

# agro**riches**

VOL 3. | 3RD EDITION

## GHANA TODAY

Promote Consumption of  
Millet - Ghana urged

## EDITORIAL

Agricultural Industrialization:  
A Beacon of Hope for Africa

## NOTRE CHRONIQUE

L'évolution des cours de l'huile  
de palme dans l'économie  
mondiale

# AGRIBUSINESS

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MARCH 2023





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.

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# CONTENTS



04



10



06



23



07



12

## EDITORIAL 04

Agricultural Industrialization:  
A Beacon of Hope for Africa

## CROP PROFILE 05

Squash

## GHANA TODAY 06

Promote Consumption of  
Millet - Ghana urged

## CONTINENTAL DIGEST 07

Kenya Receives Aid from Sweden  
to Implement National Central  
Farmers' Database

## WORLD NEWS 08

FAO trains government representatives  
on national nutrition guidelines

## TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS 10

Unlocking Opportunities for  
Sustainable Growth in Agriculture

## INSIGHT AFRICA 12

Prioritizing agriculture for Africa's  
economic development

## Personality Profile 14

Agribusiness Secret Formula

## THE PLATTER 16

Thai squash & pineapple curry

## ARTICLE 17

Sustaining the relevance of women  
in Agriculture

## ARTICLE 21

Africa must invest more in agriculture

## NOTRE CHRONIQUE 22

Les semenciers français exposé  
aux fléaux d'irrigation

Apporter de la valeur ajoutée à  
l'agriculture africaine

## NOTRE CHRONIQUE 23

L'évolution des cours de l'huile de  
palme dans l'économie mondiale



# Agricultural Industrialization: A Beacon of Hope for Africa

**A**frica's agricultural sector has huge prospects to advance economic growth. However, the benefits of the agricultural sector hasn't been fully realized as little has been done to sustain its relevance.

In this age, agricultural industrialization has become a global changer as prominent nations like China, United States of America and other global giants have fully engaged the potentials of industrialization to grow the sector. It is about time Africa invests in agricultural industrialization to expand its market, sustain the local economy and also generate foreign earnings to become a global giant.

Touching on the economic importance of agricultural industrialization in Africa, the sector creates numerous employment opportunities. This is because, unlike farming where crops are being sold to buyers directly,

industries further process these crops into more value added products thus it broadens the scope of production to include technical hands, offtakers, among others.

The value of industrialization can't be underestimated as Africa needs to sustain its local economy. It is however recommended that Africa builds more industries to process crops produced by local farmers. This will however, mean that African farmers must improve and increase food production to feed the industries. To be able to maintain these industries, graduates from technical universities must be trained well to be able to operate these factories.

Agricultural industrialization would also decrease post-harvest losses in Africa thus creating the availability of food. Lets' rethink Africa and industrialize the agricultural sector.

***“Let's build Africa through  
agricultural industrialization”***

# Squash

By Chelsea Nkuah

Squash is a versatile vegetable that is a part of the Cucurbitaceae family. It is a popular ingredient in a variety of dishes, from soups and stews to salads and casseroles. Squash can also be roasted, steamed, grilled, or boiled. Squash is a great source of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants. It is low in calories and fat, and high in dietary fiber, which can help with digestion and weight loss. Squash is also a good source of vitamin A, vitamin C, and potassium.

## Types of Squash

There are many different types of squash, including summer squash, winter squash, and gourds. Summer squash, the most common type, includes varieties such as zucchini, yellow squash, and pattypan squash. Winter squash, such as butternut squash, acorn squash, and spaghetti squash, are usually harvested in the late fall and winter. Gourds are a type of squash that are usually ornamental and not edible. They are usually dried and used for decorations. Examples of gourds include the bottle gourd, luffa gourd, and dipper gourd.

## Nutritional Benefits of Squash

Squash is packed with essential vitamins and minerals. It is a great source of vitamin A, vitamin C, and potassium, which are all important for maintaining healthy eyes, skin, and bones. Squash is also high in dietary fiber, which can help with digestion and weight loss. Squash is also low in calories and fat, making it a great addition to any diet. Additionally, squash is a good source of antioxidants, which can help reduce inflammation and protect against chronic diseases such as heart disease and cancer.



# Promote Consumption of Millet-Ghana urged

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

**T**he High Commissioner of India to Ghana, Sugandh Rajaram, has called for the promotion of millet consumption on a worldwide scale to support sustainable development, a clean environment, and a robust economy.

He believed that promoting millets' cultivation, consumption, and export would improve human health, preserve the environment, increase the income of farmers in developing nations, and guarantee food security.

He made this statement at the launch of the International Day of Millets 2023 (IYoM 2023) and Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) Campaigns during the Indian Food Festival in Accra, which was put on by the Indian High Commission.

