



CRIN Herald

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (CRIN), IBADAN.

ISSUE: 36 (February, 2024)

CRIN Partners with ICD, NEXIM to Organise International Cocoa and Chocolate Forum in Abuja and Lagos



The International Cocoa and Chocolate Forum (ICCF) is the main platform by International Cocoa Diplomacy (ICD) for networking, partnerships, collaboration, ideas and cultural exchange, bilateral trade, opportunities, learning and forming new alliances. The ICCF - Nigeria edition was organized by ICD in partnership with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) and Nigerian Export and Import Bank (NEXIM Bank). The event was a call to action to continue the discussion where policy formation will meet investment requirements for the sole purpose of creating the cocoa culture that will begin to intentionally add value to cocoa and create wealth at origin to reduce dominance of the industry by consuming regions and to also explore ways for shared value and prosperity creation purposes. The theme of the event was: "Putting Value in Cocoa at Producing Regions".

Abuja session brought together policy makers, financial institutions and stakeholders from across the Nigeria to exploit ways of taking advantage of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and other emerging cocoa and chocolate markets

to optimize the potentials. It took place at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja on Tuesday 9th January, 2024. The Institute was fully represented at the event led by the Executive Director (ED), Dr. Patrick Adebola, while the Director and Cocoa Programme Leader, Dr. Samuel Orisajo and Assistant Director and Head Crop Improvement Division, Dr. Anna Muyiwa were members of the team.



The Honourable Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Chief Olawale Edun declared the Forum opened with an address that focused on the future of cocoa and value addition and the role it is expected to play in Nigeria's emerging



market. He emphasised on the need for job creation and the promotion of cocoa culture to attract local and international investors.

In his keynote address, the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Abubakar Kyari, represented by Mr. Iwara Basse, stressed the need to enhance cocoa output through increased productivity and the adoption of improved agricultural practices.





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The Minister for Budget and Economic Planning, Senator Abubakar Atiku Bagudu reiterated the need for continued support for the cocoa sector.

Also, in her goodwill message, Her Excellency Ambassador Prof (Mrs.) Olufolake Abdulrazaq, the First Lady of Kwara State and the Honorary Global Ambassador of ICD, advocated for farmers' empowerment and continuous partnerships with CRIN, NEXIM Bank and other cocoa stakeholders. She



emphasised the importance of supporting indigenous chocolate manufacturing and economic practices to boost cocoa earnings.

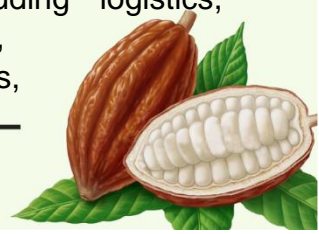


The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, gave a keynote presentation titled: "The Importance of the Classification and Denomination of Cocoa with Investment in Increased Production Output". The ED stated that cocoa industry faces multifaceted challenges affecting productivity, quality, and economic stability. This decline is exacerbated by poor farming practices, limited access to improved seeds, inadequate infrastructure, and a lack

of technological integration, resulting in diminished yields per hectare. Quality issues persist due to suboptimal post-harvest processing, improper fermentation, and inadequate drying techniques, significantly impacting the flavor profile and market value of the beans. Furthermore, the cocoa supply chain's complexity, characterized by multiple intermediaries, introduces inefficiencies and challenges in tracing cocoa bean origins. The lack of transparency and accountability in this intricate cocoa supply chain hampers efforts to address sustainability issues, ensure quality, and provide fair compensation to farmers. These interconnected challenges demand concerted efforts and comprehensive strategies involving various stakeholders to foster sustainable solutions and enhance the cocoa industry's resilience. Therefore, the ED revealed the importance of classification and denomination of cocoa thereby adding value to the product. He also discussed the link between cocoa classification, denomination and increased production output to meet the rising demand with higher grades fetching significantly higher prices.



In his keynote presentation, the Managing Director NEXIM Bank, Mr. Abubakar Bello discussed on the need to "Expand Thinking Beyond Cocoa Beans and the Opportunities for Investment and Job Creation". He hinged on the need to increase production capacity, revitalize processing factories, and explore market opportunities. He outlined challenges in the cocoa sector, including logistics, demand and supply dynamics, intellectual and capacity losses,





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high energy costs, transportation costs, lack of finance, and insufficient investment through the value chain.

