



CRIN Herald

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

ISSUE: 39 (May, 2024)

CRIN Holds In-house Research Review

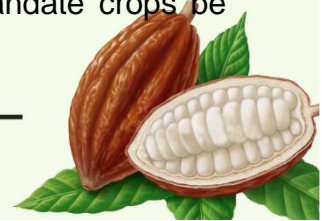


The long-anticipated 2024 Annual In-house Research Review of the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) was held between 23rd and 25th April, 2024 at the Lawrence Opeke Conference Hall with the theme **“Varietal Development of Cocoa, Kola, Coffee, Cashew and Tea for Sustainable Circular Economic Growth in Nigeria”**. In his welcome speech, the Executive Director (ED) of the Institute, Dr. Patrick Adebola noted that the Institute’s annual research review “is an annual ritual preceding the start of our research activities on the field” adding that, “it’s a forum where researchers give account of the proposals they have in the offing, what they intend to do and its relevance to the small-scale farmers and country towards food security.” Dr. Patrick Adebola assured that the Institute is working with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Tinubu which is to ensure the availability of food for Nigerians. The event attracted over 170 participants, which cut across Universities, Research Institutes, Cocoa Processors, Farmers’ Associations, the Media, Adopted Villages and Schools.

FG Urges Researchers to Align with the President’s Food Security Agenda



Agricultural Research Institutions have been advised to harness all the other sectors of agriculture to address the urgent food scarcity and insecurities in the country. The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Senator Abubakar Kyari dropped this hint during the 2024 In-house Research Review of the Institute. Represented by the Executive Secretary (ES) of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni, the minister emphasized the necessity of research in solving the present food crisis, saying that “you know very well that each administration has its policy and agenda, and of top priority of President Bola Tinubu’s agenda is the issue of agricultural development as well as food security.” On funding agricultural research, The ES informed us that the Federal Government has established the National Agricultural Development Fund to increase sources of revenue for agricultural ventures and reduce reliance on yearly budgets. To discourage brain drain and migrations of scientists to the universities, Prof. Sharubutu stated that the conditions of service for Research Institutes would be reviewed to attract and conserve scientists. The ES commended the Directors of the Institute for their high level of cooperation with the ED and requested that the effects of research in the Institute’s mandate crops be felt in all spheres.





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ED CRIN Advocates for EUDR Policy Adoption in Nigeria's Cocoa Sector



The Executive Director, Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Dr. Patrick O. Adebola at the just concluded CRIN 2024 In-house Research Review Meeting has emphasized the need for adoption of European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) on Cocoa as a significant matter that must be adhered to by all stakeholders in the Cocoa Value Chain in Nigeria. The ED further iterated that Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Cameroon are already complying with the EUDR policy for Cocoa production, whereas Nigeria had not started complying with the EUDR. The EUDR policy on deforestation-free products mandates that any operator or trader dealing with commodities must ensure their products like cocoa, coffee, oil palm, rubber, soy, cattle, wood etc are not sourced from recently deforested land or contribute to forest degradation. It is a policy and also a call to action for business across various sectors, especially in commodities like cocoa that is the major ingredient for chocolate. It is focused on Deforestation-free products

especially on which is a seismic shift that is underway to change the landscape of chocolate production throughout the world. The primary objective is to curb the environmental impact of agricultural expansion, often responsible for deforestation. As at 29th June, 2023, the European Union took a decisive step in the fight against deforestation by implementing the regulation for deforestation-free products and Nigeria as a stakeholder in the World Cocoa Economy will have to key-in as soon as possible. The ED now urged the farmers and other stakeholders in cocoa production to see the issue of deforestation in cocoa cultivation as a crucial matter that must be tackled headlong because the new regulation will serve as precursor for acceptability or rejection of Nigerian Cocoa in the near future. He strongly advocates for reforestation and planting of cocoa under trees as cocoa natural ecology is a multi-storey plantation setting. The issue of Traceability of cocoa is linked with EUDR in the sense that any cocoa produced from deforested farms will be rejected by the EU because the focus of EUDR is to produce cocoa that is deforestation-free as this will go a long way in mitigating climate change effects on the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emission and the stability of fluctuations of weather elements that negatively affect agricultural production. EUDR also focuses on achieving economic, environmental and social sustainability of cocoa production along the West African countries producing cocoa and world over.