According to Mr. Rajaram, millet, which is primarily grown in the Global South's developing nations, contributes significantly to national economies and the food supply because so many rural farmers depend on its production, consumption, and sales revenue.

Millets, according to him, are the most nutrient-dense food products and the healthiest food available to humans. They also take little water and other resources to

grow, are climate resilient, and are therefore an environmentally beneficial crop.

"We are increasingly experiencing difficulties to maintain sustainable health with the traditional diet but with the millet, which is protein rich, gluten free but at the same time providing various nutrients in terms of vitamins and minerals, will replace not only what we get through our traditional diet, but at the same time what the larger section of humanity is using as health supplements," he said.

The Deputy Minister for Food and Agriculture, Mr. Yaw Frimpong Addo, mentioned that, since 2017, Ghana had adopted a strategic approach to diversify its food supplies and tree crops by allocating more resources to the cultivation of unconventional crops.

***"We are keen to work with our development partners, particularly the private sector to modernize and transform the agricultural sector. In our consideration, India is certainly a trusted partner for operationalizing our vision for agriculture"***



# Kenya Receives Aid from Sweden to Implement National Central Farmers' Database

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

*Kenya has received Sh650 million from the Swedish government, to implement the second phase of the Kenya Integrated Agriculture Management Information System (KIAMIS).*

This was announced by the Agriculture Cabinet Secretary, Mithika Linturi at the launch of the second phase.

***“I am happy to announce that the Swedish government has offered Kenya a grant of Sh650 million to implement KIAMIS Phase II, with the main focus being the registration of all farmers and establishment of a complete, central farmers’ database, he said.***

Linturi added, “This will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.”

He claims that the money will be used to create a comprehensive database of all farms.

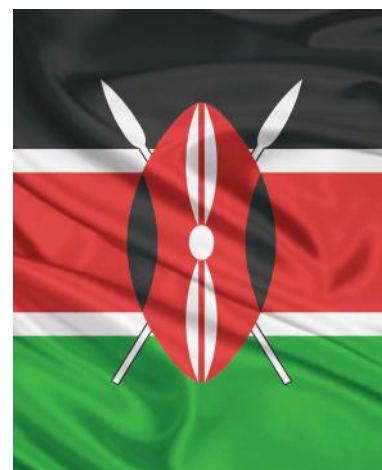
“Once we have a complete register of all farmers, we shall embark on an elaborate national fertilizer subsidy programme that will cover all counties and use digital systems to ensure efficiency and also implement other inputs subsidy programmes, including seeds, lime, animal and chicken feeds, crops and livestock insurance, among others,” the Secretary said.

Swedish Ambassador to Kenya, Caroline Vicini, FAO Representative, Amb Carla Mucavi, Assistant FAO Representative-Programs, Hamisi Williams, PS State Department of Crop Development, Kello Harsama, and other top government officials were present for the launch.

The KIAMIS is a digital platform with various components that enable the government to register farmers and establish a national central farmers’ database.



“The Swedish government has offered Kenya a grant of Sh650 million to implement KIAMIS Phase II, with the main focus being the registration of all farmers and establishment of a complete, central farmers’ database”





# FAO TRAINS GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON NATIONAL NUTRITION GUIDELINES

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

**The Food Ministry and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations recently held its final series of training workshops for local government representatives at the Bangladesh Agriculture Research Centre auditorium in Dhaka.**

The training was aimed at enabling them to create practical nutrition and meal planning advice based on the nation’s updated dietary guidelines.

“There is not only hunger for calories but for nourishing meals. As we continue to work for zero hunger, we must remember the importance of food for health and well-being,” the Assitant Representative of FAO, Nur Khondaker, said.

He added, “With a focus on nutrition security, we embrace solutions that nourish people instead of filling them with food but leaving them hungry. This training is an important step towards developing easy-to-understand and practical nutrition advice for people.”

The workshop was attended by district and divisional officials from 18 ministries and organizations working to expand nutrition education across the nation.

The “Meeting the Undernutrition Challenge” project of the FAO, which is supported by the European Union and the US Agency for International Development, and the Food Planning and Monitoring Section of the Food Ministry jointly hosted this session.

A fundamental goal of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is assisting the countries of the Caribbean in developing national strategies, methods and tools to improve diets.

Food-based dietary guidelines (FB-DGs) are a key source of information that governments can use for educating the public on ways to do this.

**“This training is an important step towards developing easy-to-understand and practical nutrition advice for people.”**





# UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN AGRICULTURE



By Godwin Gilman

**A**griculture is one of the most important sectors of the economy, providing food and raw materials for industries across the globe. However, it is also a capital-intensive industry that requires significant investment to achieve sustainable growth. In recent years, there has been growing interest in agriculture as an investment opportunity, as investors seek out ways to diversify their portfolios and support sustainable economic growth.