Following each keynote presentation, panel discussants explored and discussed key points.



Cross section of the dignitaries at Abuja

The Lagos session seized the opportunity of Lagos being the biggest market in the continent and brought together Investors, Entrepreneurs, Equipment Providers, Stakeholders for the purpose of looking into new business models that will encourage partnerships and collaboration to accelerate value addition in Nigeria and subsequently the continent. It took place at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos on Thursday 11th January 2024. The Institute was fully represented at the event by the Executive Director, Dr. Patrick Adebola, ably represented by the Director and Cocoa Programme Leader, Dr. S. B. Orisajo and Director and Value Addition Research Programme Leader, Dr. C. O. Jayeola.



In his address, His Excellency, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the Executive Governor of Lagos State, represented by the Honourable Commissioner for

Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade, and Investment, Mrs. Folashade Ambrose-Medebem, stated that Lagos government plans to establish three cocoa processing hubs to drive value addition and boost the country's foreign exchange inflows through agriculture. He noted that the state is a trade hub for value addition and with its strategic geographical position and robust infrastructure, Lagos is poised to become a central hub for cocoa processing and trade.



The Osun State Governor, Mr. Ademola Adeleke, represented by the Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture and Food Security, Pastor Tola Faseru, at the

event promised to revitalise cocoa production in the state with a view to boosting its economy. He said that cocoa-producing states had a direct challenge and obligation to introduce new innovations that would help to revive the sector and increase productivity level of cocoa farmers. He, therefore, unveiled what he termed a comprehensive cocoa revival agenda of his administration as a major contributor to boosting agricultural production in the state. He described the importance of cocoa to the diversification of Nigerian economy and recalled how Chief Obafemi Awolowo developed the old Western Region with earnings





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from cocoa production. He urged each state in the southwest region to build a local revival plan for cocoa that should have a bottom-top approach, saying it is the best strategic approach for the nation and especially the cocoa-producing states. He admonished each state to consider a standing partnership with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria.

At the event, there were panel discussions which focused on 1) EU sustainability regulations and its impact on Nigerian Export earnings if not compliant; 2) Understanding value addition beyond transforming cocoa into various Derivatives; 3) opportunities for wealth creation within AFCTA: Looking at cocoa in a new light; 4) What are the cocoa value adds opportunities, the barriers and solutions for success? and 5) The future of cocoa and its transformational potential. The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola was part of the discussant and was ably represented by the Director and Cocoa Programme Leader, Dr. S. B. Orisajo.

Get Together Galore



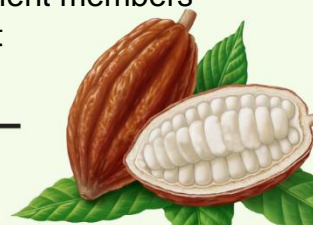
In appreciation of the benevolence of God Almighty and avowed care by the Executive Director (ED), Dr. Patrick Adebola, to the management and staff of the Institute in 2023, the ED hosted the Management and Union Leaders to a get together at Grand Maridos Hotel, Ibadan on Saturday January 13, 2024. The ED appreciated the Management and Union Leaders for their unrelenting support towards moving the Institute forward. Management members and Union Leaders took turns to appreciate the ED for his excellent leadership style and unparalleled drive to move the institute forward.



Cross section of the management members and union leaders at the event



Group photograph with the panelists





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In same vein, the Internal Audit and Economics and Extension Divisions held get together ceremony on January 11 and 12, 2024. The occasion was graced by the Executive Director in the company of some Management members. The

programme was anchored by Mr. E. O. Kuforiji, Head Internal Audit Division and Dr. (Mrs) J. O. Lawal, Head Economics and Extension Division, respectively.

In the homily delivered by the ED, he appreciated the peaceful coexistence and passion of the Heads of the Divisions. He expressed belief that year 2024 would be better than 2023. The ED, however, regretted that the current budget did not make provision for the Research Institute Games (RIGAN) to be hosted by the Institute in 2024. He promised to intensify efforts to harness supports. In recognition of the untiring efforts of the ED, the divisions presented him with awards. Other deserving staff members of the divisions were equally presented with awards.



