



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



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## Key Articles



### Government to focus on reducing postharvest losses of farm produce

The newly-appointed Government of India Food Processing Minister Kaur Badal stated that it is her mission to find new and innovative ways to reduce postharvest losses.



## Purdue, Feed the Future thinking beyond crop harvesting in Africa

At the Chicago Council for Global Affairs Food Security Symposium in May 2014, USAID Administrator Shah announced the launch of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Processing and Post-Harvest Handling.

### Special Announcement: Celebrating the 100th edition of PHL in the News

ADMI has published PHL in the News since it was founded in 2011. Approximately 20,000 articles on PHL issues and interventions have been synthesized in 100 editions. Join us in celebrating this exciting milestone by sharing this resource with your colleagues! We also invite you to let us know what you think of PHL in the News as a professional resource by taking this **brief survey**: <http://bit.ly/1kG6O0Y>.

## News

### Issues of Loss

#### Postharvest crop management up for more attention *Daily Observer*

The lack of postharvest management in Bangladesh has led to substantial crop loss, which has reduced the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP. There is not sufficient storage in Bangladesh, so farmers must sell their crops below market prices during monsoon season.

#### Untimely rains damage standing crops yet again *The Hindu*

In the south Indian state of Telangana, bags of paddy left uncovered outside in a market yard were damaged by heavy and untimely rains and hail storms. The amount of damage is yet to be determined.

### Projects

#### UAE, Egypt award deals to build two wheat silos *Reuters*

Two wheat silos will be built in northern Egypt through an assistance package funded by the United Arab Emirates. The construction of these silos should help prevent the loss of 1.6 million tonnes of wheat a year, valued at half a billion US dollars.

#### Mekong Delta targets reduction in postharvest loss *VietnamPlus*

According to a plan by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Vietnam, up to 80 percent of the rice harvesting process will be mechanized by 2020 to reduce postharvest losses by 12 percent in the

Mekong Delta region. To achieve this goal, localities will encourage the manufacturing of combine harvesters and paddy dryers, as well as increase storage capacity.

### **'Pulse panchayat' gains momentum in Tamil Nadu** *The Hindu*

A new project supported by the M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) aims to increase production of pulses in the Pudukkottai region of India. Training provided by this project includes integrated pest and disease management and improved postharvest processing and drying.

## Technology

### **UAS uses SMS to help farmers save crops** *Business Standard*

The University of Agriculture in Dharwad, India, is utilizing SMS technology to warn farmers about weather that could potentially damage crops. Automatic weather stations have been established at the university to send out SMS alerts 24-hours in advance when bad weather approaches.

### **WFP train farmers on use of "blue box"** *GhanaWeb*

The World Food Programme has trained farmers in northern Ghana on how to use the "Blue Box" to improve yields and quality of crops. The Blue Box contains tools and equipment to test and screen the quality of food farmers are producing, such as moisture content and aflatoxin levels.

### **A potential game changer for African farmers** *Ag Web*

Purdue University recently received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a program that increases the use of PICS bags throughout sub-Saharan Africa. PICS bags allow farmers to store their crops safely without the use of chemicals for more than one year after harvest.

## Reports

### **WFP scaling up successful postharvest program for smallholder farmers (Full Report PDF)** *World Food Programme*

The World Food Programme recently completed a successful trial of a P4P-supported project that reduced postharvest drastically in Burkina Faso and Uganda. The full benefits of the program are discussed in WFP's action research evaluation trial, titled "Reducing Food Losses in Sub-Saharan Africa".

### **Improving food security in Latin America and the Caribbean by reducing food losses and waste and improving agri-food chain efficiency** *FAO*

A presentation given in Dusseldorf, Germany shows the extent of food loss and food waste in Latin American and the Caribbean, and what actions countries in this region are taking to prevent further loss. A strategy was also proposed to combine efforts of governance, information, and research to help reduce losses.

## Awareness

### **Swiss fund, stakeholders size up postharvest losses threat** *IPP Media*

At a conference held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on agriculture, the Agricultural Non-State Actors Forum Executive Secretary Audax Rukonge stated that overcoming postharvest losses is a key area that must be focused upon through public private partnerships. Estimates suggest that 45% of grains produced in Tanzania are lost in postharvest supply chains.

### **Scientist cautions on food wastage** *Times of India*

According to a scientist from the Indian Central Food Technology Research Institute, India loses 12 to 16 million tonnes of food grains annually. The scientist stressed the importance of postharvest handling in



developing countries, and utilizing integrated pest management to avoid health problems from consuming contaminated food.

### **Food loss - questions about the amount and causes still remain** *USDA ERS*

The Economic Revenue Service of the United States Department of Agriculture recently published an article that highlights causes of food loss and waste in the United States. The article mentioned that limited data suggests that food losses tend to occur at different parts of the farm-to-fork food chain depending on the development of a given country.

## **Opinions**

### **Role of logistics in Reducing Postharvest Food Losses in the Developing World** (VIDEO) *Supply Chain Expert Community*

John Manners-Bell, the chief executive of Transport Intelligence, recently was interviewed on postharvest food losses in the developing world. He stated that developing logistic systems such as warehousing can enable goods to get to markets rather than spending more money on agricultural technology.

### **Grassroots approach to reducing global food losses: interview with Dr. Lisa Kitinoja** *Food Tank*

Lisa Kitinoja, founder of the Postharvest Education Fund (PEF), was recently interviewed on postharvest loss challenges throughout the world. According to Kitinoja, the lack of access to storage and transport are some of the largest contributions to losses.

## **Related Articles**

### **UNEP: New “First of its Kind” tool helps avoid global food waste**

### **Pamela Anderson on agricultural productivity and food security in the face of climate change**

### **Researchers working to cut fruit, vegetable losses as part of \$1 million grant**

### **Tapping the sun to put more food on Africa's table**

### **Consuming issues: Why understanding food wastage is vital**

## **Conferences & Symposiums**

- 10 - 13 June 2014 - Cyprus, Greece  
**Scientific Program of the V International Postharvest Unlimited Symposium**
- 16 - 27 June 2014 - Davis, California, United States  
**Postharvest Technology Short Course**
- 17 - 19 June 2014 - Cape Town, South Africa  
**International Food & Agribusiness Management Association World Forum**
- 23 - 25 June 2014 - Washington, D.C., United States  
**TOPS Food Assistance Commodity Management Workshop**
- June 30 - July 1 2014 - London, UK  
**Clean & Cool Summit the by Institute of Mechanical Engineers**
- 6 - 8 August 2014 - Hiroshima, Japan  
**The Asian Congress on the Millennium Development Goals**

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- 16 - 17 August 2014 - Montreal, Canada  
**17th World Congress of Food Science & Technology**
  - 26 - 28 August 2014 - Gatineau, Ottawa, Canada  
**International Conference on Water, Informatics, Sustainability, and Environment**
  - 13 - 16 October 2014 - Mar del Plata, Argentina  
**1st International Conference of Grain Storage in Silo Bags**
  - 14 - 17 October 2014 - Wageningen, Netherlands  
**Postharvest Technology Course**
  - 3 - 6 August 2015 - Manhattan, Kansas, USA  
**International Food Security Symposium**

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