

agro**riches**

VOL 3. | 10TH EDITION

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



CAPITAL FOR THE GREEN FIELD



MAY 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.

TIAST Group ensures offtake services of all 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.

KINDLY SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE.



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Sustainable Agriculture is key to creating resilient food systems

Droughts are gradual-onset disasters caused by climate change and water shortages. Agricultural drought, by definition, refers to conditions that result in adverse plant responses, which can range from reduced crop and forage yield to total crop or forage failure.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), an estimated 55 million people are affected by drought each year, and it's the most severe hazard to crops in nearly every part of the world. WHO also indicates that water scarcity impacts about 40% of the world's population, and as many as 700 million people are at risk of being displaced as a result of drought by 2030.

However, the good news is that sustainable farming practices such as cover cropping, reduced tillage, and improved irrigation techniques can help farmers regain their land and regenerate the soil to help mitigate the effects of drought. When we practise sustainable agriculture, like farming, in a way to protect the environment and aid and expand natural resources, we produce resilient food systems that ensure a sufficient supply of acceptable and accessible food for all.

Agriculture can be the saviour of drought, reducing the impact of climate change if the appropriate practices are utilized. Food systems supported by sustainable practices like cover cropping will aid in producing much more food with less land usage.

Droughts can have a huge negative impact on the agriculture sector, making it difficult for farmers to grow their crops. Fortunately, farmers can implement sustainable farming practices like planting drought-resistant fruit trees and adapting cover crop planting to change the narrative and ensure there's no food shortage due to drought.



Jicama

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Origin

Jicama is a starchy root vegetable similar to a potato or turnip which is sometimes referred to as Mexican turnip or yam bean in Mexico where it originates. It has been around since the time of the Aztecs and is currently cultivated in northern south America the Philippines and South China.

Description

The Jicama on the outside, looks like a light brown beetroot but on it looks and feels like a raw potato. But it doesn't taste like one. It's crisp and slightly sweet, like an apple.

Jicama's roots are edible and slightly sweet but low in sugar, making it a good choice for people with diabetes and those interested in a low sugar diet.

Although the root is safe to eat, the rest of the plant, including the beans, are said to be toxic.

Health Benefits

Filled with essential nutrients

Jicama contains a lot of important vitamins and minerals including Vitamin C, folate, potassium and magnesium. It is also low in calories and high in fibre.

High in antioxidants

Jicama is a good source of antioxidants like vitamin C and other compounds which are said to lower the risk of certain chronic diseases.

Boosts heart health

The dietary fibre, potassium, iron, copper and nitrate which lowers cholesterol levels, reducing blood pressure; improving circulation and benefiting the heart.



Gender Minister calls for increase support for Women in Agriculture.

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Lariba Zuweira Abudu at the Women in Agribusiness Summit 2023 held in Accra said financial institutions should support women in agribusiness with the necessary boost to do more in agriculture.

According to the Minister, the financial support would empower women to procure inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizer, agricultural technology and processing equipment.

The summit which was organized by USAID-support Feed the Future Ghana Mobilizing Finance in Agriculture (MFA) brought together financial institutions, research institutions, investors, agribusinesses, transaction advisors, civil society groups and trade associations.

Speaking under the theme, "Empowering Women in Agriculture through Enhanced Access to Finance", she said, "I applaud MFA for providing business advisory services to women-led agribusinesses in their quest to access financing. Your partnership with financial institutions to develop financing products which are tailored to women, reduce loan interest and to accept social guarantees instead of collateral is laudable."

The USAID Ghana Mission Director, Kimberly Rosen said the MFA activity has facilitated over US\$ 204.47 million financing for over 33,000 agribusinesses.

"We believe in promoting gender equality and recognizing the unique role that women play in the agricultural industry. Women are the backbone of agriculture, and their contributions to food security and national development are invaluable," Kimberly said.



Nigeria turns to technology to build resilient Agric.

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Heavy rains in 2022 in one of the world’s most populated country, Nigeria, saw several floods destroying numerous hectares of land with maize and rice production also reducing to an estimated 12% and 21% respectively.

Thus, Nigeria is now turning to technology to salvage the situation and better their agriculture sector.

The country is part of a CropWatch innovation cooperation programme launched in 2021 by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development(UNCTAD) which uses satellite data to monitor crop growth and other climate-related conditions, to improve farm management.

