



**REPORT:
THE FIRST TOBACCO STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP CONDUCTED
IN TABORA ON 17 AUGUST 2020:**

**SHARING TOBACCO RESEARCH RESULTS FOR THE 2019/20
CROP SEASON AND UPCOMING RESEARCH-2020/21**

Attendance

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|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. Bonifasi S. Mwantandi | CHUTCU - Chunya |
| 2. | Mr. Rodrick A. Mwankenja | KAGERA - AMCOS |
| 3. | Ms. Veronica A. Magomba | Tumaini - AMCOS |
| 4. | Mr. Nyansio G. Kasagula | LATCU - Mpanda |
| 5. | Mr. Raphael B. Kamlika | LATCU - Mpanda |
| 6. | Mr. Pius Achuma | PATL |
| 7. | Mr. Yusuph Mahundi | PATL |
| 8. | Ms. Sarah William | MILAMBO CU LTD |
| 9. | Mr. Hassan Magola | MILAMBO CU LTD |
| 10. | Mr. Peter Mukisa | JTI |
| 11. | Mr. Oscar Simwanza | TTB |
| 12. | Mr. Januari Jeleman | Kangeme - AMCOS |
| 13. | Mr. John Emmanuel | Bulungwa - Kahama |
| 14. | Mr. Salumu J. Mayobha | Kilungu – AMCOS (Ibiri) |
| 15. | Dr. Emmanuel Mrema | TORITA |
| 16. | Mr. Erick Z. Antony | TORITA |
| 17. | Ms. Magdalena Raphael | TORITA |
| 18. | Ms. Donatha R. Dunda | TORITA |
| 19. | Mr. Abraham Furahini | TORITA |
| 20. | Ms. Catherine Mkama | TORITA |
| 21. | Mr. Lucas A. Maziku | TORITA |
| 22. | Mr. Elimboto Muna | TORITA |
| 23. | Ms. Proscovia Projest | TORITA |
| 24. | Dr. Jacob B. Lisuma | TORITA |
| 25. | Mr. Daniel Mezza | TORITA |

1.0 Introduction

TORITA for the first time conducted a one day workshop in Tabora on 17th August 2020 to inform tobacco stakeholders on research findings of the trials conducted in 2019/20 crop season. The followings are the research presented in the workshop; Evaluation of KRK26R, KRK75 and T68 flue-cured varieties, Evaluation of Yunnan 85, Yunnan 87, NC 102 and NC 297 flue-cured varieties. From these varieties, performance of KRK26R and Yunnan 85 attained higher yields. For the 2020/21 crop season, these two varieties will be evaluated in three sites on distinctness, uniformity, stability and yield data to both on stations and on-farms levels to meet the requirements for the registration of seed in collaboration with TOSCI. Other research to be carried out if funds will be sufficient will include; other potential use of tobacco apart from making cigarettes, assessment of the use of biomass residue as an alternative source for tobacco curing; and on-farm assessment of coal as an alternative to fuel-wood. However, this trial shall be conducted for purpose of gathering research data, but not for the use in the curing of tobacco based on the fact that, coal is prohibited for use due to its non-renewability.

2.0 Stakeholders comments following presentations of the research results: 2019/20

- To include leaf grades of the varieties evaluated
- To include facts on what makes yields for on station results to be higher than growers
- To include smoking characteristics of the varieties evaluated
- To include data on fertilizer uptake efficiency for each variety evaluated
- To indicate soil fertility results before commencement of the research trials
- To include a statement declaring that, evaluated varieties screened against GMO

3.0 Stakeholders comments to the upcoming research trials: 2020/21

- Materials to be used in making briquettes should be readily available to the tobacco growing areas for the sustainability of growing the crop. Experience can be borrowed from Bangladesh where they have succeeded to cure tobacco using rice husks
- Trials using briquettes for curing tobacco should use the standard barn as a control in comparison to the rocket barn
- Cost on alternative curing energy should be considered in research and if possible, cost incurred should be minimal and affordable to the tobacco growers
- Research for the other usages of tobacco, emphasis should be given to explore the use of tobacco extracts for the control of pests and diseases

- Research of the use of coal can be extended to the farmers for purpose of collecting research data for future documentation but, should not be used as alternative curing energy since coal is a non-renewable resource

4.0 Stakeholders comments on issues that need to be researched in order to rescue the tobacco sector in Tanzania

- Reforestation project need to be reviewed to come up with the implementable plan
- Research on the use of electric power to cure tobacco need to be considered in future as the electricity is now available to the remote areas through REA program
- Research to explore tobacco marketing is required
- Research to improve tobacco productivity and quality is still required to meet international tobacco buyers compliance
- Research on how to reduce the cost of production need to be given highest priority
- The demand for tobacco seed is high and TORITA should start producing tobacco seeds
- Research on good agrochemicals efficacy of the lowest toxicity is required

5.0 Way forward and Conclusion

- Based on the valuable comments from the stakeholders, TORITA has immediately taken initiatives on how to improve TAP program seriously. Currently, TORITA has consulted the Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI) and working in collaboration in revising TAP to come up with the proposal on planting and growing trees for the sustainability of tobacco production. The proposal once completed will be shared with the Tobacco Council Secretary for further circulation to the councilors for their contributions and approval.
- Efficient tobacco production is mostly required in Tanzania tobacco sector as the tobacco sector in the country has faced critical difficulties, including high production costs and late and to some extent, inadequate supply of inputs. In order to make our tobacco crop competitive to the world market and for increasing volume in the country, compliance on GAP is inevitable. Thus, TORITA is finalizing project proposal in developing models that will be a guide towards improving efficient in tobacco production. The proposal will be shared to the Tobacco Council Secretary for further circulation to the councilors for their contributions and participating in the execution of the research planned to be accomplished by February 2021.
- Crop losses is still an area that needs to be improved as the majority of farmers are topping low and hence lose a good leaf that fetches high-

quality grade and price. All production chain will be critically reviewed to identify areas with significant losses and suggesting the best way to overcome the crop losses for increasing crop volume and quality. TORITA will carry out this trial despite the financial difficulties for the 2019/20 marketing season. The final report expected to be released to the stakeholders by June 2021.

- Based on the demand for tobacco seed, TORITA in 2020/21 crop season will be engaged in the production of tobacco seed for DFC and FCV. Furthermore, TORITA will collaborate with Tobacco Research Board (TRB) Kutsaga, Zimbabwe in the in the fields of research, technology, variety testing, production and security of tobacco seed, plant clinic, and advisory services. The MoU between TRB and TORITA is at the final stage and will be signed before the end of October 2020.
- It is our hope that, we will get support from all the tobacco stakeholders and we are extending our most excellent thanks to all traders and growers attended our workshop on 17th August 2020, and we hope those who did not participate in the workshop for the reasons beyond their control, will join efforts towards improving our sector. We will conduct a similar workshop in one of the tobacco regions in next year on the same date (17th August 2021) please fix this date and never miss the workshop. Lastly, I would like to inform you that we have developed our website (www.torita.or.tz) and kindly as you get time to visit our website, please leave your comments on how to improve our research programs and website in general. Our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube accounts are found at the end of our website, please follow us and we will follow you.

Thank you for your usual collaboration!

Report prepared and circulated to the stakeholders by;



Dr. Jacob B. Lisuma
Research Director

TORITA, 18th September 2020

"Our future crop sustainability will be determined by the compliance to the good agricultural practices we make today!" JBL, 2020