Cross section of participants





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Research Grant for Improved Funding



To address paucity of fund for research, the keynote speaker during the just concluded 2024 in-house research review meeting, Dr. Joseph Minari, an

expert in Cell Biology and Genetics from the University of Lagos enjoined researchers to come up with project proposals that address agricultural production challenges in real-time such that they can easily win grants and funding. He stimulated the hearts of researchers to be able to write strong and grant-winning proposals that will get them enough funding for research to solve the problem of food security in Nigeria. He listed factors affecting research in Nigeria as lack of funds, and poor collaboration among relevant institutes, stakeholders, and agencies.

In her submission, the representative of the private sector at the occasion, Dr Yemisi Shittu, Executive Director at Johnvents Limited, a cocoa processing company, called for collaboration between CRIN and industry players. She warned that the region was in the throes of a cocoa crisis because farmers in the sub-region faced issues of



disease, climate change, flooding among others. She alerted that across the border of the country, Ivory Coast and Ghana are presently devastated by diseases such as fungal black pod disease and cocoa swollen shoot virus such that international producers were shifting their sights to alternative regions in South America, particularly Ecuador, and Brazil. She urged CRIN scientists to develop

cocoa varieties with robust immunity to fight immediate threats and emerging pathogens.

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Dignitaries at the event



2024 in-house research review committee



The protocols at the event



The Exhibition stand





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The ES visiting the exhibition stand



Cross section of the participants at the 2024 in-house research review meeting

CRIN Efforts Earned Global Awards for Nigeria and Cocoa Farmers



The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ibadan has made Nigeria cocoa industry and farmers proud among the community of nations at the 2023 Edition of the Cacao of Excellence (CoEX) Awards. Cocoa farmers across most of the producing states in Nigeria sent their dried cocoa beans to CRIN to participate in the CoEX national competition. CRIN, being the CoEX national secretariat under the leadership of Dr. Patrick Adebola (National Organizing Committee Chairman), coordinated the national competition to select 7 samples that were showcased at the global competition for the first time. The 2023 Edition of the Cacao of Excellence Awards received an incredible 222 cocoa bean samples from 52 countries; they were rigorously evaluated before selecting the Best 50 samples that represent exceptional quality and flavour diversity across the world's four major cacao-producing regions (Asia & Pacific, Africa & Indian Ocean, South America and Central America & the Caribbean). Out of the seven samples from Nigeria, two were ranked among the best top 50 globally. The third one from CRIN earned above 7/10 global score but could not make it among the top. These Best 50 were processed into dark chocolate and evaluated by a distinguished jury of cacao and chocolate professionals to determine the Gold, Silver and Bronze award





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recipients. For the first time from the inception of this global competition, two medals were won for Nigeria; a Silver Award by the sample from Mr. Okongbo Obassi's farm in Cross River State and Bronze Award by the sample from Mr. Ehimika Emmanuel's farm in Edo State. The unveiling and celebration of the Award winners took place at the Cacao of Excellence Awards Ceremony on 8 February, 2024 at Chocoa, in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Award Ceremony was attended by CRIN Executive Director as the NOC Chairman to receive the Awards on behalf of the farmers.



CRIN Executive Director Dr. Patrick Adebola receiving the Award for Nigeria at CoEX 2023 Award Ceremony in Amsterdam, Netherlands.



CRIN Executive Director Dr. Patrick Adebola (second from right) displayed the two Awards for Nigeria at the CoEX 2023 Award Ceremony Amsterdam, Netherlands.