According to Ms Babamaaji of National Space Research and Development Agen-

cy (NASRDA), ‘the technology and skills acquired through CropWatch will add-on the Nigerian government’s efforts to revive the agricultural sector.

The CropWatch programme uses South-South cooperation to overcome many of the issues affecting the sector.

It allows participating countries to access much-needed technology, along with training on adapting the system to specific local requirements.

The programme currently bolsters agricultural monitoring in 14 developing countries across Asia and Africa, accelerating progress towards zero hunger, which is a key ambition outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Increase adoption of automated farming technology to record massive market growth.

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

The market for autonomous agricultural equipment was valued at \$10.71 billion in 2022 and is projected to grow at a CAGR of 21.65% from 2022 to 2027 to reach \$28.54 billion.

The market projection was made by a research firm, BusinessWire.

A rise in the use of automated farming technologies because of labor shortages and high labor costs, an increase in crop yield optimization and waste reduction, and a rise in reliance on cutting-edge technologies to boost productivity globally are all predicted to contribute to the growth of the global autonomous agriculture equipment market.

From 2022 to 2027, the market is anticipated to rise due to an increase in the deployment of automated machinery and equipment, sensors and navigation systems, robots, autonomous vehicles, and other technologies. The most crucial piece of gear utilized in contemporary agricultural operations is the autonomous tractor.

“Autonomous farming equipment can include tractors, combines, harvesters, and other machinery that are used in various farming operations. These machines can be programmed to perform specific tasks, such as planting, harvesting, tilling, and spraying, without the need for human intervention,” BusinessWire said.

The report provided by the firm said, “The use of autonomous agriculture equipment has a positive impact on agriculture operations and livestock farming. These technologies offer benefits such as increased efficiency and productivity, water saving, reduced costs, data collection and analysis, increased safety, better sustainability, and others.”

Touching on the importance of autonomous agriculture to farmers, it added, “In addition, autonomous agriculture equipment helps farmers to better understand important factors such as water, topography, orientation, vegetation, and soil analysis.”



Forest Conservation, Crucial For Agric Productivity!

By Jessica Meledi

Forests cover 31% of the land area on our planet. They help people thrive and survive by, for example, purifying water and air and providing people with jobs; some 13.2 million people across the world have a job in the forest sector and another 41 million have a job that is related to the sector.

Forests are relied heavily on by humans and even animals and Forest play a more important role in mitigating climate change because they act as a carbon sink absorbing carbon dioxide that if not absorbed, would contribute to the changes in climate change . However, forest around the world including Ghana are under threat , endangering the benefits of forest conservation.

According to the UN's Food and Agriculture organization, protected forest areas currently cover only 5% of the tropical forest area and the rate of growth in protected forest areas has declined in recent years due to increased land pressure.

Although conserved areas have been established to enjoy strict legal status, numerous problems arise in tropical zones in relation to their management. In Ghana here, Problems including conflicts with local people over land rights and illegal extraction of plant resources to mention just a few examples is one of the menace affecting forest conservation.

These problems are often intensified due to the inability of duty bearers to protect such areas.

I believe that apart from authorities using legal actions to prevent people from exploiting forest reserves, a "buffer zone" can be created around forest reserves, since sometimes the legality does not work . Buffer zones are meant to form a physical barrier against human encroachment of the centrally protected area that also extends the natural habitat area of the protected area to beyond its legal boundary.

Wind Turbine

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

According to history, the first wind turbine to produce electricity was a vertical-axis wind turbine built in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1887 by Scottish academic James Blyth. Charles Brush is credited with making the first significant attempt to generate energy from wind in Ohio, USA, in 1887.

A wind turbine is a device that produces electricity for farm use. It can aid in reducing the consumption of fossil fuels used to produce power, such as coal and natural gas.

To decrease the production of harmful energy, a significant alternative is required. Fossil fuel reserves will be depleted before the end of the century due to the rate at which we are consuming them up.

Additionally, since the globe is contributing to the environment's problems by emitting carbon dioxide, there is the need for alternative energy sources is now growing, and wind energy is a good fit.

For farmers, wind power can be a significant economic advantage. Including road access, large wind turbines typically occupy less than half an acre of land, allowing farmers to continue planting crops and grazing livestock up to the base of the turbines.





