RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN A MULTI NATIONAL COMPANY: NESTLE/UNAAB SOYBEANS POPULARIZATION PROJECT
In pursuit of its Sustainable Agricultural Initiative (SAI) Nestle Nigeria began a collaborative research with the University of Agriculture Abeokuta (UNAAB) on Popularization of Soybeans.

The project is directed at stimulating sustainable interest of farmers in Soybeans production.

The company embarked on an on-farm adaptive research with UNAAB which brought into being a selection of Soybeans varieties with improved seed color, seed size and seed yield.
Our Objectives

- Collaboration between Nestle Nigeria Plc and UNAAB on Soybeans started in 1995 with objectives of:
  
  - Massive production of Soybeans to meet Nestlé's requirement
  
  - Sensitizing farmers on the importance of Soybeans and to increase awareness on the cultivation of Soybeans in South West Nigeria
  
  - Development of good quality Soybeans seeds to be produced by farmers in South West Nigeria (Lagos, Ogun, Ondo and Oyo)
  
  - Generate employment in rural areas
Project Expectations

• Ability of farmers to produce sufficient quantities of grains to cater for industrial requirement

• Production of good quality soybeans by farmers in Southwest Nigeria (Oyo, Ogun, Ondo and Lagos)

• Increase income and well being of farmers
What are the Challenges

• Non-availability of viable soybeans seeds

• Inadequate threshers for processing of the crop to ease drudgery
Approach to the Project

• Request for Proposal by Nestle from UNAAB
• Submission of Proposal by UNAAB on Soybeans popularization in South west through extension services
• Approval of the proposal by Nestle Nigeria Plc
• On station Soybeans varietal screening
• About 80 varieties of seedlings were evaluated for high yield, disease resistance and seed quality
• 10 promising varieties were selected from which two varieties (TGX1019-2EB and TGX 1448-1E) were recommended for popularization
Nestle Roles in the Project

• Provide financial resources for training

• Provide technical equipment like threshing machine

• Guarantee purchase of harvested soybeans

• Help transport harvested soybeans from farmer to Nestle

• Provide support for farmers families (nutrition education)
Training materials for soybeans production

Recommended Practices for Soybean Production

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Sponsored by Nestle Nigeria Plc

Nestle

MARKET OUTLET
Soybean is in high demand by the food industries in Nigeria. The major buyer in Nigeria is NESTLE (NIG) PLC, Lagos

Gains of Soyabean Production

AMREC Extension Guide Series

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Nestle Nigeria

Central West Africa
Content of Farmers Training

INTRODUCTION
Soybean is an important grain legume crop primarily grown for its high quality protein and oil contents. The demand for soybean protein is now high in view of the high cost of other sources such as meat, eggs and pork.

This guide aims at ensuring that the crop is grown profitably by farmers in South-West Nigeria.

PACKAGE OF RECOMMENDATION FOR SOYBEAN PRODUCTION IN THE SOUTH-WEST (DERIVED SAVANNA REGION) OF NIGERIA

1. Recommended Varieties
   Early (<110 days) and medium (110-120 days) maturing varieties are recommended for planting in the savanna region to avoid low soil moisture level during the latter part of the reproductive stage.
   Some of the high yielding varieties now cultivated by farmers include:
   a. TGx 1019-2EN (early 95-106 days), 1.5-1.6 t/ha.
   b. TGx 1019-2EB (medium 105-110 days), 1.5-2.0 t/ha.
   c. TGx 1440-1E (late 115-120 days), 1.7-2.2 t/ha.
   d. TGx 1440-2E (late 115-120 days), 1.7-2.3 t/ha.
   e. TGx 1740-2F (early 95-100 days), 1.0-1.5 t/ha.

2. Sources of Seeds
   Viable seeds of these varieties are available in the following organizations:
   a. International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan.
   b. National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI), Badagry.
   c. Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR), Samaru, Zaria.
   d. Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Ibadan.
   NB: Last planting season we bought soybean seeds at the rate of N120/kg.

3. Site Selection
   Soils that are suitable for sorghum and maize are also suitable for soybean production. The land must be flat, moderately sloppy and well drained.

4. Land Preparation
   Stump, plough and harrow the site to have a clean seed bed. Harrow a week or two after ploughing.

5. Planting Date and Time
   Planting is done between mid June and early July depending on the variety and location of the site to enable the crop receive adequate rainfall and be harvested under dry weather conditions. Plant on well prepared soil within 48 hours after a good rainfall.
   *NB: Soybean requires adequate moisture at planting. Good take-off of the seedlings and bright sunshine day for maturity and harvest of the pods are also required.

6. Seed Rate
   50-60 kg/ha.

7. Spacing
   Soybean is planted at 60 cm x 5 cm. Early and medium maturing varieties could also be planted at 60 cm x 5 cm (300,000 plants/ha).

8. Planting Methods
   a. Hand drilling i.e. dropping of seeds at about 2 cm apart inside shallow furrows.
   b. Seed drilling (planter).
   Manual or mechanized seed drill is used provided appropriate disc is available to give about 20 seeds per meter.
   c. Maize planters can be adjusted for soybean planting.
   *NB: Exposed seeds must be covered immediately with a thin layer of soil. Do not plant too deep into the soil.

AMREC Extension Guide Series

AMREC Extension Guide Series
...training session with farmers
Donation of threshing machine
Health check for farmers
….resulting in good crop field
## Project Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/Season Implemented</th>
<th>No of cultivated Hectares</th>
<th>Yields (Metric Tons)</th>
<th>Amount Donated (=N= Mio)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999/2000</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/2001</td>
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<td>12.5</td>
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<td>76</td>
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<td>From 2006-2010</td>
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<td>134 tons per year</td>
<td>20</td>
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</table>
…..and we achieved

- Training and Capacity-Building for 500 farmers and Subject Matter Specialists, Extension Agents and Zonal Extension Officers
- Distribution of viable soybeans seeds to farmers for planting
- Production of Soybeans by farmers in the catchment area
- Fabrication & demonstration of Soybeans thresher
- Over 780 tons of Soybeans were produced
- Improvement of farm families health
- Between 2004 & 2009, Nestle donated 26 Million Naira to the project and 6 threshing machine
Conclusion....
THANK YOU