CRIN Executive Director Dr. Patrick Adebola handed over the Award plaques to cocoa farmers: Silver Award to Okongbo Obassi (Top) and Bronze Award to Ehimika Emmanuel (down) at CRIN, Ibadan



CRIN Represented at the ARSO Technical Committee Meeting

The ARSO Technical Committee on Cocoa, Coffee, Tea, and Related Products (TC 06) held its second (2nd) session of meetings in 2024 as in-person meetings at the Aqua Safari Hotel in Ada, Ghana, from the 25th to the 28th of March 2024. A joint opening ceremony was held in the morning of Monday the 25th of March 2024, together with the ARSO Technical Committee for Eco-labelling, Sustainability and Resilient Systems (ARSO/TC 61) and the ARSO Project Committee for the Cassava Value Chain (ARSO/PC 02). ARSO/TC 06 for cocoa, coffee, Tea and related products broke off into Working Groups immediately after the joint opening session with delegates from 15 Member Countries: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Inter-Africa Coffee Organization (IACO) and the ARSO Central Secretariat. Dr. Yinka Jayeola, a CRIN Director and Programme Leader of Value Added Research, who is a convener of harmonisations of cocoa standards led other experts from other countries in working on drafts standards by reviewing and improving upon them before presenting them at the plenary. Among the standard harmonized included the following:

- African Standard for cocoa beans harvesting and handling: code of practice
- code of practice for transporting and warehousing of cocoa beans: code of practice
- code of practice for the prevention and reduction of cadmium in cocoa

- Chocolate & Chocolate Products — Specification
- African standards for Roasted Cocoa Beans and Nibs - Specification.
- African standards for cocoa by-products — Chocolate, roasted cocoa beans and chocolate spread.
- Milk chocolate — Specification
- Baking chocolate — Specification
- Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ochratoxin A Contamination in Cocoa Beans
- Code of practice for pesticide applications

At the end of the event Dr Jayeola was honoured with certificate of recognition for selfless service towards the harmonization of African cocoa standards



Dr. Jayeola was honoured with certificate of recognition for selfless service



Delegates from 15 African countries





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Nigerian delegates

Safe environment for Safe Cocoa



The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) in collaboration with the Safe Environment Safe Amphibian Conservation Organization (SESACO) conducted a comprehensive five-day training program on organic cocoa farming, hand pollination, and cocoa value-added products. These were concerted efforts towards promoting sustainable cocoa farming practices and conservation efforts. The five-day training program covered a wide range of topics essential for cocoa farmers, including organic farming techniques, hand pollination methods, and the production of value-added cocoa products. The program which kicked off on April 15, 2024 was aimed towards equipping participants with practical skills and knowledge to enhance their farming practices

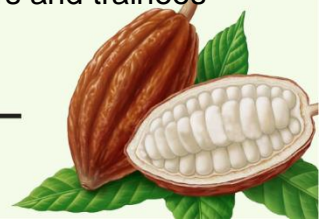
and contribute to the sustainability of cocoa production. The opening ceremony featured an address by the Executive Director, represented by Dr. S. O. Agbeniyi, which emphasised on the importance of the training for the participants and their communities. He highlighted the potential benefits that participants can derive from the program, both personally and in terms of community development. Throughout the training, participants engaged in lectures and hands-on field sessions; they were provided with a comprehensive understanding of cocoa farming and its associated techniques. By offering both theoretical and practical components, the program ensured that participants gain practical experience that they can apply directly to their farming practices. With sessions scheduled until April 19, 2024, participants had ample time to absorb the knowledge shared and developed their skills in organic cocoa farming, hand pollination, and cocoa value-added product production.



Hands-on practice by participants



Group photograph of facilitators and trainees





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ACTU Holds Staff General Assembly

The Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) CRIN chapter held General Assembly on April 22, 2024 at the Lawrence Opeke Conference Hall. The Executive Director (ED) was represented at the occasion by the Director of Research Outreach, Dr. A. R. Adedeji. In his opening remark, he eulogised the Executive Director, Dr. Patrick Adebola as the best performing ED since his employment with the Institute almost 25 years ago. He urged all staff to familiarise themselves with the Public Service Rule (PSR) so as not to run foul to the rules and regulations of the Public Service. He appealed to the current ACTU executives to keep up to their tenets till staff comply.

