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FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LAB FOR LEGUME SYSTEMS RESEARCH

May 2021



The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Legume Systems Research fosters dynamic, profitable, and environmentally sustainable approaches that contribute to resilience, productivity, and better nutrition and economic opportunities. The lab is managed by Michigan State University.

From the Management Office

Recap Report from the Legume Systems Innovation Lab Annual Global Convening Now Available

If you missed it in person (virtually speaking that is!), here's your chance to catch up on all the great research and content that was presented during the Legume Systems Innovation Lab Annual Global Convening.

Click on the link below for a full recap of the three day event.



Annual Convening Recap Report

From the Field

Project Final Reports

To kick start activities the Legume Systems Innovation Lab awarded six initial project grants. These short-term non-competitive awards were selected based on their research concepts and alignment with overarching innovation lab research goals. All six of these projects have concluded and submitted final reports which we will share over the next several months.

Legume Options for Sustainable Intensification: Pigeonpea and Mung Bean as Test Cases for Scaling in West Africa *Led by Dr. Sieglinde Snapp, Michigan State University*

The goal of this project was to implement a systems research approach to scaling out technologies, through a test case of the suitability niche for pigeonpea and mung bean.

These two crops are not yet grown on any significant scale in West Africa, yet both fill unique cropping system functions. Pigeonpea as a long-duration, multipurpose crop; in addition to food, this crop provides vegetation for fodder and has unique ability in association with the root biome to enhance soil nitrogen and phosphorus availability. Mung bean as an early duration crop can be grown in relay and intercrop systems for a 'hungry season' food source and novel income generation.

Through crop model simulation and geospatial analysis, the project investigated and mapped the biophysical and socioeconomic niche for introduction of pigeonpea as a novel species in West Africa. The project also explored the geospatial niche potential for mung bean. Read the full report by clicking the Read More button below.



Pigeonpea field experimentation of Dr. Saaka Buah, deputy director at SARI Tamale, Ghana

[Read More](#)

In the News

Stories, blogs, papers & publications by legume lab researchers and their colleagues

[Moto-Sanchez, David \(2021\) *La Cosecha \(The Harvest\): Growing Sustainable Farming businesses, The Engaged Scholar Vol 15*](#)

Featured Legume of the Month

MUNG BEANS



Mung beans have traditionally been grown in India and SE Asia. They are also found in Africa, South America, Australia, and the U.S.

Mung beans are also consumed in the form of sprouts. The small green, smooth legume is often sprouted and added to salads. Sprouts contain good nutrients and also provide a nice crunch when added to sandwiches.

Cooking with Mung Beans...

Moong Dal

Another popular way to use mung beans is peeled and split for a popular dish known as moong dal.

In this recipe from Heart.UK.org, spinach is added for nutrients. Other ingredients include boiled new potatoes, fresh ginger, chopped green chilis, cumin seeds, turmeric and fresh lime. Serve with warm pita or rice.



[Get recipe here](#)

For More Information on the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Legume Systems Research

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