Investing in agriculture has become increasingly popular in recent years, as investors look for new ways to diversify their portfolios and access sustainable investment opportunities. Agriculture offers several advantages as an investment opportunity, including the following;

**Diversification:** Agriculture provides a way for investors to diversify their portfolios by investing in an industry that is not directly tied to the stock market or other financial markets.

**Tangible assets:** Agriculture is a tangible asset that provides investors with a physical product that can be sold or traded.

**High growth potential:** Agriculture has high growth potential, as the global population continues to grow, and demand for food and raw materials increases.

**Sustainable development:** Agriculture can support sustainable development by providing opportunities for smallholder farmers and supporting rural communities.

Investing in agriculture can take many forms, including direct investment in farmland, investment in agricultural commodities, and investment in companies that provide products and services to the agriculture industry. Each of these investment strategies offers its own unique benefits and risks, and investors should carefully consider their investment objectives and risk tolerance before making an investment.

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# LASER SCARECROW

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Aside pests and small insects, birds and rodents can be a farmer's worst nightmare as they destroy crops and harvest.

Thus, farmers in the past relied on traditional scarecrows which comprised of a wooden-cross-structure covered in clothes to impersonate a human being. This scarecrow warded off hungry invaders.

However, today, with the emergence of technology, farm owners and managers are turning to high-tech devices with motion sensors to keep birds away from their crops.

After research led to the discovery that birds are sensitive to the color green, which is quite ironic since they usually dwell on trees, a researcher from Rhode Island helped design a laser scarecrow which projects green laser light.

The light isn't visible by humans in sunlight but can shoot 600 feet across a field to startle birds before destroying crops. Early tests with laser scarecrow found that the device can minimize crop damages by reducing the bird population around farmlands by up to 70% to 90%.



# Let's talk Climate Change and Agriculture

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

**G**one are the days when Ghanaian farmers sowed in May to await the rains in June and July or when they had the certainty of harvesting before and during the dry season.

Currently the changes in our weather patterns and climate have made it impossible to predict when to sow and when to reap which is affecting crop yield and productivity considering the increasing number of mouths farmers are required to feed these days.

The current population of Ghana in 2023, stands at 34,121,985, a 1.93% increase from 2022's 33,475,870 and coupled with the eye-opening COVID-19 crisis, there's the need to enhance our food security, but how do our farmers do that when they can no longer predict when there's going to be rain or shine.

Here's how.

Every farmer needs to accept that the world is changing and so is our climate. A few days in February and we experienced an unusual harmattan in Ghana which many didn't see coming, as a result, there's the need to understand and study the new climate patterns so as to plan towards it. One way to do that is to listen to our

meteorological experts concerning the weather and to also be ready to change their traditional farming ways to adapt to these new changes. This may mean we might be harvesting in January or planting in June if the climate calls for it.

In addition to changing our old ways and making room for new methods, vertical farming may be the way to combat the issue of climate change. Vertical farming looks at growing crops upwards on top of each other and not horizontally in the soil like we know to do. With vertical farming, crops are often grown in warehouses in a controlled environment where the farmer doesn't only have control on when it rains or shines but also the temperature, meaning how much rain or shine the crops should be exposed to with the use of artificial intelligence and monitored sensors.

Also, with vertical farming little to no soil is used sometimes which contributes to sustainable agriculture and maximum productivity.

As we continue to plant more trees, and practice sustainable farming, greenhouse gases and carbon compounds which lead to climate change will decrease, leading us towards EU'S net-zero project by 2063



# Prioritizing agriculture for Africa's economic development

By Maame Henewaa

In most African countries, the agricultural sector is one of the sectors that lacks value and development. Africa still struggles to turn its advantages into industrialization and economic progress despite the fact that the majority of its people are smallholder farmers, possess fertile land, and contribute to the continent's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The major factors impeding agribusiness in Africa using Ghana as a case study are lack of capital investment, inadequate water supply, water contamination and lack of education on agriculture industrialization.

A focus on agriculture financing might help farmers produce in huge numbers to meet local demand, boost exports, and enhance their quality of life. Here in Ghana, most farmers are smallholder farmers. Over the years, Ghana has had a significant funding difficulty that has trapped farmers, particularly smallholder farmers in rural Ghana.

Due to their inability to obtain financing from financial institutions, small - scale farmers are held back by poverty and are unable to expand their fields or buy equipment to boost output. The majority of smallholder farmers are already trapped in the poor soil fertility-poverty cycle, making it impossible for them to finance inputs, adopt sustainable soil management techniques, and profit from the sector's development.

