



ISSUE: 06 (August, 2021)

Interactive Session with CRIN Staff



An interactive session was scheduled by the Executive Director (ED), Dr. Patrick Adebola from July 12 to 16, 2021. It was geared towards

rubbing minds one-on-one with the staff as against bottle-necks that may be occasioned by going through intermediaries. The ED CRIN stated that he operates by open door policy to all staff so as not to take wrong steps. He emphasized “under-promise but over-perform” as his operational mantra. He implored to be guided aright. The ED CRIN openly declared that there is nothing stopping him from turning the Institute around. This was demonstrated by his fruitful drive towards addressing the skewed staff disposition. He cheered the staff with heart-warming news on securing first stage approval to employ over two hundred staff who would be mainly of junior cadre. Furthermore, the Institute pure water factory has commenced production in commercial scale and would soon engage in bottle water production under his watch. The bakery that suffered abandonment is also receiving attention from the ED.



CRIN Management Committee in attendance

Furthermore, the ED CRIN intimated the staff that he has given the approval to upgrade Internet bandwidth from 4Mbps to 100Mbps as well as revamp of the Institute website. He promised to implement staff training, engage in renovations and road construction, procure furniture, computers, printers, stationeries, address paucity of office space and improve water and power supply. He implored all staff to maintain strict confidentiality, observe security consciousness, join hands to move the Institute forward and safeguard the property of the Institute. The ED CRIN solicited for more cooperation and prayers for the Institute. On the other hand, the staff applauded the untiring efforts of the Executive Director and his management committee towards the welfare of the staff. This was evidenced by the facilitation of the payment of 75% of returned salary to the affected staff among many others.



CRIN Staff from Productions and Substation Department



Mr Onatunde-Onanuga reacting to issues from Admin and Supplies Department



Reactions from the Engineering Department



Presentation by Dr. Jayeola, Head, Value Added Research Department



Cross Section of Staff listening with rapt attention

CRIN Collaborates with APPEALS on Farm Demonstration of Technologies for Cashew Productivity among Farmers

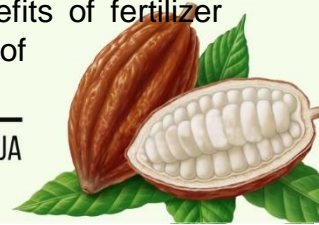
The key objective of the on-farm demonstration was to expose the cashew farmers to different activities of Cashew Rehabilitation Techniques (CRTs). The methodology adopted was the Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) approach. The PLA enabled cashew farmers drawn from the three (3) Senatorial Districts (SD) of Kogi State to assess the farms in the project sites and be a part of solution to the challenges

observed. The cashew farmers were formed into groups and asked to assess the farms and come up with their views on the challenges on the farms and possible solutions before the commencement of the demonstration. A total number of five hundred and sixty-eight (568) cashew farmers (men, women and youth) participated in the project and the farmers were actively involved in the demonstration. The cashew farm size used for the demonstration was 40m x 30m at Ochaja and Irepeni, while at Mopamuro the dimension was 50m x 40m. These plots are accessible to observers. Cashew Rehabilitation Techniques demonstrated included Agro-ecological System Analysis (AESA), pest and disease identification and control, nursery establishment, pruning, thinning, gapping-up, in-situ sowing, coppicing, farm sanitation and fire tracing. These were done to enhance cashew productivity, quality cashew nuts and improved livelihood of beneficiary cashew farmers in Kogi State.



CRIN Scientist, Dr. Ibiremo, demonstrating standard operating procedures (SOP) for soil sampling

The rapid soil test was carried out using the LaMotte soil test kit. Many of the farmers in Nigeria are resource poor small holders and cannot afford the cost of conventional analytical laboratory soil testing and other logistics associated with it, yet soil testing is necessary to realize full benefits of fertilizer application. Exploring the use of



affordable, handy and quick LaMotte soil test kit for soil analysis before fertilizer application is far better than blanket fertilizer application. The enthusiastic responses of the farmers attested to the success of the on-farm technology demonstration.



