



PHL in the News

January 17, 2014

The following items have appeared recently in newspapers, blogs, on websites and other media regarding PHL and might be of interest to affiliates of the ADM Institute for the Prevention of Postharvest Loss.

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Issues of Loss

- [Farmers' distress as NCPB rejects maize](#)
Persisten rain in the North Rift region of Kenya has hampered the intake of maize by the National Cereals and Produce Board that requires that maize have low moisture content. Lack of enough drying facilities and minimum sunlight has forced NCPB to reject maize with high moisture content, likely to lead to the development of aflatoxin.
- [Mill breakdown](#)
About 400 rice farmers in the Fiji province of Macuata have been affected by the breakdown of the Rewa Rice mill. Rice farmers say about 100 tonnes of paddy have been piling on their farms for the past month and they don't know who to turn to for help.
- [No quality check on paddy](#)
The Koraput district rice millers' association in India has alleged that it is being forced by officials to lift paddy under custom milling without quality analysis at procurement centers in the ongoing kharif marketing season. Some senior officials admit quality checks are not being made due to lack of infrastructure.
- [Jalalabad mill fails to deliver rice to FCI despite two extensions](#)
Mill owners in Jalalabad, India, have allegedly embezzled paddy belonging to the government. The millers have neither deposited rice milled from the paddy worth Rs 6.76 crore nor have they contacted FCI regarding any actions to recover the material.
- [Slow paddy procurement leads to distress sale](#)
Delay in lifting of paddy from procurement centers in Odisha, India, by state procurement agencies has led to a distress sale benefiting rice millers and private traders.
- [Food corruption: grainy details emerge as officials unpack dust from wheat bags](#)
It came as a shock to FCI officials when they found husk, dust, and farm waste packed in gunny bags of wheat meant to be distributed to various

areas of Karachi, India, for the production of flour.

- [India's plan to feed 800 million people is either amazing or insane](#)
In response to the Food Security Bill aimed at feeding millions, Chairman of India's Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, Ashok Gulati, says that the "economic inefficiencies and the losses incurred [in the system] will outweigh welfare gains you are trying to achieve".
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Projects

- [ADB helps to reduce postharvest losses](#)
The effort by the Agricultural Development Bank (ADB) to help minimize postharvest losses in Ghana's agriculture sector has seen some significant improvement, with the investment of GH¢208 million, this year by the bank to finance value-chain activities.
- [Blumberg grain continues its Africa expansion](#)
Following the Nigerian Ministry of Agriculture's recent contract for Blumberg Grain food security and storage systems, Blumberg Grain has also been chosen to provide its grain warehousing in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Read more

here:<http://www.sacbee.com/2014/01/08/6056013/blumberg-grain-continues-its-africa.html#storylink=cpy>

- [Cereal 'banks' improve food security, incomes in Karamoja](#)
As a village savings and loan (VSL) group, farmers in a Ugandan village buy grain at a fairly low price during the harvest season. The grain – mainly sorghum and maize – is stocked in large granaries, collectively constructed and aptly named 'cereal banks', in the middle of the manyattas, or homesteads.
 - [Food industry focuses on better packaging to cut spoilage](#)
According to a current study by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia, suitable packages are capable of reducing food loss considerably. Developers are therefore working hard on new concepts for packaging machines, the related process technology, and "smart" packages.
 - [Agri university to organize seminar on food security](#)
Nearly 400 scientists and corporate officials participated in a seminar on the "reorientation of agricultural research" in India at Singh Haryana Agricultural University. Topics included crop improvement, resource conservation technologies, postharvest management, and others.
 - [SAVE FOOD players unite under FAO umbrella](#)
Together with more than 150 participants from all over the world, the SAVE FOOD Initiative discussed past and future cooperation at its first Partnership Event in Rome on December 10 and 11, 2013. All stakeholders from industry and agriculture, associations, initiatives, and NGOs, as well as the public sector, have thus taken another step in their joint effort against global food losses and waste.
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Awareness

- [2014: The year of food waste awareness](#)
According to Innova Market Insights, a product development tracking company, the theme of “Waste not, want not” will sit at the top of the trends list for the food and beverage industry in 2014.
 - [UNFAO calls for reduction in food wastage](#)
The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has made a call for countries to reduce food wastage and advised that they should save money and natural resources that go into food production.
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Related Articles

- [Climate change to lower wheat, rice production](#)
 - [China to allow more food imports](#)
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Conferences and Symposiums

- 13 February 2014 - London, England
[Feed the World 2014](#)
 - 25-28 March 2014 - Ciudad Obregon, Mexico
[Borlaug Summit on Wheat for Food Security](#)
 - 8-10 April 2014 - Belfast, Northern Ireland
[2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference](#)
 - 28 May-6 June 2014 - Lafayette, Indiana, United States
[2014 Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security](#)
 - 26 -28 August 2014 - Gatineau, Ottawa, Canada
[International Conference on Water, Informatics, Sustainability, and Environment](#)
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