Protecting water bodies from chemical pollution while focusing on irrigation can help farmers produce good yields. The use of irrigation which is no longer reliable due to climate change can help farmers grow their crops without having to rely solely on rainwater. Irrigation is the technique of manually supplying water to crops to meet their needs. Crops may also receive nutrients through irrigation. Water for irrigation can be obtained through wells, ponds, lakes, canals and even dams.



Moisture provided by irrigation is essential for germination, growth, and other related processes. In Ghana, most water bodies have been polluted due to various activities. Plants may not germinate properly resulting in low agriculture production.

Due to lack of knowledge about agricultural modernization and its advantages, most people have low opinions of the agricultural industry. The majority of farmers, particularly in Ghana, produce and sell unprocessed crops at rates that result in losses.

To sum up, only when the sector is appropriately funded, when clean water is consistently supplied and distributed for irrigation, and when farmers and persons are trained in and actively engage in agricultural industrialization, then it can be said that agriculture in Africa is prioritized.



Smallholder farms are family farms that are less than seven acres and form 80 percent of Africa's farmland.

## Quince

Quince contains antioxidants that reduce metabolic stress, lower inflammation, and protect your cells against damage by free radicals, which are unstable molecules.



*“Farmers in Ghana see farming as only a source of livelihood rather than a business, and if they should change their mindset, they would see its potential”*

# DR. GEORGE ACHEAMPONG

SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF  
GHANA BUSINESS SCHOOL

**T**he Agricultural sector in Ghana contributes a lot to the Ghanaian economy and is said to be its backbone. Due to its high potential, including creating job opportunities and increasing revenue, agriculture, over the years has become appealing to many individuals including investors but not much light is shed on what it takes to start or invest in an agribusiness.

Thus, we took it upon ourselves and interviewed Dr. George Acheampong, a researcher, farmer and a senior lecturer at the University of Ghana who teaches entrepreneurship, to talk about what it takes to start an agri-business and everything there is to know about the venture.

Speaking on what it takes to start an agribusiness, Dr Acheampong broke his assessment into steps and mentioned that, “Everyone who wants to venture into any type of business, should first have the capacity to start such business”.

He said, “Agriculture, just like any other business requires a skill, and when one lacks the skill, farm heads and sub-farmers are most likely to cheat you”.

Thus, the first and basic requirement is to have the needed skills and to understand all processes involved so as to know what you’re about. Some ways to achieve this is to take time to study the field of agriculture, this may include research and talking to people who are already in the business.

“After this, the next step is to test the market viability of the business” he added. In relation to agriculture, the Senior Lecturer explained that, after one has gained the competence in the field, the individual could indulge in what is known as “demonstration farming”, where he/she acquires a small piece of land and practices farming at a small scale. Thus if the farm is successful, then it is a business and the individual can consider going on a larger scale while expanding as time goes by.

In relation to the lucrativeness of agribusiness, Dr Acheampong agreed with the assertion saying, “The agricultural sector is very lucrative since most of our staple foods are made with grains, vegetables, meat and so on, the sector is one that never runs out of business since everything in the agricultural sector is needed for human existence”.

Delving into the challenges facing the industry, he said, “Farmers in Ghana see farming as a source of livelihood rather than a business, and if they should change their mindset, they’d see its potential”.

He added that most individuals are dishonest, as a result, many investors and entrepreneurs want to venture into agribusiness in Ghana, but the difficulty in getting honest people to take care of the farms, puts them off the idea.

“You’d have to be present to foresee all activities on the farm, else you’ll be financing the farm, and end up being cheated by farm hands” he added. Dr Acheampong believes, “A lot of agricultural-based issues are not sensitive to the youth.”

Giving an example, he stated that, for one to make any meaningful profit cultivating maize, they’d need at least a 10-acre farm, and the prices of land and even the tenure system in Ghana now, is quite expensive, and not favourable to the youth which discourages them from venturing the field.

He however urged government and other bodies to educate the youth more on agriculture so as to change the negative perspective surrounding the sector and to provide more support to make the sector more appealing to the youth.

Dr. Acheampong, who also has a passion for student-led activities, organizes entrepreneurship training seminars for his students and led the innovative front in launching “the innovative hub” at the University of Ghana Business School. He’s also the track-chair of Africa’s competitiveness on the global market and the local lead for a project on Port Efficiency at the Tema Ports.

# Thai Squash & Pineapple Curry

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Thai squash & pineapple curry is a meal that has both Indian and Thai culinary origins, with minor ingredient modifications based on regional preferences.

