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October 3, 2014

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Key Articles



Modi Unveils Mega Food Parks to empower farmers, boost ailing food sector

Indian Prime minister inagurates first "integrated food park" to link ag production and producers, minimize postharvest losses



New equipment to enable smallholder farmers to reduce postharvest loss

USAID makes postharvest equipment available for nearly 1.5 million farmers in Ethiopia

News

Issues of Loss

Fighting, payment problems disrupt Libya's food imports Business Insider

The violence in Libya has created transportation problems for grain imports and exports. With ports closing, safety issues, and governmental fragmentation, grain imports to Libya have become dormant. At least four ships have been stalled at the Benghazi port for three weeks, causing risk of postharvest loss. The instability in Libya translates to a disjointed grain supply system in the region.

Stakeholders want 25,000 silo completed in Anambra Punch

A large silo complex being constructed in the Anambra state of Nigeria has experienced delays in completion due to funding limitations. With approximately 70 percent of the project completed, the federal government is being pressured to complete the silo complex. Similar projects across the country of Nigeria have stalled due to funding difficulties, which are greatly needed in order to reduce postharvest losses.

Ghana urged to scale down postharvest losses SpyGhana

Prof William Otoo Ellis, Vice Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), has urged Ghana to scale up efforts at bringing down the high level of postharvest losses to reduce rural poverty. Recurring losses along the food production chain, he said, remained one of the biggest challenges to agricultural growth and a major disincentive to increased production.

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Ministry further boost grain reserve with U.S. \$28 million purchase Coastweek

Kenya is implementing strategies to reduce postharvest loss and increase food security. To ensure an adequate grain supply, funds from the U.S. will allow Kenya to strengthen their grain reserve by at least two million bags of maize. The grain reserve will be combined with the construction of 13 grain silos across the country as Kenya improves its harvesting practices.

\$42,626M released for grain buying The Chronicle

The government of Zimbabwe has encouraged postharvest loss minimizing practices by offering a high price for grain that is packaged properly. The government is requiring farmers to use UV protected grain bags to store grains, which greatly reduces postharvest losses caused by moisture or pests.

Oyo to construct ultra-modern silo for farmers *The Guardian*

Officials in Oyo State of Nigeria have begun construction of a 10,000 metric ton silo project, to be completed in six months. The infrastructure will allow farmers to preserve their grain for three or more years, which will significantly lower both physical and economic postharvest losses caused by a lack of storage and price fluctuations.

Tanzania: New U.S. \$50 million silos to be built for surplus grain storage All Africa

The government of Tanzania is in the process of constructing 30 new large grain silos at a cost of \$50 million in order to accommodate the ever increasing annual grain and rice surplus harvests in the country. With such an expansive project underway, the government of Tanzania hopes to avoid postharvest losses.

Obama administration launches Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture *U.S. Department of State Official Blog*

The Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture will work to educate farmers and increase sustainability, while improving food security. Through this initiative, the Obama administration aims to develop innovative agricultural practices that can strengthen global food security. Led by John Kerry, the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture will aim to improve the economic standing of farmers across the globe through tools like weather-indexed crop and livestock insurance.

PhilMech prepares posharvest technology package for adlai Business Mirror

Adlai, a cereal staple crop with properties similar to rice, has the potential to improve food security in eastern Asia. To better understand optimal postharvest handling of adlai, the Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech) has been studying the crop extensively. Ranging from the threshing of adlai to taste preferences, PhilMech's research will help eliminate postharvest losses.

Using nanotechnology in fight against insects ABC Rural

A single-celled algae called a diatom is being tested to kill insects in stored grain. Diatoms are natural and non-toxic, which eliminate the need for chemicals and can improve the safety of storing grain.

Awareness

NISER tasks governments to partner private sector, institutions in food security Business Day In response to incessant postharvest losses in Nigeria, a team of researchers at the Nigeria Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER) has called on the federal and state governments to support partnerships between the private sector and various agricultural institutions in the country. The group urged for the design and mass production of affordable storage facilities, including average-sized silos adaptable to local conditions.

Opinions

Arsenic in rice - a burning issue under postharvest conditions *Oryza*

According to Dr. Harsh P. Bias from the University of Delaware, arsenic in rice vitally needs to be addressed in order to reduce postharvest losses in rice. In an interview, Dr. Bias discusses solutions to high arsenic levels in rice and advocates for the importance of crop nutrition in addition to crop productivity.

Related Articles

- Postharvest directory 2014
- Can we solve America's food waste problem?
- Sustainable packaging's role in reducing food waste
- Tiny killer wasps deployed in first phase to thwart food security threat in Indonesia

Conferences & Symposiums

- 8 October 2014 Urbana, IL, USA
 ACES in Action Food Security Series "The Impact of F2F Volunteering on Agricultural Education and Research in Ethiopia A Field Report from the Haramaya University"
- 9 October 2014 Vancouver, BC, Canada
 Global Food Security and Sustainability
- 10 October 2014 Online

Food for the Future: Achieving Food Security in the Face of Climate Change

- 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)
- 1 2 November 2014 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 International Conference on Economics, Energy, Environment and Agricultural Sciences
- 6 November 2014 Washington, DC, USA Experiences with Managing Consortia: Aligning Organizations; Improving Impact
- 19 21 November 2014 Rome, Italy
 ICN2: Second International Conference on Nutrition
- 8 9 December 2014 Bali, Indonesia
 International Conference on Agriculture, Biology and Environmental Sciences (ICABES'14)
- 3 6 August 2015 Manhattan, Kansas, USA International Food Security Symposium

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