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June 20, 2014

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Key Articles



IRRI-Bangladesh gets the ball rolling on new project for reducing postharvest losses

At a kick-off event for the PHL Innovation Lab IRRI-Bangladesh project, learning activities in identifying postharvest needs for research and technologies were discussed.



Wheat, rice stuck in FCI godowns due to official lethargy

Lack of management and storage facilities by the FCI is resulting in increased food inflation and grain rotting outdoors in India.

News

Issues of Loss

Food grains that could feed 4,000 in Maharashtra wasted Times of India

Over the past three years, enough grain to feed 4,000 people has been wasted in Maharashtra, India. A Right to Information request revealed that the FCI's lack of caution in handling and storage resulted in the loss of 1,631 tonnes of wheat and rice.

No grain should go to waste Zambia Daily Mail

Despite an abundant bumper harvest in Zambia, large quantities of maize have been damaged by water due to the Food Reserve Agency's inadequacy to secure the crop. Increasing storage in the country can ease worries about future grain going to waste.

Projects

16,000 farmers adopt improved postharvest technologies The Financial Express

A World Bank project in Dhaka, Bangladesh has improved the lives of 16,000 farmers through 34 improved postharvest technologies. The improved technologies have resulted in an excess of 21,500 tonnes of commodities produced by small and marginal farmers.

Three African universities partner to research on food and nutrition The Star

A regional inter-university initiative to promote research and training in Eastern and Southern Africa has been launched at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology in Juja, Kenya. The three universities involved plan to create courses and short training programs to improve food and nutrition security.

Saving grain for a rainy day in Haiti Presbyterian Church USA

In Haiti, a project sponsored by USAID and UMCOR aims to help farmers reduce postharvest losses. The project, titled Improving Postharvest Storage for Increased Agricultural Incomes in the Cul-de-Sac Plains, seeks to utilize improved technology and storage to help farmers store grain effectively.

Rwanda moves to cut postharvest losses The East African

The government of Rwanda has leased thirteen warehouses to the East Africa Exchange (EAX) to better manage postharvest losses. By leasing warehouses to EAX, farmers are in a better position to sell their products at a fair, competitive price.

Technology

CTI Grain Tools empower women & feed families (VIDEO) CTI

A new threshing machine developed by Compatible Technology International could revolutionize how smallholder farmers in the developing world process millet grain. The threshing machine reduces postharvest grain losses to increase production and the incomes of farmers.

Govt to develop food map to identify food clusters across India Times of India

The Ministry of Food Processing of India is planning to develop a food map that can help identify food clusters throughout India. The food map will include a farm-to-shelf scheme that utilizes mobile processing vans to improve the reach of farmers' produce to markets and reduce wastage.

Farmers see more yield using tillers and tractors Manila Standard Today

In Bataan, Philippines, the agriculture sector is increasing mechanized farming to boost production and efficiency to reduce postharvest losses. The agency will supply fifteen beneficiary groups with modern 4-wheel tractors, combine rice harvesters, power tillers and planters.

Reports

Reducing global food waste and spoilage (PDF) Global Knowledge Initiative

A report compiled by GKI analyzes resources needed and available to reduce postharvest loss in Africa. The report includes an integrated challenge map, which shows opportunities and barriers to reducing postharvest loss in Africa.

Postharvest loss in Africa: what do farmers say? (Full Report) World Bank

A recent policy research working paper from the World Bank Research Digest shows farmer-reported estimates of loss from Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda. The report revealed that actual losses were lower than FAO and APHLIS estimations.

Awareness

World Food Prize Laureate: Dr. Sanjaya Rajaram

Plant scientist Dr. Sanjaya Rajaram has been announced as the 2014 World Food Prize Laureate for his work with wheat. He has developed 480 varieties of wheat and helped boost world wheat production by 200 million tons.

Safeguard bumper crop, Germany urges State Zambia Daily Mail

The German ambassador to Zambia has urged the government to invest in storage facilities to prevent grain wastage. Zambia recently recorded a bumper harvest of more than three million tonnes, but there is worry that there are not enough storage facilities for the excess grain.

Increasing food grain storage capacity top agenda Business Standard

According to the Union Food and Publish Distribution Minister of India, it is the new government's top priority to increase storage capacity to minimize food grains from rotting. The minister also stated the government has not followed the rules for safe storage in the past.

Workshop tackles challenges of postharvest loss Abt Associates

A workshop held at Abt's Bethesda office, cosponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the ADM Institute, recently brought together 35 experts to discuss challenges to postharvest loss. The workshop aimed to achieve consensus on definitions used in the field of postharvest loss prevention, and targeting intervention points.

Don advocates measures to reduce postharvest losses The Nation

A World Bank consultant recently stated that postharvest losses continue to be a major contributing factor to food insecurity in Nigeria. Losses can be reduced by providing adequate training to eliminate erroneous transport and packing practices.

Related Articles

HP mulls strategy with German firm on technology transfer Grant is intended to cut fruit, vegetable losses

Conferences & Symposiums

- 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
- 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
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- 14 17 October 2014 Wageningen, Netherlands
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- 19 21 November 2014 Rome, Italy
 ICN2: Second International Conference on Nutrition
- 3 6 August 2015 Manhattan, Kansas, USA

International Food Security Symposium