The event featured presentations by previous and current ACTU executives. Dr. A.O. Famaye (Director, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation), the first ACTU Chairman, during his presentation, stated that ACTU was inaugurated in the Institute on January 18, 2006. He stated that corruption is a product of selfish gain and mandated all staff to act in such a way that posterity would remember them for good. The program showcased all previous and current ACTU Chairmen: Dr. Famaye, A.O., (Director, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation), Dr. A.R. Adedeji (Director of Research Outreach), Dr. M.O. Ogunlade (Director, Production and Substations) and Dr. R. R. Ipinmoroti (Director, Training).



Presentations by ACTU Executives



Past and present Executives of ACTU





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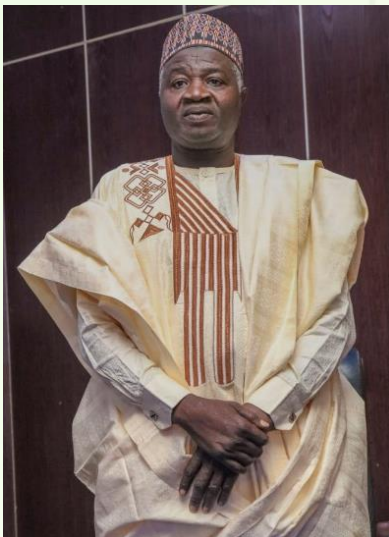
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Cross section of participants

ARC� News

Prof. Sharubutu Marks Four Years As ES, ARC�



April 19, 2024 marked four solid amazing and eventful years that Professor Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni have been steering the ship of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARC�) as the substantive

Executive Secretary. He has proven over time within the short but marvellous stint that no mountain is insurmountable with the kind of passion, dedication and strong will he has deployed into the affairs of the Council. He has clearly displayed how affairs of an organization of ARC�'s magnitude should be run with great dexterity, dedication, fairness and equanimity. Against all odds and in the face of the nation's economic crunch, he is still able to come up with many ways of

finding solutions to the infrastructural and manpower deficit the Council was confronted with in the past. He has groomed and have made most of the Council's staff experts in their various endeavours within the agricultural research system. The staff wish him more wisdom, strength and more vigour as he keeps to the tenets of what the Council's mandates stands for while assuring him their steadfast abiding faith in his administration.

Courtesy Visit on NPC by ARC�

The Head of the Gender and Youth Unit of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARC�), Dr. Mrs. Rufina Chukwumalume and her team paid a courtesy visit to the Chairman of the National Population Commission, Hon. Nasir Isa Kwarrar, fnsa on Monday 8th April, 2024. They were received at the Commission's Headquarters in Abuja.



Photograph of the Head of the Gender and Youth Unit (right) and the Chairman of National Population Commission





Group photograph by the dignitaries

ES, ARCN Loses Elder Brother

The Executive Secretary of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria, Professor Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni lost his elder brother. Some Management and staff of the Council in Kwande, Plateau State on April 17, 2024, condoled with the immediate family of the deceased elder brother of the Executive Secretary.



The condolence visit

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

Health News

Low Blood Pressure or Hypotension – Mrs. Bosede Famaye



Low blood pressure occurs when blood pressure is much lower than normal. This means the heart, brain, and other parts of the body may not get enough blood. Normal blood pressure is mostly between 90/60mmHg and

120/80mmHg. Blood pressure varies from one person to another. A drop of as little as 20 mmHg cause problems for some people. There are different types and causes of low blood pressure. Severe Hypotension (shock) can be caused by sudden loss of blood (shock), severe infection, heart attack or severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). Orthostatic Hypotension (postural hypotension), means your blood pressure drops when you shift from lying down to standing. This type of low blood pressure usually lasts only a few seconds or minutes. If this type of low blood pressure occurs after 1 or 2 hours after eating, it is called postprandial Orthostatic Hypotension and this type often affects older adults, those with high blood pressure and people with parkinson disease. Neurally mediated hypotension (NMH): most often affects young adults and children. It can occur when a person has been standing for a long time. Children usually outgrow this type of Hypotension. Certain medicines and substances can lead to low blood pressure, including; Alcohol, Anti-anxiety medicines, Certain antidepressants, Diuretics, Heart medicines, including those used to treat high blood pressure and coronary heart disease,