Changing Trends in the Rubber Industry

By Anisah Salifu

The rubber business has expanded dramatically over time. Rubber plants or rubber trees of a specific species known as *Hevea brasiliensis* are used to produce natural rubber.

On the other hand, petrochemical feedstock is used to create synthetic rubber chemically. Some of the most common synthetic rubbers are nitrile, isoprene, styrene-butadiene, butyl, chloroprene, polysulfide, silicone, urethane, and ethylene propylene diene terpolymer (EPDM).

The shifting societal trends and occupations have an impact on every industry, including the worldwide rubber industry. In most tropical areas nowadays, rubber plantations are a crucial component of the local economy. 7.89 million tons of the 17.1 million tons of elastomers produced worldwide, according to the most recent study by the International Rubber Research Experts, were natural rubber.



The manufacturing of rubber has historically been at the forefront in Southeast Asian nations. Together, nations like Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam make up the greatest rubber-producing regions in the world. Although almost all industries employ industrial rubber goods, the automotive industry continues to be the one where rubber is most prevalent. It is mostly utilized in the production of tires because of its robust qualities, including toughness and tear resistance. It also functions in low-temperature settings.

It is the ideal material for making tires, and as a result, it makes up more than 40% of the total tire composition. Transmission belts, elevators, and non-flat belts are just a few of the industrial applications that benefit from qualities including weather resistance, insulating property, and flexibility.

The market for rubber was valued at USD 40.77 billion in 2019 and is anticipated to grow to USD 51.21 billion by 2027, with a CAGR of 5.3%. There is therefore a huge potential for other continents lacking behind like Africa to take advantage of this market and invest heavily in rubber farming.

IFAD and Kenya Presidents work together to boost Agriculture

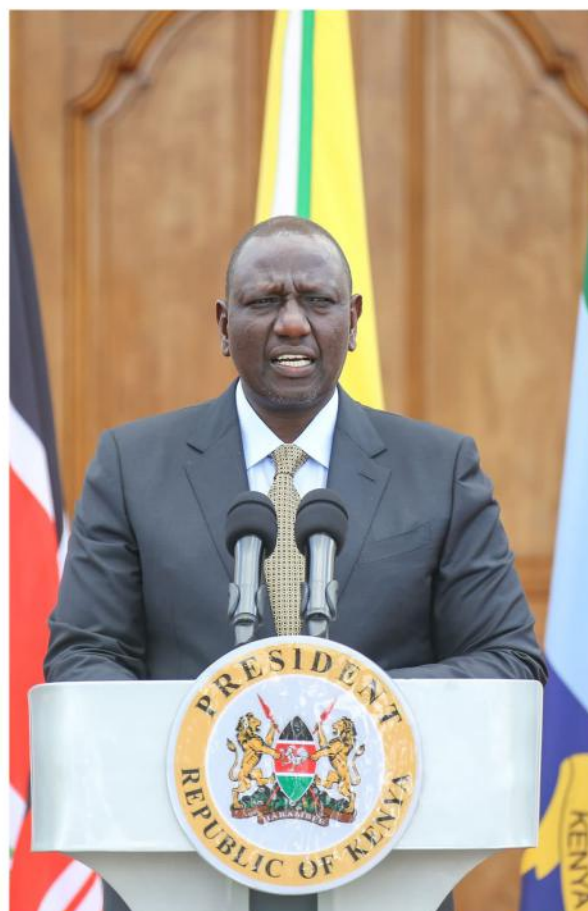
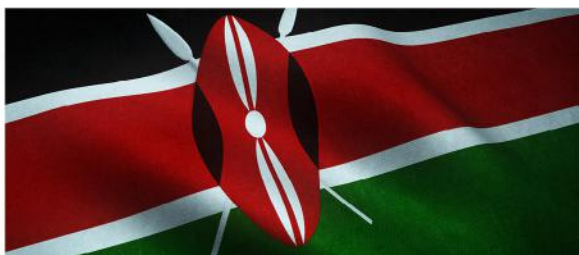
By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), on his first official visit to Kenya met with the President, His Excellency, William Ruto to strengthen IFAD and Kenya's long-standing partnership to increase

investments in agriculture and to help combat climate change crisis.

