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Bean Farmer Field Days Report

COLECCION HISTORICA



Field Days for Bean Farmer Groups in Hai District, Northern Tanzania

June 2002



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CIAT- Arusha
P.O. Box 2704
Arusha, Tanzania

Hai District Council
DALDO's Office
P.O. Box 27
Hai, Kilimanjaro

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Farmer group activity reports for the DFID
Crop Protection Programme (CPP) Bean
IPM Promotion Project in eastern and
southern Africa.

Written and Edited by
E.M. Minja, J.K.O. Ampofo
and H.A. Mziray



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For distribution to Village Information
Centres (VICs) in bean growing areas in
eastern, central and southern Africa.

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Centres (VICs) in poor growing areas in
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Introduction

Farmer field days were scored high by farmers and the other stakeholders as one of the main tools for disseminating agricultural information amongst rural communities and policy makers.

Four farmer field days were successfully conducted at four village sites in Hai District, Kilimanjaro region in June 2002. These field days were organized by project participating farmers, Village Extension Officers (VEOs), Hai District Agricultural and Livestock Development Officers (DALDO), World Vision International – Tanzania (WVT), Selian Agricultural Research Institute (SARI), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

Objective

To increase IPM awareness at village community level and among policy makers through farmer field meetings at learning plots and facilitate cross village visits between farmer groups to exchange information and encourage farmer to farmer technology dissemination.

1. Sanya Juu Farmer Field Day- 11th June 2002

A total of 181 participants evaluated bean field plots under different treatments including sowing dates, applications of cow urine, wood ashes, neem oil and use of high yielding bean varieties. The group was also able to view demonstration plots on soybean and new maize varieties. Among the audience there were bean IPM participants from other 10 villages, non-participating farmers from within and outside Sanya Juu area, organising groups and invited local government policy makers.



Participants learning together at Sanya Juu village bean IPM plot



Participants exchanging views at a soybean demonstration field, Sanya Juu village

2. Magadini Farmer Field Day- 12th June 2002

The field day at Magadini Village was attended by 60 participants. Among these were IPM participating farmers from 2 other villages, non-participating farmers from within and outside Magadini village, organising groups and local government staff. The group exchanged views at bean IPM learning plots, improved bean variety seed multiplication and demonstration plots of improved bean genotypes.



Participants exchanging views at a bean variety demonstration field managed by Magadini IPM farmer group



Participants learning together at Magadini village bean IPM plot

3. Mungushi Farmer Field Day – 13th June 2002

The discussion involved 65 participants. Targeted learning plots were on bean IPM (using botanicals to control major insect pests of beans) and INM (using Rhizobia for improved bean and soybean production, and use of Minjingu Rock Phosphate to improve maize production). Among the audience were IPM participants, IPM non-participating farmers from within and outside Mungushi village, organisers and local government representatives.



Participants evaluating bean IPM technologies at Mungushi village



Participants exchanging views at a bean variety demonstration, Mungushi village

4. Kwa Sadala Farmer Field Days- 17th June 2002

Fifty participants attended the field day at Kwa Sadala village. They included IPM participating farmers and non-participating farmers from within and neighbouring villages. There were bean IPM learning plots and soybean demonstration plots. Discussions were held at the both crop plots.



Participants evaluating bean IPM technologies at Kwa Sadala village



Participants exchanging views at a soybean demonstration plot, Kwa Sadala village

Important issues raised and discussed during the meetings

During the discussions at the four field days, farmers and the other stakeholders emphasised the following needs:

- Farmers to continue working in groups,
- Farmers to continue analysing and solving their field crop production problems through learning plots in consultation with the other stakeholders
- Other IPM participating villages were encouraged to organise similar field days at their locations
- Researchers and extension personnel were urged to continue working closely with farmers and the other stakeholders.

NOTES

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and the other people involved.

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The Report on Bean Farmer Field Days in Hai District, Northern Tanzania is produced by the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

For more information on the report, please contact:

Coordinator
CIAT
Selian Agricultural Research Institute
Dodoma Road
P.O. Box 2704, Arusha-Tanzania.
Tel: (+255-27) 2502268/2508557
Fax: (+255-27) 2508557
E-Mail: <ciattz@habari.co.tz>

Design and Layout by:
Eva Ngallo