Award presentation to the ED by the Head, Internal Audit Division, Mr. E. O. Kuforiji



Group photograph with the staff of Internal Audit



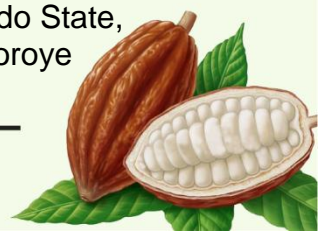
Group photograph with the staff of Economics and Extension

CRIN Staff Joins National Supporters Club



A staff of the Institute, Mr. Johnson Akintoroye, has been invited for the on-going African Cup of Nations (AFCON) in Cote d'Ivoire. He is a Chief Agricultural Field Officer (CAFO) and works at the Security Section of CRIN.

Johnson Akintoroye's trumpet wasn't just an instrument; it was a voice, a rallying cry, a heartbeat that pulsed with the rhythm of Nigerian, nay, African, football passion. His journey began in the sun-drenched streets of the Sunshine Ondo City in Ondo State, where a young Johnson Akintoroye





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discovered the power of music to bind hearts and stir souls. The trumpet, with its golden glint and soaring melodies, became his chosen language, echoing through school bands and local festivities.

But Johnson Akintoroye wasn't just a musician; his mind was as sharp as his notes. He earned a degree from the prestigious and Premier University of Ibadan, graduating with honors in Psychology. His intelligence and dedication led him to CRIN, where he became a seasoned security officer, safeguarding the nation's agricultural heritage.



Within CRIN, Johnson Akintoroye's talents extended beyond security. He became the heart and soul of the "Pod Breakers Supporters Team," the boisterous fans who cheered the institute's football team. His trumpet became their talisman, its vibrant calls turning every match into a pulsating carnival. Johnson Akintoroye wasn't just playing; he was weaving magic, igniting a fervent spirit that propelled the Pod Breakers to victory after victory.

But Johnson Akintoroye's destiny lay beyond the confines of CRIN. His electrifying performances caught the eye of the national team: AFCON committee, who were searching for a trumpeter who could embody the spirit of a continent united by the beautiful game. They saw in Akintoroye more than just musical talent; they saw a charismatic leader, a bridge between generations and cultures, a man whose passion could unify a nation, let alone a continent.

Thus, Johnson Akintoroye found himself

stepping onto the grand stage of the African Cup of Nations, his Ondo City roots blossoming into Pan-African glory. His trumpet's golden notes rang out across the stadiums, stirring the hearts of millions. He wasn't just cheering for a team; he was celebrating the very essence of Africa – its resilience, its joy, its unyielding spirit.

Under Akintoroye's trumpet, the AFCON wasn't just a football tournament; it was a cultural explosion, a vibrant tapestry woven from the diverse threads of African passion. He became a symbol of unity, his music transcending languages and borders, reminding everyone that in the face of the beautiful game, we are all one.

Johnson Akintoroye's story is a testament to the transformative power of passion. It's a story that began in a sun-drenched Nigerian city but soared to the heights of African unity, all carried on the wings of a single, golden trumpet. It's a story that reminds us that sometimes, the most powerful instrument isn't made of metal or wood, but of the human spirit itself, a spirit that can bridge continents and ignite the dreams of millions.

So, the next time you hear the electrifying notes of a trumpet at a football match, remember Johnson Akintoroye, the trumpeter who blew gold into Pan-African glory, the man whose Ondo City roots bore fruit on the continental stage, a testament to the power of music, passion, and unity. Please celebrate with us our man, the genus of Pod Breaker, the CRIN-AFCON Star, the Gold Trumpeter of the roots of Egin, the Sunshine City Sports legend: **MR. JOHNSON AKINTOROYE.**





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NEXIM Bank unveils digital hub to boost cocoa production



