
businesses to shift towards sustainable
practices. Saturday, April 22, 2023
was a day set aside to demonstrate
support for environmental protection.

What can the globe say about its mandate to protect the environment? Several human activities are accounting for the harm caused to the earth.

It should however be noted that, causing harm to the earth directly affects agricultural development. Activities such as tree felling with replacement-deforestation, plastics in oceans, bush burning, and many others are unfriendly ways in treating the earth.

The devastation of the earth caused by deforestation has been a huge problem on a global scale. We have been destroying our rain forests as if there were an endless supply. In just

one month earlier this year, the Amazon rainforest lost 740 square kilometers of its tree cover.

These forest zones have become warmer and dryer as a result of the careless devastation, which makes them more prone to catching fire. Additionally, they are removing less carbon dioxide from the air as a result.

We need to push for a globe where everyone would be concerned with protecting the earth, and that starts with you. One of the ways to protect the environment is by planting more trees.

Planting more trees comes along with several benefits such as avoidance of soil erosion, protection of the ozone layer, maintaining enriched soil etc.

Humans need to protect the earth to maintain a resilient agricultural sector now! Let's all come together and "Invest in Our Planet".

Black Currant

By Chelsea Nkuah

Black currant, also known as Ribes nigrum, is a small shrub that is native to northern Europe and Asia. The fruit of the black currant is rich in vitamins and antioxidants, making it a popular choice for use in juices, jams, and other food products. In this article, we will take a closer look at the health benefits and uses of black currant.

Health Benefits of Black Current



High in Antioxidants: Black currants are an excellent source of antioxidants, which are compounds that protect the body from damage caused by harmful molecules known as free radicals. Antioxidants may help reduce the risk of chronic diseases like heart disease, cancer, and Alzheimer's disease.



Rich in Vitamin C: Black currants are also a great source of vitamin C, which plays a crucial role in the immune system and helps protect the body from infections and diseases.



Anti-inflammatory properties: Black currants contain anthocyanins, which are compounds that have anti-inflammatory properties. Studies have shown that consuming black currants may help reduce inflammation in the body, which can help prevent chronic diseases.



Eye Health: Black currants are rich in anthocyanins, which have been shown to help improve vision and protect against age-related eye diseases like cataracts and macular degeneration.

Uses of Black Currant



Culinary: Black currants are commonly used in culinary preparations like jams, jellies, and juices. They are also used to flavor baked goods, desserts, and alcoholic beverages.



Medicinal: Black currant is used in traditional medicine to treat a variety of conditions like arthritis, gout, and diarrhea. Black currant oil is also used as a dietary supplement to support overall health and wellbeing.



Cosmetics: Black currant seed oil is commonly used in cosmetics and skincare products due to its high content of fatty acids and antioxidants. It is believed to help improve skin texture, reduce the appearance of wrinkles, and protect against environmental damage.

In conclusion, black currant is a nutrient-dense fruit that offers numerous health benefits. Whether consumed in culinary preparations or used for medicinal or cosmetic purposes, black currant is a versatile and valuable addition to any diet or wellness regimen.



DBG positions itself to support green projects.

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

The Development Bank Ghana (DBG) has disclosed that through a dedication to ethical and sustainable lending standards, it is trying to establish itself as the premier institution for attracting development finance funding into the nation.

he bank has started the DBG Green Climate Investment Programme, which aims to offer funding options for environmentally friendly and climate-resilient projects, supporting the country's efforts to battle climate change.

Speaking at an event sponsored by the Ghana Association of Banks, Mr. Kwamina Duker, Chief Executive Officer of the DBG, said the bank was also fostering relationships with PFIs and advancing sustainable development in Ghana.

He said, "DBG will continue to build on these successes to foster economic growth, job creation, and inclusive development in the upcoming quarters."

He continued by saying that the bank was striving to recruit more commercial banks to make investments in the regional economy.

