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**ADM Institute for the
Prevention of Postharvest Loss**
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



I L L I N O I S
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



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Key Articles



Interview with David Blumberg, CEO, Blumberg Grain

David Blumberg discusses the company's history of preventing postharvest losses by investing in grain storage



FAO and Thomson Reuters Foundation to launch online food security information service

Partnership seeks to improve global information and awareness of hunger and food-related issues, including food waste

News

Issues of Loss

India to keep grain supplies on fears of poor monsoon rains *The Wall Street Journal*

In response to a lack of monsoon rains that are necessary for grain production, the government of India has made plans to reserve its grain supply instead of exporting it. The government is planning to distribute the grain to the poor through welfare programs to avoid shortfalls.

NFA sacks officers amid reported rice theft *Business World*

The National Food Authority of the Philippines recently revealed that 1,850 bags of rice were stolen from a warehouse in Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur. Discrepancies in the warehouse's logbooks resulted in the investigation.

India Food Agency Reform Closer as 255 Million Go Hungry *Business Week*

The amount of rotting wheat is on the rise due to poor storage conditions in New Delhi, India. Over 3 million tons of wheat is stored in the open, which increases the risk of damage from pests and water.

Projects

Farmers benefit from Plantwise program *Ghana Web*

More than 200 farmers have benefited from a food security program that enables smallholders to reduce postharvest losses and increase productivity in eastern Ghana. The program, which started as a pilot project in 2012, focuses on setting up plant clinics at markets so farmers can bring specimens of their affected plants for expert diagnosis.

DBM allots P2.94B for DA postharvest initiatives *GMA News*

The Department of Agriculture of the Philippines will receive P2.94 billion for its community postharvest initiatives nationwide. The budget will cover drying, milling, and processing facilities, and equipment such as tractors, transplanters, plows, dryers, and seed cleaners.

Farmers to get 6bn productivity boost *Daily News*

Over 100,000 smallholder farmers in Tanzania will benefit from agricultural productivity projects valued at US\$4.25 million. The projects, funded by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and designed by various organizations, will range from postharvest management training to improving accessibility of technology and storage facilities.

ONE applauds AU Malabo Declaration's re-commitment to agriculture transformation *Ghana Broadcasting Corporation*

African Union leaders recently solidified their commitment to transforming Africa's agriculture sector by vowing to spend at least 10% of their national budgets on agriculture. By increasing spending, they hope to reach targets such as doubling agricultural productivity and halving postharvest losses.

BDU, US Universities joint venture on postharvest *Bahir Dar University*

Staff from Bahir Dar University are hoping to team up with universities in the United States for a joint project on postharvest grain minimization in Ethiopia. The project aims to revolutionize postharvest loss management in Ethiopia on technological identifications and surveying of four commodities.

NRI launches its Postharvest Loss Reduction Centre *Natural Resources Institute*

The Natural Resources Institute of the University of Greenwich in the UK has launched a 'Postharvest Loss Reduction Centre' to promote the reduction of losses and waste within food supply chains. The Centre will provide resources for assessing and reducing food waste through carefully targeted interventions.

Technology

Food processing efforts improve Senegal's food security *Institute of Food Technologists*

The Institute of Food Technologists has developed de-husking and milling machines that prolong the shelf-life of local flour in Senegal. The machines work without water and abrade the grains instead of crushing them, which extends the shelf-life from one day to six months.

Reports

A sustainable cold chain for the developing world *Institute of Mechanical Engineers*

A report published by IMechE analyzes the benefits of utilizing liquid air cold chains in developing countries to reduce postharvest losses. Liquid air tends to be cheaper and more energy efficient than diesel fuel, which makes it cost-effective in developing countries.

Request for nominations of expert peer reviewers *United States Department of Agriculture*

The USDA has invited the public to nominate scientific experts to peer review a draft document titled "Global Climate Change, Food Security, and the U.S. Food System". The report, expected to be published in Fall of 2015, will evaluate changes to each element of the food system and food security as a result of climate change.

Awareness

Special Agricultural Zones can aid food security *Business Standard*

M.S. Swaminathan, a key figure in India's Green Revolution, has called for Special Agricultural Zones (SAZs) and reduction of postharvest losses as a means to ensure food security. The wide gap between production and postharvest technologies hurts India's performance, and can be addressed by creating a national grid of modern grain storage structures.

LatAm's lost, wasted food could feed region's hungry *Global Post*

According to the FAO, the food wasted in Latin America and the Caribbean could meet the needs of 47 million people who suffer from hunger in the region. 6% of global food losses occur in Latin America, and each year the region wastes 15% of its available food.

Removing the trade obstacles that promote hunger *Forbes*

Difficulty transporting agricultural goods from border-to-border is resulting in unnecessary wastage. Poor road conditions cause reduced speeds during transportation, and completing paperwork at borders causes further delay, sometimes up to a full day.

Customs duty on food processing machinery down from 10% to 6% *Hindustan Times*

To combat rising food prices by reducing postharvest losses, the union government of India reduced the duty on food processing and packaging machinery. Finance minister Arun Jaitley stated that investing in these type of technologies can make farming more competitive and profitable.

Opinions

Linking up for a food-secure world *Devex*

To reduce waste in food production, supply chains should work better to meet the needs of consumers and function more efficiently. One third of total food production is wasted, and up to half of food waste occurs immediately after harvest in developing countries due to factors such as poor storage and bad roads.

How Africa can help feed the world's 9 billion people in 2050 *Devex*

Due to the high proportion of food loss that happens during production and distribution in Africa, investment in infrastructure, transportation, packaging facilities, and processing are necessary to feed an addition 870 million people. Projects such as the IGD-Rockefeller Postharvest Loss Project engage companies in Africa to resolve loss and waste in their value chains.

Related Articles

- **Postharvest loss of vegetables discussed**
- **TN post-harvest losses at Rs 8,100 crore: Assocham**
- **How to build research partnerships that benefit farmers**
- **Intermarché - "Inglorious Fruits and Vegetables" (Video)**
- **Food waste reduction could help feed world's starving**
- **Meet the gleaners — fighting hunger and climate change at the same time**
- **University of California launches effort to reduce world hunger**

Conferences & Symposiums

- 16 - 17 August 2014 - Montreal, Canada
17th IUFoST World Congress of Food Science & Technology
- 26 - 28 August 2014 - Gatineau, Ottawa, Canada
International Conference on Water, Informatics, Sustainability, and Environment
- 4 September 2014 - Exeter, England
ExIST Conference 2014
- 9 - 12 September 2014 - Nairobi, Kenya
2014 East African Packaging Conference and Exhibition
- 15 - 19 September 2014 - Rome, Italy
TOCS 2014
- 20 - 21 September 2014 - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
International Conference on Economics, Energy, Environment and Agricultural Sciences
- 13 - 16 October 2014 - Mar del Plata, Argentina
1st International Conference of Grain Storage in Silo Bags
- 14 - 15 October 2014 - Bangkok, Thailand
Asia Urban Futures Workshop
- 14 - 17 October 2014 - Wageningen, Netherlands
Postharvest Technology Course
- 27 October - 1 November 2014 - Bangkok, Thailand
4th International Rice Congress (IRC2014)
- 29 - 30 October 2014 - San Diego, California, USA
2nd International Conference on Sustainable Environment and Agriculture (ICSEA 2014)
- 19 - 21 November 2014 - Rome, Italy
ICN2: Second International Conference on Nutrition
- 3 - 6 August 2015 - Manhattan, Kansas, USA
International Food Security Symposium

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