



Overview of Post Harvest Losses Management Practices in Malawi

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Agricultural enterprises and production levels in Malawi
- Impact of post harvest losses
- Opportunities to boost production
- Technologies and lessons learnt in PHL management
- Business model in PHL minimization in Malawi.

INTRODUCTION

- Malawi is a small country in Southern Africa bordered by Tanzania to the North; Zambia to the West and Mozambique to the South.
- The country's economy largely depend on agricultural production.
- 42 percent of the national GDP comes from agriculture.
- It employs about 80 percent of the total workforce and contributes about 75 percent to foreign exchange earnings.

MAPS OF AFRICA AND MALAWI



AFRICA MAP LOCATING MALAWI POSITION



MALAWI MAP SHOWING NEIBOURING COUNTRIES : ZAMBIA, TANZANIA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

Agricultural Enterprises

- The crops grown are white maize, Ground nuts, Common beans, Cowpeas Soybeans, Tobacco, Rice, Cotton, Pigeon peas, Cassava, Potato, Sweet potatoes
- Mangoes, Bananas, Citrus fruits, Cabbage, Onions, Tomatoes, Mustard and
- livestock are beef cattle, Dairy cattle, Goats, Pigs, Sheep, and Chicken.

PRODUCTION TREND Vs POST HARVEST LOSSES

ENTERPRISE	TONNES (2012)	22.5 % PHL IN MAIZE	TONNES (2015)	27 % PHL IN IN MAIE
MAIZE GRAIN	3,623,924	815,382.9	2,269,204	612,685.08
G/NUTS	368,081		267,536	
SOYA BEAN	103,617		132,417	
BEANS	182,596		153,800	
RICE	110,405		83,757	

TECHNOLOGIES IN PHL MANAGEMENT

TECHNOLOGY	EXPERIENCES	LESSONS LEARNT
Use of Metallic Silos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anaerobic environment minimizing pest attack.• Inadequate security of the grain as the silo is left unguarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long lasting.• Expensive materials for construction.• Low adoption of the technology due to insecurity fears.

Technologies in PHL Mgt Cont'd

Concrete Granaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convenient in communal set up• Minimises pest attack• Grain is treated with pesticides	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is durable and maintenance is minimal.• Expensive materials for construction affecting adoption rate.

Concrete Silos in Mzimba, Northern Malawi



Concrete Silos

Farmer



The interior of a silo

Technologies Cont'd

Use of rat guards

Older technology but with low adoption

Not popular among farmers



Technologies cont'd

Rat guards	Prone to grain borers attack	Often times abandoned in the process
Hematic Bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New technology• Ware and tear is very easy.• Easily adopted as storage is inside the house. Security of grain is improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cheaper than silos• Do not require pesticides
Use of Storage Pesticides	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mostly used in beans and maize.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High adoption rate• Affordable• Increased losses in some cases due to poor timing in application.

Government and stakeholders' Efforts in PHL Mgt.

- Capacity building to staff and farmers
- Demonstrations on pesticide application
- Aflatoxin management through trainings to reduce health risks and increase exportation.
- Emphasis on physiological maturity before harvesting
- Through subsidies, farmers access pesticides with financial ease.
- Free issuing of metallic silos
- Training of local artisans to fabricate more metallic silos.

Government and stakeholder's efforts cont'd

- The government is using Farm business
- Farm Field Schools to increase the staff and small holder farmers' capacity in minimizing post harvest loses.

Conclusion

- Despite challenges in post harvest losses management, the agriculture sector has some opportunities to boost production and offset most of the shortfalls in food, nutrition and income security such as:
- Plenty arable land and cheaper labour
- Bigger water bodies for irrigation
- Diversified crops and livestock production

Opportunities cont'd

- Engagement in Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)
- Investment in climate smart and/or sustainable agriculture

- **THANK YOU**