



ADM Institute for the Prevention of Postharvest Loss

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



PHL in the News

June 21, 2013

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



Issues of Loss

- [Ghana loses GHC 700,000 in postharvest losses](#)
Ghana government officials report the country loses between 20% to 50% of crops, valued at approximately \$350,000 USD each year. Pointing to poor storage, transportation, and market infrastructure as problems of loss, one government official is also highly concerned about the amount of consumer food waste.
- [Uganda: Maize maze](#)
Informal trade of maize in Uganda leaves farmers in constant speculation of good prices, often making it expensive to properly store grain. The World Food Programme says Ugandan maize has huge market potential if farmers meet the East African Standard for maize grain, something stakeholders are keen to avoid given the lucrative, cash-immediate nature of informal trading.
- [Inclement weather threat to food grains stored in open](#)
Pre-monsoon rains in Punjab and Haryana, major grain-producing states of India, put more pressure on the need for proper storage. 991,000 tonnes and 336,000 tonnes of grain in Punjab and Haryana respectively are in CAP storage, an open air method with insufficient provisions for inclement weather.

SEE ALSO: [Wheat storage continues to be a problem in Punjab, Haryana \(VIDEO\)](#)
- [Paddy worth crores rotting amid rice millers dispute with TDC](#)
30,000 tonnes of rice rots in the open in Gondia, India, with a lack of godowns to store it. Millers in surrounding districts are demanding an increase in milling rice rates, the disbursement of a pending transportation payment, and are unwilling to lift the paddy until disputes are settled.
- [NRPC wants pledge price ceiling cut](#)
Government officials debate the accuracy of loss figures for Thailand's rice-scheme, and what steps they will take to maintain fiscal discipline for pledged paddy. The Finance Ministry reports a loss of \$4.4 billion USD in the first year of the rice-scheme, with some unsold grain rotting in warehouses.

[Two Illinois Alumni Named World Food Prize Laureates](#)

On June 19th, three scientists, Marc Van Montagu, Mary-Dell Chilton, and Robert T. Fraley, were named the 2013 World Food Prize Laureates for their research and innovation in biotechnology.

The World Food Prize is the foremost international award recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food in the world.

Chilton and Fraley received Ph.D.s in Chemistry and Microbiology/Biochemistry respectively from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The award ceremony will take place in October in Des Moines, Iowa, alongside the annual [Borlaug Dialogue](#).

Reports

- [Mycotoxin occurrence in maize milling fractions](#)
A study by South African researchers concludes that the occurrence of mycotoxin differs per milling fraction, and that dry milling is an effective way to

reduce mycotoxins in maize. The [article](#) appears in the International Journal of Food Microbiology.

- [Most states cannot stock food grains for more than a month](#)
A recent report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India suggests that out of 31 states, only eight have storage facilities available for the 120 days necessary for management of food stocks, with most unable to handle stocks for more than 13-75 days. The audit suggests that more than 100,000 tonnes of wheat were damaged in Punjab and Haryana alone in recent years due to the lack of storage.

Projects

- [Food farmers at Konkrompe address challenges](#)
A farmers' cooperative convened a stakeholders meeting to discuss postharvest losses in the town of New Konkrompe, Ghana. Locals say interventions have been attempted, but none have successfully overcome major maize storage and marketing problems faced by most of the farmers in the region.
- [FCI to build 42 silos in 10 states to store foodgrains](#)
The Food Corporation of India has begun its 'mission mode' of modernizing the country's food grain storage by building 42 new state-of-the-art silos, each with a capacity of 2 million tonnes. A majority of the silos will be built, owned, and operated privately, with bidding to be launched in the next two months.

SEE ALSO: [Stakeholders meet for FIC's 2m MT storage modernization project](#)

- [Metal silos bring hope to Chipata artisans](#)
Tinsmiths are benefitting from a postharvest loss prevention program run by The Centre for International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Eastern Province, Zambia. Fifty-two craftsmen have been trained to support the fabrication of 200 metal silos for household grain storage.
- [Rwanda: MINAGRI launches a new grain storage system](#)
The Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) system is being piloted in 448 cooperatives across Rwanda in efforts to reduce losses and the use of chemicals in storage.

Related Articles

- [UNEP Goodwill Ambassador for Kenya launches initiative to reduce food waste](#)
- [CSIR-FRI holds workshop on selection of best bet products](#)
- [The Pig Idea launched to curb food waste](#)

Upcoming Events

- 21-23 June 2013 - Bangkok, Thailand
[Sustainable Development Conference 2013](#)
- 20-21 August 2013 - Nairobi, Kenya
[1st African Food Security Conference](#)
- 10-14 September 2013 - Bari, Italy
[1st Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges](#)
- 30 September - Tokyo, Japan
[International Conference on Economic and Social Sustainability 2013](#)
- 9-12 October 2013 - Istanbul, Turkey
[Food Engineering Conference](#)
- 21-24 October 2013 - Yaounde, Cameroon
[3rd Africa Rice Congress](#)

- 8-10 April 2014 - Belfast, Northern Ireland
[2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference](#)

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