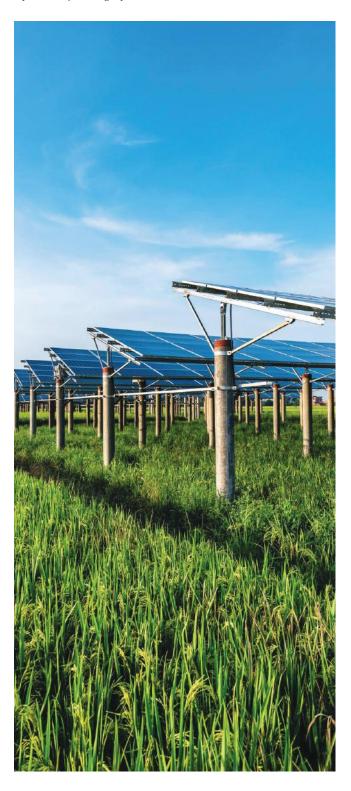
"We are expanding our PFI network. We have completed due diligence and are on course to bring onboard Ecobank and Absa as new PFIs this month. DBG will continue to identify and onboard new PFIs to enhance our reach and ability to support SMEs across the country as we seek to have at least 10 PFIs by the end of the year," Mr. Duker noted.

Regarding DBG's accomplishments, Mr. Duker remarked that this year alone, GH600 million has been distributed to small medium enterprises.



Rural farmers in Nigeria urged to embrace climate-smart agriculture

By Prince Opoku Dogbey .



The National Coordinator and Chief Executive Officer, African Union Development Agency and New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NE-PAD) Nigeria, Princess Gloria Akobundu has advised Nigerian rural farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices to improve their yield and ensure food security in the country.

he made this statement during a oneweek workshop on climate-smart agriculture for farmers in Edo State, under the theme "Climate Smart Agriculture and Food Security" which was hosted by AUDA-NEPAD Nigeria.

The National Coordinator, who was represented by Mr. Zacchaeus Akerejola Maxwell, urged the farmers to benefit from the workshop and apply what they learned for their own, their community's, and the country's good, adding that no country can develop effectively if its citizens are starving and impoverished.

Dr. Olotu Yahaya, one of the guest lecturers from the Department of Agriculture Technology at Auchi Polytechnic in Edo State, said in a speech at the event that given how climate change is affecting agriculture, farmers need to be educated about these effects and given the tools they need to practice modern, climate-smart agriculture.

He demonstrated several practical, affordable, and straightforward techniques for enhancing farm products including cassava, plantains, maize, and other crops grown often in the region.

He guaranteed that when these techniques are used correctly, farmers would notice a significant improvement in both their produce and their income.

Biosolids market becoming more value, experts project US\$ 2.7 Billion by 2027

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

In a recent market analysis on biosolids, GlobeNewswire said that the global market for biosolids is expected to be worth US\$ 1.7 billion in 2023 and rise at a CAGR of 4.6% from 2023 to 2033 to be worth US\$ 2.7 billion.

Biosolids are solid organic matter recovered from a sewage treatment process and applied as fertilizer.

They are economical sources of organic materials and plant nutrients that are locally generated.

The study claims that the global production of biosolids is rising gradually, fueling the market's expansion.

"The biosolids market is becoming more valuable due to its players' market strategies. As numerous players have established joint ventures with regional research institutions to develop new products and innovative, affordable production methods," the research stated.

Touching on the region to hold the largest share, it said, "North America is a prominent region that is estimated to hold a market share of 25.0% in 2023."

On the importance of biosolids, biosolids enhance soil tilth, increase soil organic matter, and help crops in a range of situations by supplying organic matter, nitrogen, and phosphorus.



THE FUTURE OF INDUSTRIAL RUBBER

By Anisah Salifu



he global industrial rubber market size is expected to grow from \$39.31 billion in 2022 to \$42.04 billion in 2023 at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.94%. The Russia-Ukraine war disrupted the chances of global economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, at least in the short term.