## Ingredients

1 tbsp vegetable or sunflower oil  
1 onion, chopped  
4 tsp Thai red curry paste  
medium butternut squash (about 500g/1lb 2oz) peeled, deseeded and cut into chunks  
½ x 400ml / 14 fl oz can reduced-fat coconut milk  
200ml vegetable stock  
140g frozen green beans  
237g can pineapple chunks in natural juice, drained  
coriander leaves, chopped, and leaves to garnish

## Directions

In a wok or pan, warm the oil. To soften the onion, fry it for 5 minutes. The squash, coconut milk, and stock are then added after stirring in the red curry paste. Squash must simmer for 15 to 20 minutes to reach tenderness. Add the green beans 10 minutes into the cooking process.

Add the pineapple and coriander and stir. Cook for a short while, until the fruit is heated through. Serve the curry in dishes with rice or noodles and top with coriander leaves.



# Sustaining the relevance of women in agriculture

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

**S**tewardship, commitment, zeal and hard-work are major qualities women possess inherently. Amidst these set of qualities, the woman is often underestimated and not given the necessary recognition as required. Women play diverse roles in strengthening the agricultural sector, but financial constraints decreases the productivity of the woman in agriculture.

Research has proven that about 43 percent of women in the agricultural labour force engage in agriculture globally. Narrowing the scope to Africa, specifically the sub-Saharan Africa, women make up to almost 50 percent of the agricultural labour force in sub-Saharan Africa, an increase from 45 percent since 1980. Women treat agriculture very well as compared to men, since most women rely on agriculture to sustain the family.

Another striking contribution of women in agriculture has to do with

the production of food to meet the global demand. Currently, it is recorded that about 60-80 percent of the food produced for consumption globally is attributed to the significant role women play in the agricultural sector. Although women work tirelessly every day to feed the global population, the necessary support and financial assistance which ought to be given to them are often ignored placing more focus on the men in agriculture.

On the farm, women are seen engaging in every activity, such as weeding, planting crops, applying fertilizer, watering crops, harvesting crops and even trading the crop produce to the consumer on the market. Their contribution to the agricultural sector is very great although it can't be quantified with accuracy. Despite this contribution, the wage gap on the farm is not attractive thus making women in agriculture not recognize the essence of engaging in agriculture.

Women ought to be given the necessary financial support to champion increased production and practice modernized mode of farming. Most women are ignored and seen as not having the capacity to manage financial assistance on the farm for increased returns. This situation has made a lot of women venture into other businesses to be able to sustain the family and make good livelihood. TIAST Group, an organization committed to value addition has championed this agenda, and is providing financial and technical support for women in agroprocessing or women who want to venture into it. This initiative is one which would spur economic growth in the country and create more employment opportunities for the populace at large.

Adding up to women empowerment on the farm, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Departments of Agriculture in various countries should see to the training of women in agriculture. Mentorship programmes and workshops geared toward guiding women and teaching them innovative ways to thrive in the agriculture sector should be taken seriously for an accelerated growth.

Various institutions mandated to promote sustainability in the agricultural sector should take women at heart and help sustain the industry. Women empowerment is indeed a tool for development.



## Dear Neighbour

Dear neighbour, you poke me daily with no remorse  
But I never complain, Because You smelling  
nice brights up my day. So what else can I say?  
While others walk on me, stomp and stab me everyday  
You choose to be rooted in me for your sake  
I don't thirst so I give thanks to thee  
I like it when you blossom in the spring  
Because you invite those pretty cute creatures  
with their fluffy wings  
Making me seem like a perfectly painted picture.  
Just like cassava and plantain, we make a perfect mixture  
Your petals and branches shield me from the rain  
Thank you for saving me that strain  
I'll always love you until the end of days  
While the sun still shines, let's go make more hays  
Dear neighbour, what do you say?



— Poem by Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi



# The Role of Agribusiness in Sustainable Development

By Godwin Gilman

Agriculture is a critical sector that plays a significant role in the world's economy, providing food, fiber, and other essential resources for millions of people. At the same time, it is also one of the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and environmental degradation. As the world faces the challenges of climate change and resource depletion, it is imperative that the agriculture sector shifts towards a more sustainable model of production. This is where agribusiness comes in, as a crucial player in driving sustainable development in the agriculture sector.

Agribusiness is the business of farming and the commercialization of agricultural products, encompassing all the activities from production to distribution. It provides the financial and technological resources necessary for farmers to adopt sustainable practices and technologies. In addition, agribusiness companies can also play a significant role in promoting sustainable agriculture by investing in research and development, marketing sustainable products, and advocating for policies that support sustainable agriculture.

One of the key ways in which agribusiness can contribute to sustainable development is by reducing the environmental impact of agriculture. This can be achieved through the adoption of sustainable farming practices, such as reducing pesticide and fertilizer use, conserving water, and improving soil health. In addition, agribusiness companies can invest in renewable energy technologies and adopt environmentally friendly production processes to reduce their carbon footprint.