The Nigeria Export -Import Bank has launched a digital hub, 'Cocoa Connect Africa' in its bid to boost cocoa production in the country. This was disclosed by

the Managing Director, NEXIM Bank, Abubakar Bello, on Thursday January 11, 2024, while speaking on the sidelines of the International Cocoa and Chocolate Forum tagged, 'Putting values in cocoa in producing regions,' in Lagos State. Bello explained that the move is to bring every activity of all stakeholders in the cocoa industry under one platform. The MD also noted that the digital infrastructure was significant as it would help ease the stress of trade, adding that stakeholders of various commodities would be put under the digital platform. Bello stated that NEXIM is putting all the stakeholders on the value chain for different commodities, but the one launched is for cocoa and they are also doing the same for cashew and Shea. He added that the digital platform aims to boost trade facilitation and set standards for traceability. The platform can be used to educate farmers as well as regulators and pass the information on the latest developments. The NEXIM MD stated that the vision of the digital hub is to unlock the boundless potential of Cocoa in Africa. In her address, the bank's Executive Director, Business Development, Stella Okotete, said NEXIM Bank has supported Cocoa exporters with over N100 billion in the past seven years with all facilities performing and creating jobs for over 7,000 direct and 70,000 indirect jobs for Nigeria. She added that amongst others, NEXIM created a Small and Medium Exporters Facility to support exporters,

stressing that NEXIM has been supporting suppliers by growing their capacities. She added that with the recent spike in the price of cocoa, the bank has opened up its refinancing windows to support exporters with single-digit loans. Participants at the event were the Oloni of Eti-Oni, who is also the Founder, International Cocoa Diplomacy, Oba Dokun Thompson, representatives of Lagos and Osun State Governors, Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, amongst others.

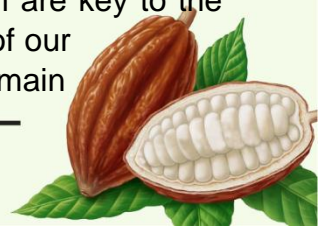
ARCN News

Food Security Research Pivotal to Drive Agricultural Transformation



The Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Senator Abubakar Kyari, stated that research remains pivotal to drive

agricultural transformation in achieving food security under the Tinubu's 'Renewed Hope' Agenda. Kyari stated this in his address to declare open the 'Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria Reform Workshop for Chief Executive Officers of National Agricultural Research Institutes, Federal Colleges of Agriculture, and Directors' held in Abuja. Represented by the Honourable Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Security, Sen. Dr. Aliyu Sabi Abdullahi, He said: "This meeting couldn't have come at a better time than at the beginning of a new year, especially now that the country is facing increasing food insecurity. There is a clear concern on growing shortages of staple crops such as rice, wheat, cassava, soybean, millet, sorghum among others, which are key to the achievement of food security of our dear nation. This must be the main





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reason why Mr. President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, declared food security as the number one of his eight-point agenda to drive economic development of the country.

Agriculture is the singular most important sector that can transform the economy of our great country to meet the growing demands for food, nutrition, industry and jobs. Accordingly, increase in agricultural productivity is the key determinant for socio-economic transformation and thus livelihood improvements in Nigeria. Improvement in agricultural productivity has been proven to take millions of people out of food insecurity and low-income status to food secured and improved living standards.

To drive agricultural transformation, research and training plays a pivotal role. It is the engine room for agricultural development and our priority as a Ministry is therefore to reposition the National Agricultural Research System for greater productivity. This is the main reason why the Federal Government of Nigeria is insisting on the implementation of ARC Act. This amendment made provisions for efficient management of research and training including the establishment of spinoff companies to commercialize research products and innovations generated by our institutions". The Minister charged the Council on increasing the internally generated revenue of institutions in order to augment the available fund for research training and extension activities. He further directed the Colleges to put emphasis on vocational and skill acquisition in her training programmes and make it more of practical and less theory. According to the Honourable Minister, it will enable the beneficiaries of the training programmes to have practical and working knowledge of agricultural businesses. He also charged ARC to work with relevant stakeholders in the agricultural education

sub-sector to actualize the directive. He directed that available lands within the various agricultural research and training institution be channelled toward agricultural production. He stated further that it is the vision of the present administration to deploy positive initiatives within the confine of law to ensure stability and favourable environment for all institutions under the purview of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to deliver their mandates of moving the Nigeria's agricultural sector forward. He concluded by stating that all stakeholders have been given position of trust and it must be upheld.