The war between these two countries has led to economic sanctions on multiple countries, a surge in commodity prices, and supply chain disruptions, causing inflation across goods and services and affecting many markets across the globe. The industrial rubber market size is expected to reach \$53.30 billion in 2027 at a CAGR of 6.1%.

The industrial rubber market is predicted to develop in the future due to the expansion of the automotive sector. The automotive industry includes businesses that produce, distribute, sell, and fix cars. The rising standard of living and growing economy have changed purchasing power. Additionally, the COVID-19's economic effects have caused a sharp rise in the desire for personal mobility across the globe.

Furthermore, the worldwide transition to emission-free transportation is being driven by climate change and the need to achieve net-zero emissions. Production of EVs and hybrid cars has surged as a result of these adoptions. The need for industrial rubber, which is utilized in a variety of car interiors and exteriors, has surged as a result of the surge in automotive sales.

INDUSTRY SEGMENTS FOR RUBBER

- · By Rubber Type: Synthetic Industrial Rubber, Natural Industrial Rubber
- By Processing Type: Injection Melding, Compression Melding, Extrusion, Other Processing
- By Product: Mechanical Rubber Good, Rubber Hose, Rubber Belt, Rubber Roofing, Other Products
- · By application: Bitumen modification, wire and cable, electrical and electronics, coating, sealant, and adhesive, automotive, building and construction, industrial manufacturing, coating, sealant, and adhesive, medical and healthcare, and other applications
- · By geography: Africa, the Middle East, Western and Eastern Europe, North and South America, Asia-Pacific. The Industrial Rubber market was more prevalent in Asia-Pacific.

Market for Industrial Rubber: Major Players Several key players in the Industrial Rubber market are Lanxess, BridgeStone Corporation, Taiwan Synthetic Rubber Corp. (TSRC), JSR Corporation, ZEON Corporation, LG Chem, Toyo Tire, Yokohama Rubber Company Ltd., Kumho Petrochemical, Copper Standard, and Gates Corporation.

Aerial Photography and Drones

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

ave you given aerial drones' or aerial photography use on farms even a fleeting thought? Well, the use of these two technological advancements are increasing every day on farms all around the world.

Drones equipped with precise and accurate sensors can identify soil health issues, low crop nutrition levels, and water stress. By focusing on the regions that require the greatest care, an agricultural firm can become more economically and environmentally effective by introducing a drone program.

Aerial photographs are moment-by-moment visual records of certain geographical areas, according to Agronomy Guide.

They are used to evaluate the state of the field and find crop or soil issues that could otherwise go undetected on the ground. The patterns of symptoms are frequently the best indicators of the origin and severity of different illnesses.

Aerial photography on farms can detect problems like tillage and compaction problems, uniformity problems, moisture problems, insect and disease problems, weed and herbicide problems, etc.

"Aerial photography is used to evaluate the state of the field and find crop or soil issues that could otherwise go undetected on the ground."

LET'S TALK IRRIGATION IN AFRICA

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

According to the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), although irrigation in Africa has the potential to boost agricultural productivity by at least 50 percent, food production on the continent is almost entirely rain-fed.

"The area equipped for irrigation, currently slightly more than 13 million hectares, makes up just 6 percent of the total cultivated area," IFPRI said.

As Africa is experiencing an ever-increase population growth, investments in irrigation should be increased to feed the growing population.

Increased investment is needed in both irrigation and other agricultural water management techniques, utilizing a wide range of infrastructure alternatives from large to small.

To ensure that benefits reach the underprivileged, especially women, investments must be targeted.

Consideration must be given to the connection between irrigation and the ecosystem services that farm landscapes offer.

Ghana: Dawadawa Impact Initiative Providing Solutions To Food Insecurity Issues

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

hana being a country with many green forests and blessed arable lands at our disposal, you may be surprised to hear we are currently dealing with food insecurity but unfortunately, that is our reality.

Half of the population is being affected by our food insecurity and the World Food Program attributes it to the inefficient food systems in the rural areas which are the agricultural areas in the country. Now let me introduce you to one food system doing all the work to resolve our food insecurity issues; the Dawadawa Impact Initiative (DII).

