

PHL in the News

October 11, 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

- [Asia grain mountains swell as governments fret over food security](#)
Asia's top grain-buying states have accumulated a whopping 100 million tonnes of rice and 90 million tonnes of wheat since the food price spikes of 2008. They are keen to avoid repeat food shortages, though grain systems managing hoards in China, India, Thailand, and others are challenged by inadequate storage, poor infrastructure, and corrupt procurement schemes.
 - [Rice millers threaten strike if demands not met by Oct 7](#)
The Rice Millers Welfare Association in Punjab, India, alleged that highly damaged paddy has been arriving in grain mandis of the state due to heavy rain. The association said they would not store procured paddy in their mills if their demands were not met to make both the millers and rice procuring agencies equally responsible for custody of paddy.
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Projects

- [Africa, Arab ministers tackle food security at joint summit](#)
The largest-ever summit of African and Arab leaders met in Saudi Arabia on October 2. Inspired by problems of global food loss, the summit discussed how to boost food supplies and tackle high prices and rising food shortages in Africa and the Arab world. Five key recommendations will be further debated in November.
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Technology

- [SAWBO releases new educational video on postharvest loss, truck transport](#)
Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) released a new educational video meant to help farmers reduce postharvest losses that occur during transport. A unique feature of SAWBO videos is their ability to be adapted to specific languages and dialects. This version is in Portuguese.
- [Weather analysis tool offers strategic insight for land based initiatives](#)

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Institute Spotlight
New on our [Blog](#):

*Fostering Discussion
on Science and
Innovation at 2013
Borlaug Dialogue*

*Next week, the 2013
Borlaug Dialogue will
convene in Des Moines,
Iowa, gathering leaders
from around the world to
discuss cutting edge food
security issues.*

**The ADM Institute will
contribute by fostering
importance on how**

An interactive, online tool developed by aWhere, Inc. seeks to address the growing need for accurate, localized, and accessible weather information that support sustainable approaches to land management and food security in the developing world. The tool offers free information for several parts of Africa and South Asia.

- [New web tool for identifying insects in stored grain launched](#)
The Canada Grain Commission developed a web tool that enables users to determine the specific type of insects found in stored grain. The tool uses two identification keys, a simple one specific to Canada and a comprehensive key that includes information on insects worldwide.
- [Innovations in farming fighting food waste around the world](#)
Several innovations to mitigate postharvest losses are highlighted in an article on food loss and food waste by Food Tank, including the use of metal silos in Kenya, better packaging materials in the Philippines, different drying technologies, and others.

Reports

- [Study pushes for postharvest management](#)
A study by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India says a focus on postharvest management would save the country 25 million tonnes of foodgrain from spoilage yearly, about a tenth of the yearly output.
- [Rising to the Challenge: Changing Course to Feed the World in 2050](#)
A report based on economic modeling studies by researchers at Tufts University finds that calls to double food production by 2050 to feed an estimated population of 9 billion are based on flawed forecasts and misleading characterizations of recent research. The study calls for alternative approaches, including reducing postharvest loss.
- [The Current Status of Aflatoxin Research and Management at the International Livestock Research Institute](#)
The current status of aflatoxin research and management at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) was discussed at a seminar held on 22 August 2013. The findings and outcomes of the seminar are compiled in this report.

Awareness

- [Find solutions to postharvest losses](#)
A commercial manager of an agro-chemical company in Ghana urged crop scientists and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector to partner to find solutions to postharvest loss problems in Ghana. Estimates suggest 20-50% of all crops are lost each year, causing concerns over achieving national food security.
- [EU urges Ghana to step up agricultural production](#)
European Union Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development said the most effective way for Ghana to ensure food security and sustainable

*science and innovation
can improve the food
supply chain.*

[Read more details.](#)

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tweets on the side event.*

income for farmers is to step up production, including doubling efforts to add value to agricultural products.

- [Uncertainty of figures hampering food security efforts](#)
Over 600 scientists gathered in the Netherlands for a global food security conference described as the first of its kind for its focus on science rather than policy. Organizers report "unprecedented interest" among the science community. Scientists working on food loss and waste issues were represented, along with economists, nutrition specialists, and others.

Opinions

- [The Information of Food](#)
Founder and CEO of AgraLogics writes his views on the importance of an "informed food eco-system", saying, "Today, we face the perfect storm for our food supply -- climate change, regulations, population growth and a global supply-chain have aligned to necessitate the use of information."

Related Articles

- [UN launch new sustainable development initiative](#)
- [Berkeley food institute aims to transform the food system](#)
- [Global food prices to remain volatile: UN](#)
- [Small-scale postharvest handling and technologies short course/study tour](#)

Conferences and Symposiums

- 16-18 October 2013 - Des Moines, United States
[The Next Borlaug Century: Biotechnology, Sustainability, and Climate Volatility](#)
- 19 October 2013 - New Delhi, India
[2nd International Conference on "Agriculture, Food Technologies, and Environment - New Approaches"](#)
- 21-24 October 2013 - Yaounde, Cameroon
[3rd Africa Rice Congress](#)
- 29 October 2013 - Melbourne, Australia
[Global Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture: Australia's Role?](#)
- 4-8 November 2013 - Kigali, Rwanda
[ICT4Ag: The Digital Springboard for Inclusive Agriculture](#)
- 5 November 2013 - Cambridge, United States
[Feeding the World Without Consuming the Planet](#)

- 16-18 November 2013 - Warsaw, Poland
[CGIAR Global Landscapes Forum at COP19](#)
- 26-28 November 2013 - Nairobi, Kenya
[Developing Markets Together](#)
- 25-28 March 2014 - Ciudad Obregon, Mexico
[Borlaug Summit on Wheat for Food Security](#)
- 8-10 April 2014 - Belfast, Northern Ireland
[2nd Food Integrity and Traceability Conference](#)

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