Group photograph of the participants with the Hon. Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Security and other dignitaries

(ARC report by Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Ag. Director, Administration)

Health News

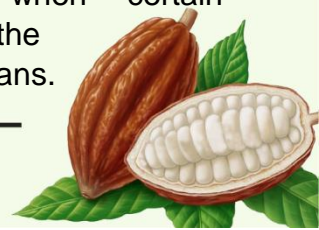
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) –



Mrs. Bosede Famaye

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is an infection that occurs in the uterus, fallopian tubes or ovaries. Sexually transmitted infections typically cause it. PID develops when certain

types of bacteria spread from the vagina to the reproductive organs.





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Bacteria from untreated sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are the most common cause of PID. However, bacteria normally found in the vagina can also cause PID. Severe PID can cause permanent damage to the reproductive organs and prevent one from getting pregnant.

Getting tested and treated for STIs is the best way to prevent PID. Most people get PID through unprotected sex. Sex lets bacteria enter the reproductive system where they can infect organs. PID occurs most frequently in women age between 15 and 25 years old. Symptoms may be mild or unnoticeable. These include; Pain or tenderness in the stomach or lower abdomen (belly), abnormal vaginal discharge, usually yellow or green with an unusual odour, chills or fever, nausea and vomiting, pain during sex, burning sensation when urinating, irregular periods or having spotting or cramping throughout the month.

Many types of bacteria can cause PID, but the two most common infections that cause PID are gonorrhea and Chlamydia which are gotten through unprotected sex. These two STIs cause about 90% of all PID cases. It can take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks to develop; gonorrhea or Chlamydia is the cause but if something else, it may take several months to develop it. PID is contagious and spreads most often during direct sexual contact. Those at risk have a sexually transmitted infection (STIs), especially gonorrhea or Chlamydia, have many sexual partners or have a partner who has had multiple partners, have had PID in the past, are sexually active and younger than 25, have had tubal ligation or other pelvic surgery. The infection can cause scar tissue to form inside the fallopian tubes. The scarring can lead to several problems, including chronic pelvic pain; long lasting pelvic pain is the most common complication.

Scarring can prevent a fertilized egg from moving into the uterus, causing it to implant inside the fallopian tubes instead. Up to 10% of people with PID lose the ability to get pregnant because scar tissue blocks their fallopian tubes and prevents them from releasing an egg. Tubo-Ovarian abscess (TOA) is a product of infection in the pelvis that can make one extremely sick. If one feels symptoms of PID he should see the care provider. The sooner one get care, the greater the chances of successful treatment. These are the medical procedures: information on medical history including general health, sexual activity and symptoms, pelvic examination to examine one's reproductive organs and feel for tenderness or abscesses, vaginal culture to test vaginal discharge for certain bacteria, ultrasound, blood tests, urine test, Endometrial biopsy etc. Management and treatment involves oral intake of antibiotics for 14 days, but if not improved then I/V antibiotics may be of help. One shouldn't have sex while on treatment until completed. Condoms can be used every time to prevent infections. If one has PID, the sexual partner should equally receive treatment, otherwise, one may get PID again when one resume sex. Sometimes, PID is not due to a sexually transmitted infection, but can come from normal vaginal bacteria traveling to the reproductive organs. Avoiding douching may lower the risk. One should practice safe sex by limiting sexual partners, choosing barrier methods of birth control e.g. use of birth control like condoms and diaphragm, combine a barrier method with spermicide; seeking treatment if one notices symptoms of PID or STI's and get treatment right away. Getting regular check ups; having regular gynaecological exams and screenings; infections can readily be identified and treated on time before they spread to reproductive organs.





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Staff of the Month: Mrs Awofeko Beauty Julooan



Mrs Awofeko Beauty Julooan was born on June 29, 1980 in Lagos State. She attended Model Primary School, Ilorin from 1984 to 1989 and Queen Elizabeth

School, Ilorin from 1990 to 1995 for her post primary education. She was employed in December 2011 as an Agricultural Field Attendant (AFA). Her cadre was changed to Health Attendant in 2015 through Inter Cadre Transfer. She was promoted to Higher Health Attendant, and Senior Health Attendant in 2019 and 2021, respectively. She is happily married with a child.