The Dawadawa Impact Initiative was established to promote regenerative farming, reverse climate crisis and fight post-harvest losses owned and led by smallholder farmers. It involves agricultural technologies and solutions which benefits farmers and contributes to development. This organization also provides agri-

businesses with solutions, granting farmers access to affordable farming products and service and helps maintain the quality of their produce with no harm on profits.

As a result, 55,000 smallholder farmers from Ghana and other West African countries have been able to lower their cost of production by 30%. They are also enjoying an increase in crop yield from 1.5 tons to 3 tons per hectare which has improved the standard of living in these countries.

An innovation of DII, also known as Eno Kobi fertilizer, is a natural fertilizer which is also pest repellent and improves the soil due to its planet-friendly characteristics, it utilizes food waste reduces ozone depleting methane in the environment.

Dawadawa Impact Initiative also has several harvest services including demonstrations, trainings and services on harvesting, grading, packaging, cool storage, small scale processing, among others. They also have a retail shop where farmers can access affordable farming products

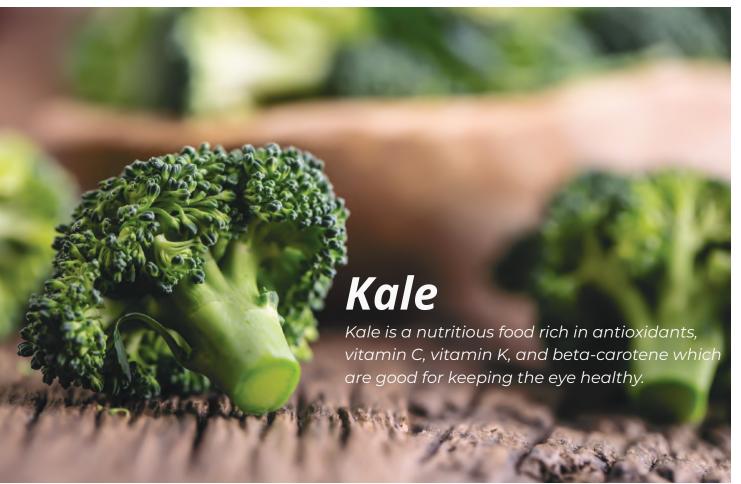
and services to reduce losses and improve productivity.

There's also what is known as the Gye Nyame hermetic storage bags which protects the post-harvest grains and seeds against internal and external attacks.

Farmers who are part of these initiative are also given Akuaffo grain moisture testing meter which can measure moisture content of several commodities to reduce aflatoxins in grains.

One can admit the Dawadawa Impact Initiative is contributing immensely to our agricultural development and growth and on the issue of food insecurity, should government come up with more projects such as this, the agricultural sector in Ghana will be greatly transformed.





o make agriculture grow and flourish in the country, it needs all the help it can get, thus, in the quest of seeking the development and growth of this sector, several actors come on board to contribute and one of these actors are the Agriculture Extension Services under the Ministry of Agriculture in Ghana.

The mandate of the Agricultural Extension Service is to serve as a liaison between farmers and other actors like the government, scientists and researchers and they also ensure food security in their respective regions.

Speaking with our team, Mr Joseph Ocansey, Head of Agriculture Extension in the Shai Osudoku District, he mentioned that, Agriculture Extension Agents work with farmers to provide technical backstopping. Which means, when new agricultural-technology break the scenes in the industry, the extension agents are not only responsible for getting it to farmers, but also provide training and field demonstration sessions, among others to help these farmers become accustomed to the new technology.

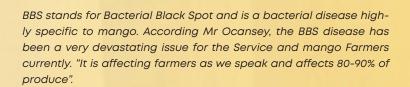
"When a farmer is in need of a tractor, he writes to the District Chair, then we forward it to the Regional Minister to facilitate the process for approval"- he said.