Another important way in which agribusiness can contribute to sustainable development is by supporting small-scale farmers. Small-scale farmers often face significant barriers to entry in the market, including limited access to finance, technology, and markets. By providing small-scale farmers with the necessary resources, such as credit, technology, and market access, agribusiness companies can help them grow their businesses and improve their livelihoods.

Finally, agribusiness can also play a crucial role in promoting food security and reducing poverty by increasing the efficiency and profitability of the agriculture sector. By investing in research and development, agribusiness companies can help farmers produce more food with fewer resources, which can help improve food security and reduce poverty, especially in developing countries.

In conclusion, the role of agribusiness in sustainable development is critical. By providing the resources and expertise necessary for farmers to adopt sustainable practices, agribusiness can help to reduce the environmental impact of agriculture, support small-scale farmers, and promote food security and poverty reduction.



# TODAY'S TIPS

It takes a lot of labor to keep a farm clean. Maintaining cleanliness on a farm is important for many reasons, including preventing illness, blight, vermin, and ultimately ensuring the farm's success. The reasons for having an unclean farm are endless, but doing your best to keep up with your cleaning responsibilities will help your farm survive and prosper.

Both visually pleasing and helpful for farm harvest safety, a clean farmyard is a must-have. Make an effort to store any tools, farm equipment, or other items that aren't really necessary. This will ensure that the yard is kept tidy and that you are familiar with where things are located.



# AFRICA MUST INVEST MORE IN AGRICULTURE

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Agriculture in Africa is not only meant to feed the continent but is capable of serving the continent in diverse ways to improve life. The fertility of the African land is capable of producing food to be self-sufficient in food production and open up socio-economic activities.

The agriculture sector in Africa contributes to eradicating poverty and hunger, fostering intra-African trade and investment, quickly industrializing and diversifying the economy, managing natural resources sustainably, and generating jobs, human security, and shared prosperity.

The formidable issue that Africa hopes to tackle is feeding 1.5 billion people by 2030 and 2 billion by 2050. Hence, ensuring food security for a population that is growing and becoming more urbanized should be the ultimate priority of African nations.

To achieve this, strategic investments in agricultural industrialization is needed to boost Africa forward. However, the major problem facing Africa is the inadequate funds allocated by Governments of various African countries to

agricultural development. This has impeded the growth of the sector in countless ways.

The World Economic Forum sees three main ways to address global food insecurity: financial investment in regenerative agriculture, strong market-growth policies, and national leadership in reshaping their food systems. Small-scale farmers confront the greatest challenges yet provide food for two out of every three people on the earth, thus their support is given special attention.

Industrialization of the agriculture sector in Africa has to do with building factories in all African countries to process what agriculture grows into value added products so as to increase the worth of the sector by a higher margin.

Africa imports more food and exports less annually. For instance, Africa imported food worth a total of over 81 billion US dollars in 2019. This inhibits growth and development. Africa must do well to invest in Agriculture because it is a sector on which other sectors are established on.



# Les semenciers français exposé aux fléaux d'irrigation

Par Yosua Domedjui

Alors que le pays est en restriction sur l'eau, les agriculteurs français demande un garantis d'accès à l'irrigation afin de pouvoir arroser les blés, les tournesols et les maïs.

Le directeur de l'Union française des semenciers Didier Nury, explique « Aujourd'hui, alors qu'il y a déjà des restrictions d'eau, il n'y a pas de différence de traitement entre la production agricole destinée à la consommation -et vente sur les marchés-et la production de semences ».

A l'approche des semis - en mars-avril pour le maïs et le tournesol - les « agriculteurs multiplicateurs », qui consacrent une partie de leur activité à la production de semences, "n'ont aucune certitude sur l'accès à l'eau qu'ils auront en juillet, au moment clé de la floraison", a-t-il déploré. Sans eau à cette période, c'est toute la production de semences qui est en danger, c'est pourquoi l'UFS demande que la production de semences soit systématiquement protégée et considérée comme une culture spécialisée pouvant être exemptée des restrictions générales.

« Nos besoins en eau sont faibles, mais c'est maintenant que les agriculteurs font leurs choix de cultures et c'est donc maintenant qu'ils ont besoin de certitudes », a insisté Didier Nury.

Sur les quelque 397 000 hectares dédiés à la production de semences en France en 2022, 40% sont irrigués, soit 0,2 milliard de m3 d'eau sur les 3,2 milliards de m3 consommés par le secteur agricole chaque année . Cela représente « une infime partie de l'irrigation agricole pour un milliard d'euros d'excédent commercial », a-t-il assuré, rappelant que l'UFS a réalisé 3,6 milliards d'euros de chiffre d'affaires.