February 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!



Abodunrin Peterkin Yemi	1-Feb
Alim Muhammed	1-Feb
Omitade Seyi	1-Feb
Adepoju Oluranti Kubura	2-Feb
Agulanna Foluso Temitope	2-Feb
Asein Fredrick Aimioje	2-Feb
Azzan Olawale	2-Feb
Oguntona Kunle Williams	2-Feb

Okere Monday John	2-Feb
Ojo Idowu Olufunke	2-Feb
Ojo Omolabake Esther	2-Feb
Owoyele Yinka	2-Feb
Udoh James Samuel	2-Feb
Awoyemi Taiwo	3-Feb
Okoh Chuks	3-Feb
Olatunji Ganiyu	3-Feb
Alade Bolajoko Folasade	4-Feb
Ipinmoroti Rotimi Rufus	4-Feb
Abubakar Yahaya	5-Feb
Esan Babatunde	5-Feb
Magaji Precious	5-Feb
Ojo Agboola	5-Feb
Kpeleye Friday	6-Feb
Ojo Olufemi Martins	6-Feb
Oniyide Josephine O.	6-Feb
Adegbola Amos	7-Feb
Asowata Frank Efe	7-Feb
Bakare Adeyemi	8-Feb
Jamgbadi Imoudu	8-Feb
Oladiipo Oluwafemi Bayode	8-Feb
Olugbesan Adebola Rebecca	8-Feb
Oyeniran Sunday Matthew	8-Feb
Arowosafe Funmilayo Funmike	9-Feb
Adewumiju Funke	9-Feb
Ogunkua Olumide Olabanji	9-Feb
Adetunji Esther Olufunmilayo	10-Feb
Akintoye Damilola Sandra	10-Feb
Eze Cordelia	10-Feb
Adepoju Sola Muslim	11-Feb
Igbinador Richard Osaretin	11-Feb
Okere Florence Funmolayo	11-Feb
Olasupo Festus Olakunle	11-Feb
Alaba Olubukola Olayinka	12-Feb
Ayere Cletus	12-Feb
James Okoi	12-Feb
Popoola Olalekan	12-Feb
Sanni Ibrahim	12-Feb
Makinde Gbolagade	13-Feb
Ibrahim Tajudeen	15-Feb
Anikudi Fausat Bolanle	15-Feb
Ganiyu Bolanle	15-Feb
Oha Francis Kosidi	15-Feb





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Olubajo Bowale S.	15-Feb
Azeez Taofeek	16-Feb
Ojo Oluwatoyin Josephine	16-Feb
Okonche John	17-Feb
Jimeshio Joseph G.	17-Feb
Ajayeoba Oludare Babatunde	18-Feb
Lawal Anister Jonathan	18-Feb
Fagbami Oluwole Samuel	18-Feb
Adeyemi Eunice Abosede	20-Feb
Emaku Jacob	21-Feb
Folorunsho Funmi A.	21-Feb
Adeboye Kehinde	22-Feb
Ogundeji Babatunde Ayodeji	22-Feb
Oladimeji Taofeek	22-Feb
Adebola Patrick Olusanmi	23-Feb
Odukoya Olatunde	23-Feb
Suleiman Atinuke Sarat	24-Feb
Adebowale Victoria	25-Feb

Taiwo Olayinka Akanni	25-Feb
Musa Satu	25-Feb
Uwagboe Eghosa	25-Feb
Ojo Olusegun Olajide	26-Feb
Opara Toyosi Nurat	26-Feb
Babafemi James	27-Feb
Olalekan-Adeniran Mujidat A.	28-Feb



COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA



VISION

To be a centre of excellence of international repute in the research and development of Cashew, Cocoa, Coffee, Kola and Tea.

MISSION

To apply science and technology in increasing productivity, improving quality and value addition of Cashew, Cocoa, Coffee, Kola and Tea.

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