

PHL in the News

November 8, 2013

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

- [Rice millers' refusal to lift paddy sends farmers, agencies in tizzy](#)
Rice millers across the Patiala district of India have refused to lift procured paddy from various rice markets in reaction to the FCI's denial to include Patiala as a stop in a grain assessment tour. A team of FCI officials visited three other districts to assess weather-caused paddy damage.
- ['B390bn loss' from rice pledging](#)
The ongoing assessment of the Thailand rice-pledging scheme show losses of 390bn baht from the four most recent paddy crops, which is equal to roughly 58% of total government procurement spending in the past two years.
- [Sierra Leone observes World Food Day 2013](#)
During a national event on World Food Day, the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security in Sierra Leone congratulated the country on its self-sufficiency in rice production, but lamented that about 10% is smuggled illegally outside the country.

Projects

- [Endowment: WFP to help save wheat stocks](#)
The UN World Food Programme provided 165 high density polyethylene stack packages that store 58,000 metric tonnes of wheat to the Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Services Corporation in a joint effort to reduce postharvest losses. 78% of wheat in Pakistan is stored in open air, a main reason for losses at 10-15%.
- [CTI seminar: how reducing postharvest losses could be the answer to feeding our growing world](#)
Compatible Technology International launched a seminar series about agricultural innovation. Dr. Vernon Cardwell from the University of Minnesota will lead the first discussion of this series on the causes and implications of postharvest losses, as well as solutions to prevent losses and strengthen food security.
- [Zimbabwe: FAO launches project for farmers](#)
The FAO launched a program in Zimbabwe to address the impact of crop

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Institute Spotlight

**New [Blog Series](#):
'[Learning from Research](#)'**

The ADM Institute is launching a new blog series titled, 'Learning from Research'.

'Learning from Research' will share perspectives and learnings regarding the issues of postharvest loss. Some of these include the following:

production and and postharvest systems on climate change. Losses of approximately 30% further aggravate situations of poor harvests.

- [Have sufficient food grain storage capacity: MP government](#)
The Madhya Pradesh state government in India states they have sufficient storage, in contrast to the existing gaps across the country, and that their storage improvements can be funded by the National Warehousing Scheme.
- [Research program to improve food security](#)
The 'Research Program to Improve Food Security' in Myanmar by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) will focus on improving food security and rural incomes for smallholder farmers, in part by improving or promoting adoption of postharvest technologies.
- [Gender in effective grain storage for sustainable livelihoods of African farmers](#)
A subgroup of the SDC Agriculture and Food Security Network hosted a three-day workshop on postharvest loss management. A representative of CIMMYT presented the plans of the gender-focused component of their Effective Grain Storage for Sustainable Livelihoods project.

Technology

- [Modern farming techniques double barley harvests in Bukwo](#)
Farmers in Bukwo District, Uganda, have adopted new technologies that have reduced postharvest losses. Nile Breweries Limited, established in the district for three years, has introduced growers to barley as well as the necessary machinery, creating a local nucleus.

Reports

- [Aflatoxins: finding solutions for improved food safety](#)
The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) published a compilation of 19 policy briefs on what can be done to reduce the detrimental effects of aflatoxins. The briefs review what is known about health risks, discuss how to overcome market constraints, explore the international policy context, and assess the state of research on new technologies.
 - [Agri sector needs huge investments to build infrastructure: KPMG](#)
According to a report by KPMG titled 'Enhancing Competitiveness of Indian Food Chain', the Indian agricultural sector needs to invest in developing infrastructure, as around 30%-40% of agri produce gets wasted before it reaches the market.
 - [West Africa's food potential and the case for staple foods - IFAD/FAO analyses regional value chains](#)
At a recently held Committee on Food Security, the FAO presented preliminary findings of a 5-year study on how to scale up the value chains of commonly eaten staple crops like maize, rice, sorghum and cassava in the region. The report identifies best practices across the region and also explored ways the government and private sector could collaborate.
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Developing networks on international and local scales.

Learning the perspectives of farmers and managers regarding loss.

Engaging students.

For more about our new series,

[read the latest blog post.](#)

Awareness

- [Holy See to UN on food security: clearly more needs to be done](#)
In a statement given to the Second Committee of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly on Agriculture Development, Archbishop Francis Chullikatt quoted Pope Francis on the issue of global food loss in asking the committee to bring an effective distribution of food to end world hunger.
 - [A third of the world's food is wasted - how can we stop the rot?](#)
Food loss and waste was the subject of a roundtable event hosted by the Guardian and Tesco that brought together industry, government, and NGO representatives. Alongside a Tesco report on food waste in the retail giant's supply chains, postharvest loss was highlighted as having serious impacts in developing countries.
 - [Climate change seen posing risk to food supplies](#)
A leaked portion of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report says climate change will pose sharp risks to the world's food supply in coming decades, potentially undermining crop production and driving up prices at a time when the demand for food is expected to soar. These scientific results have serious implications for issues of postharvest loss.
 - [Farmers' issues discussed at World Agriculture Forum 2013](#)
Suggestions made at the World Agriculture Forum in India included organizing small and marginal farmers into small groups, establishing good agricultural practices, improving infrastructure facilities such as transportation and storage for the farming sector, and making comprehensive insurance policies.
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Related Articles

- [Loss and damage from climate change is already happening](#)
 - [Call for FAO to shift focus](#)
 - [UN food waste stats show environmental impacts](#)
 - [Food wastage and hunger on the rise in Ghana](#)
 - [Leaked IPCC report links climate change to global food scarcity](#)
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Conferences and Symposiums

- 4-8 November 2013 - Kigali, Rwanda
[ICT4Ag: The Digital Springboard for Inclusive Agriculture](#)
- 16-18 November 2013 - Warsaw, Poland
[CGIAR Global Landscapes Forum at COP19](#)
- 26-27 November 2013 - Bangkok, Thailand

[AIDF Food Security: Asia 2013](#)

- 26-28 November 2013 - Nairobi, Kenya
[Developing Markets Together](#)
- 25-28 March 2014 - Ciudad Obregon, Mexico
[Borlaug Summit on Wheat for Food Security](#)
- 14-15 January 2014 - Imo, Nigeria
[Tenth International Conference on Sustainable Development](#)
- 8-10 April 2014 - Belfast, Northern Ireland
[2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference](#)

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