Commenting on some challenges facing his district, he mentioned that, Mango cultivation, which is among the major crops cultivated in the district is being faced with a deadly disease called BBS.

Ocansey

District Agric Extension Officer, Shai-Osudoku





He further mentioned that, "the disease is wide-spread and is even affecting our neighbouring country, Burkina Faso". When asked about a solution, the Head of Extension Services mentioned that, "scientists and researchers are looking to provide a lasting solution looking into however, the mango industry has several stakeholders like the processors and exporters so as we speak, I've heard that one exporter has got a drug from South Africa where they are experiencing

the same issue".

Another challenge he mentioned was tractors being limited and expensive for farmers to purchase.

> "The government provides tractors at subsidized prices but even that, the price is still high for the farmers and due to how expensive fertilizers are these days, people are not encouraged to go into farming anymore".

He also mentioned that due to the rural urban migration, there might be no lands left for farmers, thus he urged government to acquire lands for agricultural purposes and lease them out to farmers.

He also mentioned that policy makers should review their policies to accommodate farmers.



Black Currant Tea

By Mavis Esaaba Mensah

Blackcurrant tea is a dried fruit tea made from small berries grown on a shrub. The Latin name of the shrub is ribes nigrum, and it's mostly grown across Europe and Asia.



5 Foods for a healthy eye sight

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Wondering which foods to consume in order to maintain a healthy eye sight? Try these five foods and maintain a healthy eye sight.

Carrots

Beta-carotene, which is found in carrots, helps the body produce vitamin A. Low vitamin A levels can cause dry eyes, corneal scarring, night blindness, and vision loss if present insufficiently or absent altogether.

Bell Peppers

The foods highest in vitamin C per calorie are bell peppers. That's excellent for your eye's blood vessels and may reduce your risk of developing cataracts, according to scientific research.

Dark, Leafy Greens

Vitamins C and E are abundant in foods like kale, spinach, and collard greens. They also include the carotenoids zeaxanthin and lutein.

Salmon

According to WebMD, an individual's retinas require DHA and EPA omega-3 fatty acids in order to function properly. Both are present in seafood in addition to fatty fish like salmon, tuna, and trout. Additionally, omega-3s appear to shield your eyes from glaucoma and AMD. Dry eyes have been associated with low levels of these fatty acids.

Eggs

The zinc in eggs prevents your retina from being harmed by dangerous blue light. They assist in increasing the quantity of antioxidant pigment in the macula, the area of the eye that regulates central vision.



I blossom, you wither

Yesterday was yours, you blossomed Everyone celebrated you while I grew Anticipating to blossom like you But oh, you blossom in a different season Making me different from you The thick clouds gather, ready to sing in harmony To spinkle in different directions On the all awaited twinkling rose flower Beautifully, I blossom when the time is right Indeed, this is my time I blossom in my season And make the right impact by beautifying where I am Beautifully blossom, just wait

for your time!

Poem By Prince Opoku Dogbey



FOOD SCARCITY IN THE FACE OF POPULATION GROWTH



By Godwin Shan Kofi Gilman

t is a challenging and pressing issue to manage the world's food supply in order to satisfy the nutrient requirements of a population that is expanding quickly. The human population is predicted to reach 12 billion between 2050 and 2100 after seeing a tremendous expansion over the twentieth century. The growing population poses serious difficulties when it comes to feeding the people. In some regions of the world, malnutrition is a significant problem, but obesity is the main issue in others.

The unfair distribution of food resources is among the most difficult problems to solve. Millions of people worldwide battle chronic hunger and malnutrition as a result of widespread food insecurity. In contrast, wealthy nations commonly experience the reverse problem, with increased obesity and dietrelated disorders.

To address these challenges, it is crucial to focus on sustainable food production and distribution. This includes investing in technologies and practices that increase crop yields, reduce waste, and improve access to healthy food in low-income communities. Additionally, it is important to address the root causes of food insecurity, such as poverty, conflict, and environmental degradation.