Kenya is one of the countries highly affected by the climate crisis. They recorded one of the worst ever droughts in 40 years which caused crop failure and numerous livestock deaths.

The extreme weather patterns and changes does not give room for the country to produce food causing 5.4 million in Kenya to suffer from hunger according to Farmer's Review Africa.



Since 1979, IFAD has financed 20 rural development programmes and projects in Kenya at a total cost of \$981.51 million, which have directly benefitted more than 4.6 million rural households.

According to Mr Alvario Lario, "Small-scale farmers and rural communities play a critical role in ensuring food security and by investing in small-scale farmers, we can contribute to a better future tomorrow."

Small-scale farmers produce 75% of Kenya's food with only 2% agricultural land at their disposal and with failed rainy seasons, the Government of Kenya and other stakeholders like IFAD are working together to reduce food security, improve natural resources management and provide access to financial services for small-scale farmers. They are also investing in climate-smart technologies to improve the sector.



Did you know a female farmer is also called a farmerette?



Tomato Paste

Tomato paste is high in the super anti-oxidant lycopene. This protects your skin very effectively against damage and premature skin aging.

CAPITAL FOR THE GREEN FIELD

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Adding value to Agriculture has always been one of our strongest pursuits and being an agriculture-industrial company, we believe it is a sure way to foster growth and economic development in every country.

In view of this, TIAST GROUP, after three decades in China, decided to broaden its horizon to the West African Continent and per the invitation of the government of Ghana, TIAST Group arrived in the country to aid in its course towards value addition through industrialization.

TIAST, stands for Torchbearer International Agriculture, Science and Technology and is currently operating in Ghana and Guinea but aspires to share this vision to other West African countries.

TIAST GROUP follows China's "Belt and Road" policy which adheres to the route of science and technology to utilize Africa's unique resources and to meet the market demands of the continent.

We do not only design, manufacture and install agriculture-processing machinery but we also grant financial benefits to individuals interested in owning agricultural processing factories.

Upon realizing that funding opportunities in the agricultural sector is not accessible to all in Ghana, TIAST GROUP, together with local and international banks, provide financial support to farmers and entrepreneurs who want to indulge in agro-processing.

“ Get 80% financial support to own a factory today”



With 80% financial grant, we help add value to our agricultural produce by providing these entrepreneurs, investors and farmers with the necessary machines and equipment needed for the processing factory.

We are also interested in sharing and impacting knowledge thus with train experts and engineers from China, we train the local staff on how to operate the machines and equipment and have even established a spare parts company to provide maintenance services to factories.

Value addition as we know does not end at processing, TIAST GROUP therefore sees to it that the agricultural produce in Ghana measures well with others on the international market thus they offer offtake services to these factories who process cassava, rubber, among others.

TIAST Group believes agriculture is the root considering its huge potential and contribution to every country's GDP, thus combined with science and technology, Agriculture becomes the foundation which will enable the country alleviate poverty and boost economic growth and adding value to our produce through industrialization is indeed, the sure way to go.

JICAMA FRIES

By Nana Ama Oforiwa Antwi

This is a French fry alternative which is really seasoned and easy to make. The Jicama fries are salty and crisp and make for a very tasty and healthy snack.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 raw jicamas
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- ½ teaspoon diamond crystal kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon of garlic
- 1/s teaspoon of spoked paprika
- Pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

Peel the jicama and cut it into ¼ inch thick fries. Place the strips in a microwave bowl and add ¼ cup pf water and microwave for 10 minutes. Carefully put the jicama strips on paper towels and leave to dry. Transfer unto a large bowl, add a half spoon of garlic, pinch of kosher salt, and paprika, olive oil and give it a

good stir and toss. Pre-heat your oven to 400 degrees F. Arrange the jicama strips on a baking dish and bake for about 40minutes. or until tender-crisp. When your strips look tender-crisp, then your Jicama fries is ready to be served. You can serve two heads with this recipe and serve with your favourite dip.





Soybean Export Ban, A Strain on Producers

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Government's ban on export of certain commodities including soybean is likely to render more than 100,000 soybean farmers in the country to run out of business.

Government of Ghana in 2020, restricted the export of commodities including rice, maize and soybeans out of the country to 8 countries including, Niger, Sierra Leone, USA, Canada, Italy to ensure food security and to increase livestock and poultry production since the sector was suffering from the lack of feeds.