## Apporter de la valeur ajoutée à l'agriculture africaine

Par Yosua Domedjui



« Nous ne pouvons pas nous débarrasser de nos lunettes uniquement agricoles. Nous devons l'envisager de manière holistique en matière du système alimentaire, de chaîne de valeur, etc. ». Sibiri Jean Zoundi, directeur adjoint du Club du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CSAO) et un économiste spécialisé dans les questions agricoles s'expriment.

Il continue ses allégations en disant « Je ne vous dirai pas combien coûte un kilowattheure dans la région et l'énergie est essentielle pour le secteur de la transformation agroalimentaire, et l'assiette fiscale est également un problème. Trop de taxes et le système fiscal ne sont pas incitatifs, car si vous voulez que ce secteur se développe, il faut des incitations. Mais surtout, c'est vraiment toute la volonté politique d'accompagner ça, ça ne peut venir que de la puissance publique ».

Le président du conseil d'administration de Pan African Farmers Organizations, constate qu'il est primordial d'avoir des infrastructures et des routes pour favoriser le transport des marchandises agricoles afin de permettre à la population d'avoir accédé de manière permanente aux produits alimentaires et résoudre le problème de la cherté de ses produits.

L'un des plus grands défis à relever dans ce secteur est le financement. Toutefois, de multiples programmes de soutien public dédié à la filière agricole, ce secteur manque toujours de soutien financier nécessaire pour son décollage.

Une autre difficulté surtout en Afrique est le manque de projet agricole, des structures internationales de financement sont prêtes à investir en Afrique.

**« FARM paris met sur le tapis des sujets de réflexion sur comment apporter de la valeur ajoutée au secteur agricole en Afrique. »**

# L'évolution des cours de l'huile de palme dans l'économie mondiale

Par Yosua Domedjui



L'huile de palme provenant de noix de palme est largement consommée dans la sous-région d'Afrique de l'Ouest. Il est employé pour préparer la plupart de nos plats africains. On y trouve des vitamines authentiques et des aliments sains. Grâce à sa richesse en acides gras, elle a un effet protecteur sur l'organisme humain.

L'huile de palme est également riche en bêta-carotène, un dérivé de la vitamine A, elle est surtout connue pour donner un joli teint. Au-delà de son aspect bienfaiteur sur l'organisme humain, il fait l'objet d'un produit conçu sur le marché international.

La production mondiale d'huile de palme est estimée autour de 73 millions de tonnes en 2019 et environ 62 % de la production mondiale d'huile de palme est exportée. Par pressage à chaud, l'huile de palme est tirée de la pulpe des fruits du palmier à huile. Dans le monde, 80% de cette huile est utilisée pour les produits alimentaires et 10% pour les produits cosmétiques ainsi que pour les produits bi-carburants. La plupart des pays producteurs d'huile de palme comme l'Indonésie et la Malaisie, représentaient en 2018 respectivement 58% et 31% de la production mondiale (Source Département de l'agriculture des États-Unis, USD)

## Augmentation des prix du palmier à huile.

L'une des principales matières premières dont les prix ont augmenté au cours de l'année 2021 est l'huile de palme. L'offre mondiale de la Malaisie a augmenté de plus de 30 % au cours de l'année. En général, la banque des Pays-Bas estime que les prix moyens de l'huile de palme progresseront de 7% par rapport au niveau de 2021 pour atteindre une moyenne de 4 425 ringgits en 2022 approximativement 1007,59 dollar américain. Nous pouvons citer entre autres le Nigéria comme le principal producteur de l'huile de palme. En raison de sa puissance économique grâce au pétrole, le Nigéria a su investir sa fortune dans la production de l'huile de palme afin de plus maximiser sa richesse.

## Les bienfaits de l'huile de palme sur la santé

L'huile de palme émouline, nourrissante et protectrice, elle est particulièrement hydratante. Elle peut également protéger les cheveux contre la déshydratation tout en leur apportant une douceur. L'huile de palme est également riche en vitamine E et donc une fois assimilé par notre corps, il serait capable d'activer notre système immunitaire. Une fois que notre système immunitaire est renforcé, il lutte contre toute maladie qui pénètre dans notre corps.



# Market Analysis of Cassava Starch In Thailand

The market prices of cassava starch have reduced slightly over the last month. The price ranges from 525-530 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 (3,627.80 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.