WOne promising solution is the use of vertical farming, which is an innovative method of growing crops in stacked layers, using minimal land and water resources. This method has the potential to greatly increase food production in urban areas, where space is limited. Additionally, it can also reduce the carbon footprint of food production, as it eliminates the need for transportation of food from rural areas.

Another solution is to support small-scale farmers, who are often the backbone of food production in developing countries. By providing them with access to resources such as land, credit, and training, they can increase their yields and improve their livelihoods.

In conclusion, managing the world's food supply to meet the nutrient needs of a population that is expanding quickly is a challenging and urgent matter. It necessitates a multifaceted strategy that concentrates on addressing the causes of food insecurity's core causes as well as sustainable food production and distribution. We can create the conditions for a future where everyone has access to more secure and sustainable food by funding innovations like vertical farming, assisting small-scale farmers, and tackling poverty.



TODAY'S TIPS

Think about the farm's water supply

You need access to a nearby water source with good drainage because water is necessary for raising fresh vegetables and maintaining livestock. If you considered the water filtration system and how to use water more effectively, it would be beneficial.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, typical sources of agricultural water include: Surface water. Rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches.

Have an adequate water supply on the farm makes it possible to grow fruits and vegetables and raise livestock, which is a main part of our diet. Agricultural water is used for irrigation, pesticide and fertilizer applications, crop cooling (for example, light irrigation), and frost control.



The turning point in Africa's agriculture

By Portia Nyarko

Cassava has been one of the most common food commodities in Africa, most foods eaten in Africa contain a bit of cassava in them, especially in African countries like Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Nigeria is the top-ranked cassava-producing country even though cassava originates from South America, Nigerian cassava production is a third more than production in Brazil and almost double the production of Indonesia and Thailand. In 2019 Seven (7) countries produced over 30 billion pounds of cassava these countries are Nigeria, Congo DR, Thailand, Ghana, Brazil, Indonesia, and Cambodia.

Cassava is a major crop in the farming systems of Ghana. It is a main source of carbohydrates to meet the dietary requirement needs and a regular source of income for most rural inhabitants and contributes substantially (22 percent) to the Agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In Ghana, cassava is used in the processing of Gari, abgedema, abgedekrakro etc. The average ton of cassava tuber is \$103.6 in Kumasi.



Cassava has been the turning point in Africa's agriculture since its introduction to Africa, Africa has been one of the leading cassava-producing countries in the world. Cassava can be processed into cassava starch which recently has a very high demand on the international market. Over 2000 factories uses cassava starch in their produce. Industries like the Pharmaceutical industry, Beverage industry, textile industry, cosmetic industry, the food industry etc.

Currently, China alone demands 9 million tons of cassava starch per annum, where price per ton cost \$550 and since Africa is one of the leading Cassava producing continent and as to the introduction of TIAST to Africa when processed into cassava starch will generate millions of dollars income per annum. These cassava starch processing factories create job opportunities as well.

This has been a prove that cassava has been the turning point in Agriculture, generating more income and jobs in the agricultural sector.



L'année 2023 sera marquée par la pénurie en riz.

Par Yosua Domedjui

es estimations montrent que le marché mondial du riz devrait enregistrer un grand déficit en deux décennies-source Fitch Solutions. Il estime à 8,7 millions de tonnes (Mt) en 2022/2023, soit un niveau supérieur au déficit observé en 2003/4.

Ce déficit est marqué par les mauvaises conditions météorologiques des régions productrices du riz provoquant une chute de la production mondiale.

Parlant du premier producteur et exportateur mondial, la Chine a été frappée par les crues dévastatrices et une grave sécheresse ce qui baisse sa production de 2%.

Les grandes inondations du Pakistan, un pays qui fait partie des cinq premiers exportateurs mondiaux ont rabaissé de 29,2% sa production du riz.

Les États-Unis également sont affectés par les mauvaises conditions météorologiques ce qui a mis leur production en -16,3% par rapport à l'UE.