Due to this initiative, farmers of these commodities especially soybean farmers are not able to sell maximum quantities or even sell at all, recording losses.

Soybean farmers from the Northern Region communities including, Yendi, Chereponi, Tatala, Saboba, Nantom, Pusiga, Sissala East, Jirapa among others have not been able to sell anything after harvest due to the lack of market in the area.

The Executive Director of the Peasant Farmers Association Ghana (PFA), Dr Charles Kwowe Nyaaba, in an interview with Ghana News Agency, mentioned that, the initiative was not only affecting the livelihoods of farmers but is also discouraging them from venturing into the sector as well.

He further added that, aside farmers, there are several other actors involved in the value chain who could lose their source of livelihood as well.

"Our worry is that, after the restrictions, the local buyers are not reaching out to the farmers and the few who are even able to buy, offer low prices and do not have the capacity to buy, yet government prevented them from exporting to where they can get market", he said.

He also added that the ban was a violation of the agreement of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) which Ghana is a signatory.



The Master's Field

The day is bright and fair
With the sun beaming from sky to sky
and the wind blowing our hair
I watch as the birds fly to sty
we till the fields,
walk the hills, to pay the bills
while the Master keeps watch
with a horse whip and a gun at his hip
our backs are crouched eyes to the ground
water pouches in sight we hold our tools tight
and work the Master's fields
Hoping for the day
When we too, will wear his clothes
And have guns at our hips
On the hat we'll call dips
Leaving the whip in the barn
Never to be brought to the farm
That day will be bright and fair
And the wind will blow our hair
Making us grin from ear to ear

— Poem by Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

The Juicy Occupation

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Globally, people would want to find themselves in professions or jobs which pays hugely. Career paths such as medicine, engineering, architecture, and some few are seen as dominant career paths which is worthy to venture into.



Most often, one of the juiciest occupations ignored and not placed into the limelight is farming or agriculture. It should be recorded that manufacturing and distribution of agricultural goods like machinery, farm supplies, and other farm-related services are all included in the agricultural business.

According to Afrikta, "Agriculture is a very lucrative industry, making it ideal for anyone hoping to generate a good income." Experts in the agricultural sector have projected that the agricultural market would expand in all its areas across the value chain.

For instance, the African Development Bank (AfDB) disclosed, "Due to its tremendous potential, the agricultural business in Africa is to reach US\$1 trillion by 2030."

With the increasing potential of the sector, agriculture is the new oil for the African continent, especially. This, however, calls for more people to take advantage and explore the limitless opportunities in the sector.

Agriculture is a continuous activity unlike other businesses, hence the sector won't end or cease production.

Agriculture is indeed a juicy occupation and when done rightly, can generate more income for business people in the chain.

TODAY'S TIPS

Fertilizer Application: The Broadcasting Method

It refers to spreading fertilizers uniformly all over the field. It is suitable for crops with dense stand, the plant roots permeate the whole volume of the soil.

Large doses of fertilizers are applied and insoluble phosphatic fertilizers such as rock phosphate are used. When broadcasting fertilizers at sowing time, the main goals are to evenly distribute the fertilizer across the entire field and to combine it with soil.

Some of the disadvantages of this type of fertilizer application are because plant roots spread out laterally over large distances, they are unable to fully utilize nutrients.

Also, the field is encouraged to promote weed growth everywhere.

Lastly, as they come into contact with a substantial mass of soil, nutrients are fixed in the soil.



The worth of agribusiness for economic transformation

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

“The share of agriculture in continental GDP increased to 19.9 % in 2020/2021 from 17.8 percent in 2019/2020 with agribusiness contributing approximately 25% of Africa's GDP and 70% employment while agriculture-based products account for over 50% of all exports from Africa”- Head of Agriculture Division, ECOWAS, Mr. Ernest Aubee

Agribusiness development is very necessary for driving socio-economic development in Africa. The significance of agribusiness to the GDP growth rate of Africa has the potential to spur economic growth thus must be given a friendly and positive environment to be able to help the continent achieve its desired target to reach the peak of development.

In a statement by the Head of Agribusiness Division at ECOWAS, Mr. Ernest Aubee, he said, “Agribusiness refers to the enterprises, the industry and the field of study of value chains in agriculture and in the bio-economy. It refers to a combination of agriculture and business activities that seeks to achieve specific objectives of profitability efficiency and effectiveness and embraces the value chain concept of agriculture from production to consumption.”