Step-by-step use of LaMotte soil test kit by the CRIN Scientist, Dr Moses Ogunlade



Pest and disease management using AESA tool by the CRIN Scientist, Dr. S.O. Agbeniyi



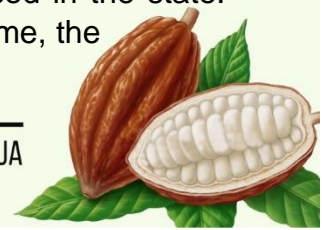
Demostration of agronomic practices by the CRIN Scientist, Mrs E.A. Adeyemi

FG Presents Hybrid Cocoa Seedlings and Inputs to Cocoa Farmers



Determined to reverse the downward trend in the Nigeria's cocoa production, the federal government had distributed 300,000 hybrid cocoa seedlings to farmers in four geopolitical zones,

where cocoa is being produced, through the Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development. The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Alhaji Mohammed Nanono, stated this at the inauguration of the National Secretariat of the Cocoa Farmers Association of Nigeria (CFAN) in Akure, the Ondo State capital on 26 July, 2021. The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola and Director/Cocoa Programme Leader, Dr. A.R. Adedeji, represented CRIN at the event. Other agricultural inputs distributed includes 350 cartons of Ultimax-plus and 500 units of Solo pumps. According to the minister, the gesture of the federal government was part of the efforts to develop the agricultural sector, increase production, and encourage cocoa farmers. The minister urged the farmers' association to continue contributing meaningfully to increase production and productivity despite "daunting challenges so as to move cocoa production to a desirable level and improve the livelihood of our cocoa farmers and other actors in the value chain." In his remarks, the state Governor, Rotimi Akeredolu, who was represented by his Deputy, Lucky Aiyedatiwa, at the event, stated that the state had been promoting local consumption of cocoa produced in the state. Speaking also at the programme, the National Chairman of CFAN,





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Mr. Adeola Adegoke, sought more assistance from the government in the area of cocoa inputs subsidisation for his members' farmers.



Dr. Adedeji and ED (right) at the CFAN event

were equipped with knowledge of improving and attracting research and development grants to their various Institutions to enhance agricultural development in Nigeria.

Monthly Sports Exercise

The maxim "all works and no play makes jack a dull boy" played out on Tuesday July 13, 2021 when the staff of the Institute embarked on walk exercise from the Institute's main gate to the Administrative block. This is one of the good works of our amiable Executive Director towards enhancing body fitness of all staff. It is scheduled to hold every second Tuesday of every month between 8:00am to 9:00am. As expected, staff participated in the exercise enthusiastically. Below are cross section of staff at the sporting exercise:

CRIN Attends Grantmanship Training



A workshop on Grantsmanship was organised by the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI), Ilorin for Research Officers from Agricultural Research Institutes and Federal

Colleges of Agriculture in Nigeria from June 28 to July 2, 2021. The Institute was ably represented by the Director and Head of Coffee Programme, Dr. R.R. Ipinmoroti. The workshop was tailored towards finding lasting solution to the challenges of inadequate funding of agricultural research in Nigeria. The training involved building competence and skill in writing good proposals to attract donor funds. Researchers were exposed to different modules including the science and art of grant writing proposal. Participants





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Staff of the Month: Mr. Obi Samuel



Mr. Obi Samuel Ikechukwu was born on 7th June, 1983 to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Obi in the city of Ibadan, Oyo State. He attended Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN)

Staff School, Ibadan for his elementary education and Community Grammar School, Tonkere, Ayetoro for his post-elementary education. He also attended The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Oyo State where he obtained National Diploma (ND) and Higher National Diploma (HND) in Business Administration. He was employed as an Agricultural Field Attendant in 2009 by Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) and later converted to the Clerical Officer's cadre (Assistant Clerical officer) in 2011. In 2013, he rose to the rank of Clerical Officer II and was saddled with the responsibility of dispatching and receiving mails and tracing of files, amongst other duties assigned to him by designated authorities. In 2017, he was converted to Executive Officers' cadre as an Assistant Executive Officer and was transferred to the office of the Ag. Head, Administration and Supplies. He was promoted to the post of Executive Officer in