La production céréalière russe estimée à 123 Mt en 2023

Par Yosua Domedjui

ne grande annonce du ministre de l'agriculture, Dmitri Patrouchev, met l'accent sur la production céréalière de la Russie, il estime que la production atteindra 123 Mt en 2023, dont 78 Mt de blé « récolte décente et équilibrée » quoique inférieure d'environ 20% au record atteint en 2022.

Le record de l'année dernière a été de 153,8 Mt dont plus de 100 Mt de blé, en raison d'une hausse des rendements et des surfaces, et de la prise en compte dans le calcul des territoires occupés suite à l'invasion ukrainienne.

La CIC (Conseil international des céréales) établit également des estimations de la production du blé à 124,3 Mt, une estimation qui est proche celle de la Russie dont 82,8 mt de blé et 15 Mt de maïs.

« Cela nous permettra d'assurer pleinement la sécurité alimentaire nationale et de continuer à fournir des produits à nos partenaires étrangers », a déclaré le ministre, relayé par l'agence Reuters.



Les récoltes sont en diminution aussi en Australie (-27,7%), au Brésil (-7,4%), en Irak (-92%), au Japon (-2%), en Corée du Sud (-3%), aux Philippines (-1%), en Russie (-14,7%), au Sri Lanka (-7,6%) et en Uruguay (-11,7%), selon le département américain de l'Agriculture (USDA).

En Afrique de l'Ouest, globalement la zone enregistre une évolution positive, notamment au Mali (+11,8%) et au Burkina Faso (+5,8%) mais chute fortement au Ghana (-13,8%) et dans une moindre mesure au Nigeria (-4,1%) et en Gambie (-3,7%).

Ces rapports estiment la production mondiale du riz à 509,4 millions de tonnes en 2022/23 enregistrant une baisse de 1% de 9 ans, selon USDA.

Fitch Solution dit le marché mondial du riz devrait toutefois revenir à « une position équilibrée en 2023/24 » et devrait enregistrer un excédent en 2024/25.

En effet, la Russie est le premier exportateur mondial de blé et pourrait approcher en 2023/24 le niveau record d'exportations qu'elle a connu lors de la campagne actuelle. Selon UkrAgro-Consult, le pays exporterait 45 Mt en 2023/24 contre 42 Mt en 2021/22. Selon le CIC, il exporterait 42,2 Mt contre 43,6 Mt en 2021/22.



L'Alliance Solaire Internationale et le PNUD collaborent pour une agriculture solaire durable en Afrique



'Alliance Solaire Internationale (ASI) et le Programme des Nations unies pour le développement (PNUD) ont décidé de collaborer afin de mettre en place le projet Scaling Solar Applications for Agriculture Use (SSAAU). Ce projet sera déployé dans neuf pays africains membres de l'ASI, pour une ■durée de deux ans et un coût de 2 millions de dollars. Les pays concernés sont le Bénin, la République démocratique du Congo, le Mali, le Niger, l'Ouganda, le Sénégal, le Soudan, le Soudan du Sud et le Togo.

Le but de ce programme pilote est d'améliorer l'accès à l'énergie pour les travailleurs agricoles et de proposer une solution d'irrigation durable grâce à de nouveaux modèles innovants de déploiement de systèmes de pompage solaire de l'eau. À plus grande échelle, cette initiative vise à aider les pays membres de l'ASI à concevoir et à mettre en œuvre des projets et des programmes introduisant la technologie de pompage solaire dans les pratiques agricoles.

Le communiqué de l'ISA souligne que ce projet permettra aux travailleurs agricoles d'accéder à une source d'énergie fiable, économique et respectueuse de l'environnement, ce qui aura des retombées positives sur la productivité et la qualité des cultures. En effet, la disponibilité de l'eau en quantité suffisante est un facteur crucial pour l'agriculture et le pompage solaire de l'eau peut répondre à ce besoin de manière durable.