The above statement means that agribusiness involves business activities from production to consumption. All actors in the agribusiness value chain play a significant role. For instance, processors have to depend on farmers for raw crops to feed the processing factories. Exporters or offtakers of the

product also depend on the processors to export them on the international market. Based on this, all actors in the agricultural value chain need an environment conducive enough, to encourage them to do more in the field.

Governments of various African countries must create policies geared toward giving investors the requisite assistance to set up establishments in the agricultural sector. The Agriculture Department in various African countries should continue with its good work and also woo investors into the agricultural sector. The agribusiness sector when strengthened has the capability of shooting economic activities up through the creation of job opportunities, improvement in the standard of living for farmers, and development of rural economies – reducing rural-urban migration and subsequently contributing to the growth of the country.

To conclude, governments of various African countries must unite and promote agribusiness by supporting private individuals, investors, and entrepreneurs to push agriculture to its ultimate destination where the economies of African countries will be strengthened.

Cultiver le blé en Afrique

Par Yosua Domedjui

A Sangalkam, près de Dakar, le bruit d'une machine coupant les tiges emplît l'air. Le Sénégal a récolté des parcelles de blé cette semaine pour démontrer la viabilité de la production locale et mettre fin à sa dépendance totale à l'égard des importations.

Les Sénégalais, qui apprécient leur pain, placent le blé au deuxième rang des céréales les plus populaires, derrière le riz. Comme d'autres pays africains, le Sénégal est totalement dépendant des importations, qui représentent 800 000 tonnes par an. Selon Amadou Tidiane Sall, chercheur en blé à l'Isra, un organisme public de recherche agricole, le pays a récolté du blé cette semaine sur une parcelle de démonstration à Sangalkam, ce qui constitue une étape clé vers la production locale.

« Le 10 janvier, les semis ont été mis en terre. Selon Awa Ndiaye Dieng, chercheuse dans un centre de l'Isra à Sangalkam, "nous avons commencé à récolter hier", jeudi, ce qui indique une maturité dans trois mois ».

Trois types dits "tendres" pour la fabrication du pain sont cultivés dans cinq parcelles de démonstration simultanément sur deux sites à Dakar et trois dans la vallée du fleuve Sénégal, tandis qu'une variété dite "dure" est cultivée pour les pâtes.

Selon lui, "les autres mûrissent au bout de trois mois, ce qui correspond à notre saison froide", qui s'étend de janvier à avril.



BAD soutien l'agriculture au Togo

Par Yosua Domedjui

Le 20 avril 2023, dans la ville de Kara, au nord du pays, les discussions à l'issue de la première édition du Forum national des producteurs agricoles (FoPAT) portent sur le projet Agropolis, un projet conjoint de la Banque africaine de développement et du gouvernement togolais.

Le représentant national de la Banque africaine de développement, Wilfrid Abiola, a expliqué les objectifs de l'agropole, ses problèmes et d'autres projets parrainés par la banque au Togo devant des centaines d'agriculteurs et le chef de l'État togolais, Faure Gnassingbé.

Grâce à la modernisation des structures de production et de transformation des produits agricoles, le Projet de développement de l'agropole du Togo (PRODAT-Projet Agropoles), d'un montant de 32,3 millions de dollars, vise à transformer structurellement l'agriculture togolaise. En renforçant les liens entre l'agriculture et l'industrie, il vise également à

accélérer la croissance économique et à faciliter la création d'emplois et de richesses.

Selon M. Abiola, ce projet fait partie d'un programme d'aide à l'agriculture togolaise visant à rééquilibrer les importations en faveur de la transformation et de l'exportation.

Faure Gnassingbé, le président du Togo, a déclaré que "les projets d'Agropolis sont des projets énormes. Le gouvernement veut créer les infrastructures et les conditions nécessaires pour attirer plus d'investisseurs nationaux et internationaux à travers les agropoles.

Afin d'encourager les jeunes hommes et femmes entrepreneurs dans les chaînes de valeur créatrices d'emplois, le Groupe de la Banque a approuvé un nouveau projet le 13 avril pour un montant de 24,03 millions de dollars US (environ 15 milliards de francs CFA), a informé M. Abiola au chef de l'État et aux participants du forum.