● Thailand Cassava Starch price



## 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 WWWW offered 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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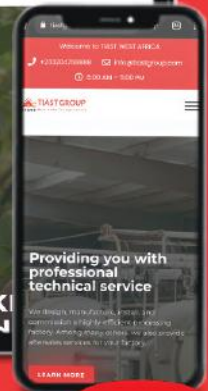
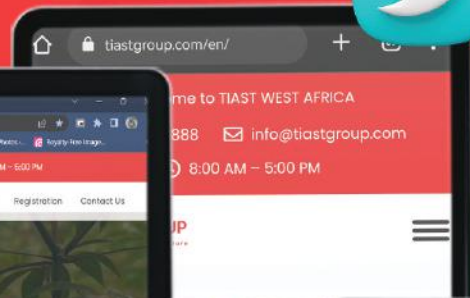
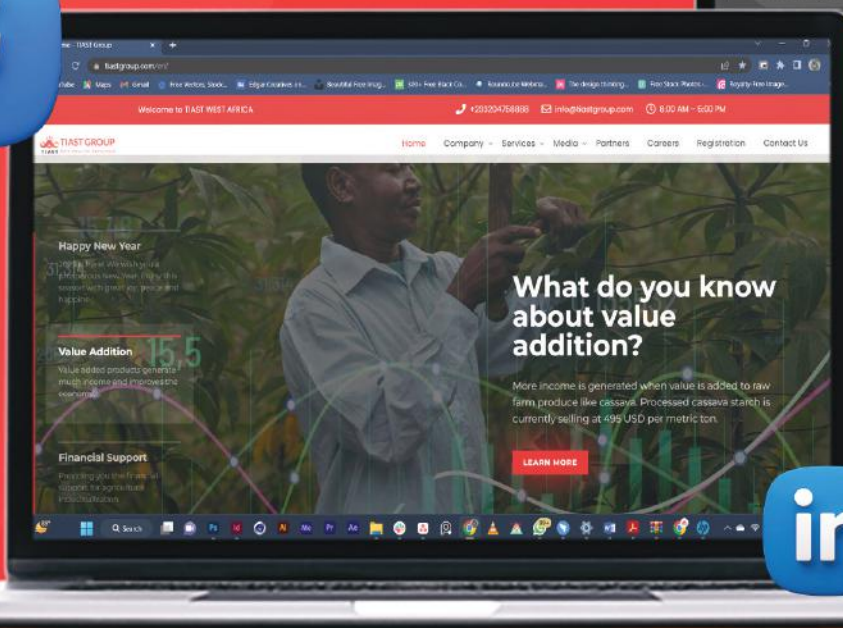
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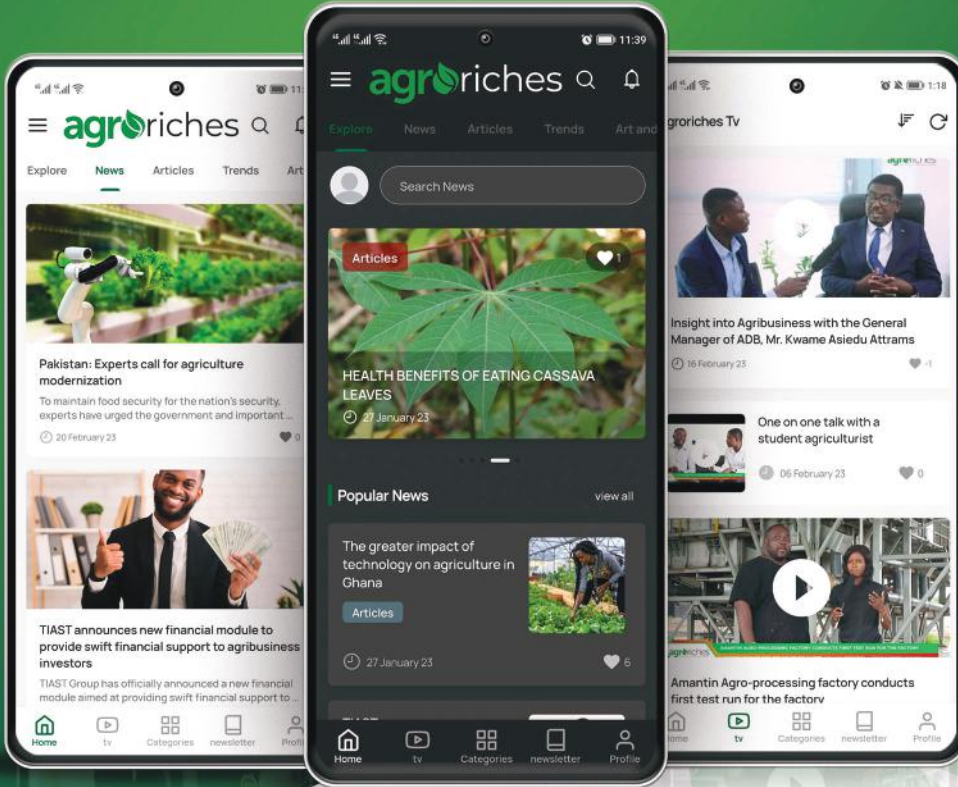
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