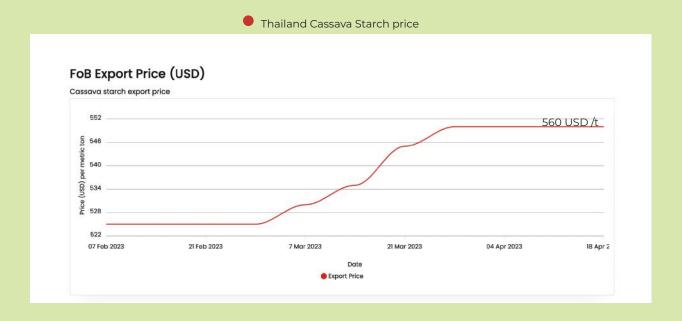
L'initiative SSAAU mettra en œuvre de nouvelles approches de déploiement des technologies solaires pour les projets agricoles. Celles-ci incluent une assistance technique pour la conception et la mise en œuvre de projets solaires adaptés aux besoins locaux, ainsi que des formations pour les travailleurs agricoles et les professionnels locaux. Les partenaires de l'ASI et du PNUD travailleront en étroite collaboration avec les gouvernements locaux et les acteurs de la société civile pour s'assurer que les projets sont adaptés aux besoins locaux et qu'ils bénéficient aux communautés les plus vulnérables.

En outre, le programme SSAAU aura un impact positif sur les émissions de gaz à effet de serre. En effet, l'utilisation de l'énergie solaire pour l'irrigation permettra de réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre générées par les pompes à eau à combustion, qui sont souvent utilisées dans les zones rurales où l'accès à l'électricité est limité.

Le projet SSAAU de l'Alliance Solaire Internationale et du Programme des Nations unies pour le développement a pour objectif d'améliorer l'accès à l'énergie pour les travailleurs agricoles en introduisant la technologie de pompage solaire dans les pratiques agricoles. Le projet permettra également de réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre et d'augmenter la productivité et la qualité des cultures dans les pays membres de l'ASI.

Market Analysis of Cassava Starch In Thailand

he market prices of cassava starch have reduced slightly over the last month. The price ranges from 500-550 US dollars/ton (3,627.80 yuan /ton). This week, the market price of cassava starch in Thailand's tapioca starch quotation is FOB (Bangkok) 495 US dollars/ton (3,788.46 yuan/ton). The starch prices in the domestic cassava starch market are stable. In Thailand, the raw material supply of fresh cassava is stable. The average starch leavening of cassava starch is between 24-28 percent. Thailand is relatively stable, the open factories remain high, and the starch output continues to increase. The speed of cassava starch clearance is still low, and the quotations of traders are slightly confused.



Price Factors

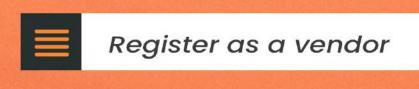
Quality of cassava root: Factory owners demand cassava with high starch content for production. Higher starch content would receive a higher price than the lower one. The price WWWoffered by the collector is dependent on the quality of the cassava root, specifically, the starch content.

Cost of Labour: Total labour cost including farm labour for the cultivation and harvesting of cassava. The cost of labour during the harvesting period is high as compared to cultivation therefore the cost of harvesting directly affects pricing.

Harvest Yield: There is a high correlation between harvest yield and the price of cassava. The price of cassava is lower when there is a low yield. The lowest prices in June and July can be explained in a similar way but the opposite end. It is noted that the abundance of cassava roots drives the prices down.

Handling and Logistics: The storage and shipping costs from producing areas to importing countries are great determinants of cassava prices. When the shipping and transportation cost of cassava to consumers and industries are high, it affects the retail price of cassava. Cassava farmers bring their harvest to the collectors, where they are responsible for absorbing the cost of transportation from farm to collecting fields.

Harvesting time: The harvesting period is a great determinant for the price of cassava. The abundance and scarcity of cassava affect the price. The prices of fresh cassava roots often rise in November and December of every year as cassava is easily harvested during the rainy season. During the harvesting season, the prices are relatively high due to the limited supply.



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