Planifier ses cultures en Afrique

Par Pavel Chamabe

La planification des cultures en Afrique est cruciale pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire, la réduction de la pauvreté et la durabilité à long terme de l'agriculture. Voici quelques étapes clés pour une planification réussie des cultures en Afrique :

-Évaluation des ressources : Il est important de connaître les sols, la disponibilité de l'eau, la météo, les moyens de transport, les infrastructures locales et les ressources humaines à disposition pour bien planifier les cultures.

-Sélection des cultures : Le choix des cultures doit être pertinent pour la zone géographique et l'environnement où elles seront cultivées. Il faut également prendre en compte la demande du marché et les habitudes alimentaires locales.

-Optimisation des pratiques agricoles : L'utilisation de semences améliorées, de techniques de conservation de l'eau, d'engrais organiques et d'autres pratiques agricoles durables peuvent augmenter les rendements et améliorer la qualité des cultures.

-Gestion du risque : Il est important de prendre en compte les risques climatiques, les maladies et les parasites, ainsi que les fluctuations du marché pour minimiser les pertes financières et agricoles.

-Formation et éducation : Les agriculteurs devraient recevoir une formation sur les techniques agricoles modernes et les pratiques agricoles durables pour améliorer leurs capacités et leurs connaissances.

-Financement : Pour planifier efficacement les cultures, il faut trouver des sources de financement, telles que des subventions, des prêts, ou des investissements privés pour acheter les semences, les engrais et les équipements nécessaires.

-Suivi et évaluation : La surveillance régulière du progrès des cultures est cruciale pour évaluer les résultats et identifier les domaines à améliorer pour les saisons suivantes.

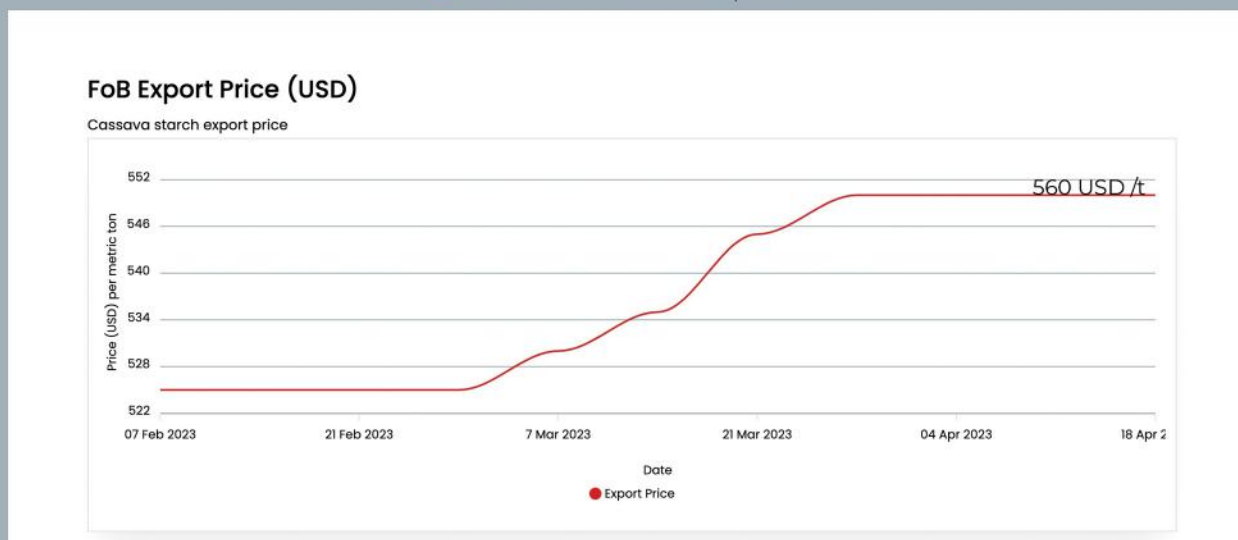


En suivant ces étapes, la planification des cultures en Afrique peut contribuer à améliorer les rendements, la qualité et le volume des cultures, tout en fournissant une sécurité alimentaire durable et en réduisant la pauvreté.

Market Analysis of Cassava Starch In Thailand

The 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.

● 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 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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