



TITLE: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO UPSCALE GROUNDNUT PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION IN WESTERN KENYA

Name: Mariam Were

Affiliation: PhD candidate / Research assistant, MMUST

Country: Kenya

Email ID: claris.nyongesa@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

Groundnuts, (*Arachis hypogaea L.*); family *Fabaceae*, genus *Arachis*. It's the fifth most important annual oilseed and food legume crop, grown in diverse environments throughout the semi-arid and sub-tropical regions of the world. Groundnut production is of economic and nutritional value for small holder farmers in east Africa particularly Kenya. Groundnut seeds contain protein, fat, fiber, carbohydrate, mineral ions, folic acid, Vitamins and is a complete balance diet for the elderly and malnourished children, lowers cholesterol and risks of heart disease. In western Kenya, It's grown in almost each household on small scale. However, there is potential for large scale production since it's a legume with nitrogen fixing ability, improve soil fertility and increases productivity of small holder cropping systems. It is estimated that up to 1.6 tonnes of groundnuts can be obtained per acre of land but in western Kenya 0.3 tonnes per acre is obtained due to poor agronomic practices, pests and diseases. Most of the groundnuts produced in the region are consumed at home and due to lack of proper handling skills and storage facilities, some gets aflatoxin contamination causing health risks while some is destroyed by storage pests and

rodents. This project sought to establish a database of groundnut farmers in the region, provide sustainable agronomic skills, pest and disease management to help them realize better yields, minimize post-harvest losses, provide linkage to processing and value addition and to avail the high quality products to consumers in the region and beyond. Having a record and contacts of groundnut farmers in the region is critical for disease surveillance and link to experts for reporting, management and control of diseases and pests in their fields. It will also make supply of high quality seed to the farmers and access to processors and market more efficient thus increase in productivity.

BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Mariam Were is a 37 year old PhD candidate in Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), Kenya. She is a research assistant in the department of Agriculture and Land Use Management of MMUST, Kenya. She has over 10 publications and is quite well experienced in research in the area of crop protection.



International Conference on
NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE

November 17-18, 2022 | Paris, France

<https://www.nutrition.scientexconference.com/>

+1 341-208-2801

Presenter Name: Mariam Were
Mode of Presentation: Oral.
Contact number: 254711889045



Upload your photo here.