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Medicines used for surgery, Pain killers. Other causes of low blood pressure include: Nerve damage from diabetes or other disorders, Changes in heart rhythm (arrhythmias), Not drinking enough fluids (Dehydration), Heart failure. Symptoms of low blood pressure: Blurry vision, Confusion, Dizziness, Shortness of breath, Fainting (Syncope), Lightheadedness, Nausea or vomiting, Sleepiness, Chest pain, Weakness, Irregular heart beats, Cold clammy skin, Fever higher than 201°f (38.3°c).

The health care provider conducts test to determine the cause of low blood pressure. This involves checking the vital signs (temperature, pulse, rate of breathing, and blood pressure) frequently. The following tests may be done: Blood cultures to check for infection, Complete blood count, including white blood cell differential, Electrocardiogram (ECG), Urinalysis, X-ray of the abdomen and X-ray of the chest. Lower than normal blood pressure in a healthy person that does not cause any symptoms often does not need treatment. Otherwise, treatment depends on the cause of low blood pressure and symptoms. When one has symptoms from low blood pressure, one should sit or lie down right away then raise the feet above heart level. Severe Hypotension caused by shock is a medical emergency. One may be given blood or other fluids intravenously. One should not stop taking any medicines before talking to your provider. The provider may suggest drinking more fluids to treat dehydration. Wearing compression stockings can help keep blood from collecting in the legs. This keeps more blood in the upper body. People with Neurally Mediated Hypotension (NMH) should avoid triggers, such as standing for a long period of time. Other treatments include drinking fluids. In severe cases, medicines may be prescribed.

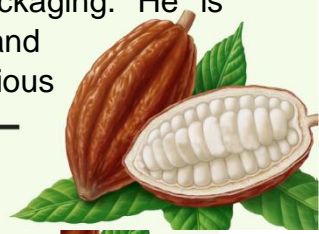
Estimated blood pressure ranges (mmHg)

Age	Systolic range	Diastolic range
Adolescent (14-18 years)	90-120	50-80
Adult (19-40 years)	95-135	60-80
Adult (41-60 years)	110-145	70-90
Older Adult (61 and older)	95-145	70-90

Staff of the Month: Mr. Echa Godwin Idagu



Mr. Echa Godwin Idagu was born on the 15th of January, 1968 at Nyanya Olim, Bekwara Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. He attended Ekabokan Primary School, Ikom between 1974 to 1979 where he obtained his First School Leaving Certificate. He then proceeded to Comprehensive Secondary School Gakem, Bekwara LGA, Cross River State for his Secondary Education. He has served as Project Contract Worker at Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ajassor Substation, Cross River State for thirty-four years (1974-2008). His good records, loyalty, punctuality, diligence to service and otherwise led to his appointments as permanent staff of CRIN Ajassor substation, Cross River State in the year 2009. As a field worker, Echa has vast knowledge in record keeping, cocoa processing, storage and packaging. He is very hard working, resilience and always proffers solution to various





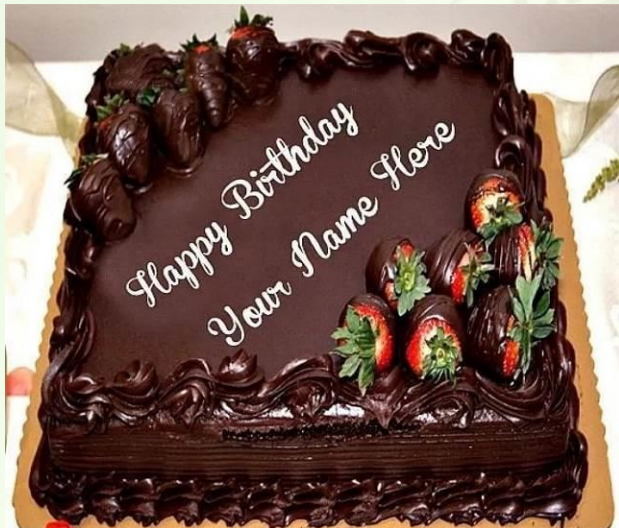
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challenges at work and his environment. He's always available and responds appropriately to official matters as and at when due even during non-official hours. These qualities of his distinguish him among his other colleagues. Mr. Echa Godwin Idagu is happily married with children.