2020. Mr. Obi is versatile, innovative, energetic and resourceful.

PhD Defense: Dr. Sobowale Ibrahim

Congratulations to Dr. Sobowale Ibrahim



Olalekan for successfully defending his PhD thesis on "Genetic Diversity, Floral Biology and Mode of Propagation of Indian Spinach (*Basella alba*

(L) at the Department of Crop, Soil and Pest Management, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State on "July 13, 2021. In his submission, he noted that Phenotypic and genetic variability exist among the twenty accessions of the Indian spinach thus creating a platform for eventual selection program. Furthermore, the result obtained showed that Indian spinach is a cleistogam that demonstrates self-fertilization in a permanently closed flower. Also, seeds perform better than stem cuttings in most of the growth parameters and no differences in their yield performance. However, the cutting regrowth or regenerate faster as the seeds takes longer time to emerge. On the benefit of the research to CRIN, he stated that floral aspect of the research can be adopted for improvement of CRIN mandate crops. The molecular marker used in the study can also be embraced for genetic profiling of CRIN mandate crops.





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August Birthday Galore

Hearty birthday celebrations to the members of staff that will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Wishing you all the very best in your life endeavours. Congratulations!



Yahaya Aderonke Taiwo	01-Aug	Ojedeji Olusegun	08-Aug
Adio Oluwadare Timothy	01-Aug	Ibhazukor Gabriel	08-Aug
Amaize Augustine	01-Aug	Ismaila Ifeoluwa	09-Aug
Bamigbose Adetayo	02-Aug	Williams Olaide Abisola	10-Aug
Adeyemi Yetunde	02-Aug	Omoware Felicia Ajayi	10-Aug
Ayinde Jelili A.	02-Aug	Akinsafola Bunmi Mercy	10-Aug
Lasisi Yinka	02-Aug	Askira Hamidu M.	10-Aug
Ubi Augustine Eteng	02-Aug	Adedoyin Nkanlola Mathew	10-Aug
Ojone Attah	02-Aug	Adewumi Luke Oluwakayode	10-Aug
Adenubi Busayo David	03-Aug	Babalola Joseph Odewale	10-Aug
Idorenyin Okpo	03-Aug	Adeyemo Adewale Akeem	11-Aug
Iloyanomoh Cecilia I.	04-Aug	Lawal Jelili	11-Aug
Alufa Funmilayo	04-Aug	Obatolu Babalola Olakunle	13-Aug
Akintoye Alice Modasola	06-Aug	Raji Monsurat	15-Aug
Fagbemi Dorcas Oyeyemi	06-Aug	Nyamkyume Terkula F.	15-Aug
Idowu Babatunde Oluwakemi	06-Aug	Ajiroba Adeniyi Taiwo	15-Aug
Adedeji John	06-Aug	Akinola Abiola Ann	15-Aug
		Salako Gbenga Samson	15-Aug
		Ihueze Chinedu	15-Aug
		Sunday Oguche Simon	15-Aug
		Adeyemo Adekunle Johnson	16-Aug
		Habibu Aminu	17-Aug
		Onwubiko Michael	17-Aug
		Oghenegueke John	17-Aug
		Akangbe Folorunso	17-Aug
		Dada Keji Emmanuel	18-Aug
		Ajayi Olusegun Kelvin	20-Aug
		Olubodun Olusola Olabisi	21-Aug
		Kareem Suraju	21-Aug





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Makinde Felicia Adeteju	21-Aug	Amusan Latifat Adebola	25-Aug
Salami Oyenike	22-Aug	Okedion Friday	25-Aug
Udo Johnny	22-Aug	Bello Babajide	26-Aug
Ubebe Philomena Adunni	23-Aug	Adegbindin Abel Olukayode	26-Aug
Sobowale Mayowa Olutayo	23-Aug	Adeosun Seun Adewale	27-Aug
Ugi Pauline	23-Aug	Oghenegueke Rebecca Janet	27-Aug
Osun Michael	23-Aug	Onuh Ochenchi Paulina	27-Aug
Yahaya Sulaiman Zulusas	24-Aug	Folarin Victoria Adeyinka	31-Aug
Oladokun Yetunde	24-Aug	Robert Oludare	31-Aug
Ibiremo Olufemi Samuel	25-Aug	Ojo Iyabo	31-Aug

