Benefits derived from farmer participation in bean IPM:

- The participatory approach and processes enable farmers to research more on their local production constraints
- The approach enables farmers to understand the biology, ecology and management of different crop pests
- The approach and processes empower farmers to become researchers and take lead in planning and implementing their own research to solve their problems
- Farmers become owners of technologies that they developed

Dissemination of information and technologies is enhanced among farming communities and the wider audience.

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Introduction
The participation of farmers in pest problem diagnosis, identification of solutions, experimentation, monitoring and evaluation as well as dissemination of pest management information, is one of the most appropriate and effective approaches for improved farm production.

Problem diagnosis (PRA)
- Using participatory rural appraisal (PRA) farmers are enabled and facilitated by researchers and extension agents to diagnose and identify key constraints to increased bean production
- Through PRA, farmers prioritise constraints and select those that need immediate solutions.

Choice of appropriate solutions
Farmers discuss key constraints and suggest appropriate strategies for experimentation.

Experimentation
- Farmers collaborate with extensionists and researchers in experimenting with suggested strategies in learning and demonstration plots
- Farmers participate fully in the following processes:
  - Selection of experimental site
  - Preparation of learning and demonstration plots

Performance evaluation
It is necessary for farmers to evaluate the performance of different strategies to enable them select those that are suitable for application in their individual fields.

- Planting, scouting, weeding and other agronomic practices
- Application of pest control strategies
- Monitoring and evaluation of control strategy performance
- Harvesting and storage
- Planning for future actions.