May 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!



Fajutu Kayode Samuel	02-May
Adejoro Matilda Ozemwogie	03-May
Dogo Genesis	03-May
Nwaolise Felicia	03-May
Oludayo Gbolagade	04-May
Agboluaje Ganiyu Ojo	05-May
Apanisile Olusola	05-May
Daniel Mezack Andrew	05-May
John Muo	05-May
Oguntoyinbo Waheed	05-May
Oladejo Adeleke Omineye	05-May
Oladimeji Lynda Taye	05-May
Orisasona Taye Matthew	05-May
Taiwo Banke Motunrayo	05-May

Ayidu Temitope	06-May
Olaniran Omolara Caroline	06-May
Oluyole Kayode Akanji	07-May
Ogundeji Adekunle Kayode	08-May
Adekanbi Aderemi Adeniyi	09-May
Buari Rasheed	09-May
Raji Yashirat	09-May
Alih Mohammed	10-May
Ayidu Sunday	10-May
Imumolen Jeffery	10-May
Makinde Bunmi	10-May
Atanda Jamiu Folorunsho	11-May
Adeoye Stella Abosede	12-May
Dada Olayinka Alfred	12-May
Olutade Oluwabukola Fadekemi	12-May
Falana Maria	13-May
Owolabi Iyabo Olufunke	13-May
Oyeniran Adejoke	13-May
Wada Sunday	13-May
Sobowale Ibrahim Olalekan	14-May
Adeoye Wuraola	15-May
Boluwade Sunday	15-May
Ehimme Charles	15-May
Eubodaghe Monday	15-May
Oyemuwa John	15-May
Solomon Oluremi	15-May
Adeyemo Stephen	16-May
Ajayi Aremu John	16-May
Odugbela Oluwasina	16-May
Onanuga Odutola	16-May
Salami Mufutau	16-May
Adeleke Sunday Akanji	17-May
Dauda Oluwoyin	17-May
Omoriegie Osayawe Martins	17-May
Orimoloye Philo Olotie	17-May
Asogwa Evaretus Uche	18-May





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Nome Peter	20-May
Oshodi Veronica	20-May
Ayegboyin Kayode Olufemi	21-May
Ganiyu Bolanle Risikat	21-May
Onatunde-Onanuga Joseph O.	21-May
Nduka Beatrice Abanum	22-May
Nweke Nwankwo	22-May
Ogunwolu Qudus	22-May
Oyebanjo Temitope Omotayo	22-May
Okunade Oluwasegun Olufemi	23-May
Onojo Joseph	23-May
Ene Amaka Perpetua	24-May
Awe Funke Christiana	25-May
Muritala Wasiu	25-May
Ndah Alfa	25-May
Ogunkunle Gbadebo	25-May
Oladipupo Olabisi	25-May
Shittu Abu Sadik	25-May
Yahaya Lateef Eugene	25-May
Adenuga Omotayo	26-May
Amodu Ayodele	26-May
Ogunjobi Taiwo Elizabeth	26-May
Olayiwola Iyabo	26-May
Olubisaye Dare Joshua	26-May
Paul Anaticha	26-May
Agbor Charles Eyang	27-May
Akanji Azeez Abiodun	27-May
Olorunmota Rosemary Temilade	27-May
Magaji Jonathan Danladi	27-May
Bakare Abibat	28-May
Ganiyu Olubode	28-May
Oloyede Amos Adegbola	28-May
Adewale Temilade Olujope	30-May
Adio Stephen	30-May
Bello Jelili Ademola	31-May



COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA

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- Agrochemical Screening
- Cocoa Flavour Laboratory Services
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