COST OF BAD PRACTICES



WHY STANDARDS MATTER

Following the maize grain standards reduces risks and improves the returns of all those in the market chain:

- **Farmers** get better prices and reduce post-harvest losses. They can participate in the warehouse receipt system where they can store the maize until the price improves, and take a bank loan using their maize grain as surety.
- **Traders** get a reliable supply of high quality maize that they can sell to their clients. When the maize conforms to the standards and is available in large quantities it is easier to sell to high value markets with less risk of the grain being rejected by the buyer.
- **Processors** want a continuous and reliable supply of quality raw materials. Complying with standards, reduces waste and ensures that the final product will be of high quality and earn a higher price.
- **Consumers** get food that is safe and nutritious to eat.

BENEFIT OF GOOD PRACTICES



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This brochure was prepared in collaboration with a group of interested stakeholders including:

SEATINI Uganda

 Uganda National Commodity Exchange

Uganda

Standards

Federation

Activity

Activity

• The Grain Council of

Uganda National Bureau of

Uganda National Chamber

Uganda National Farmers

USAID Feed the Future

USAID Feed the Future

World Food Programme

Uganda Enabling

Uganda Commodity

of Commerce and Industry

Production and Marketing

Environment for Agriculture

- aBi Trust
- Afro-KAI Ltd
- Aponye Uganda Ltd
- ASKAR General Merchandise Ltd
- Chemiphar Uganda Ltd
 Eastern Africa Grain
 Council
- Council
 INTERTEK Testing Services (EA) (Pty)
- Kilimo-Trust
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries
 Ministry of Trade, Industry
- and Cooperatives
- National Agricultural Advisory Services
 National Agricultural
- Research Organisation
- Rikolto VECO

For further information contact: Uganda National Bureau of Standards Standards House, Bweyogerere Plot 2-12 By Pass Link Bweyogerere Industrial and Business Park, P.O. Box 6329 Kampala Tel: 0417 333 250, Toll Free Helpline: 0800133133 info@unbs.go.ug; www.unbs.go.ug



MAIZE IS MONEY: DRY IT PROPERLY

East African Community Maize Grain Standard



USAI

East African Community Maize Grain Standard MAIZE IS MONEY: DRY IT PROPERLY

GOOD PRACTICES





Dry maize on tarpaulins, canvas, mats or in cribs



STANDARD IMPACTED

MOISTURE CONTENT:						
Maiatura contant is a mass						

much water is in the grain (how wet it is). It is measured with a moisture meter.								
	Maximum Limit							
	Characteristic	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3				
	Moisture, %		13.5					

e of how w wet it re meter.	
mit	
Grade 3	

Generally Acceptable Grains

Mycotoxin

Total aflatoxins

Aflatoxins B1

Fumonisins

Maximum Limit

10 µg/kg(ppb)

5 µg/kg(ppb)

2 mg/kg(ppm)

All Grades

ORGANOLEPTIC (APPEARANCE AND SMELL):

For all grades, maize should appear clean and bright with a natural smell.



AFLATOXINS AND FUMONISINS

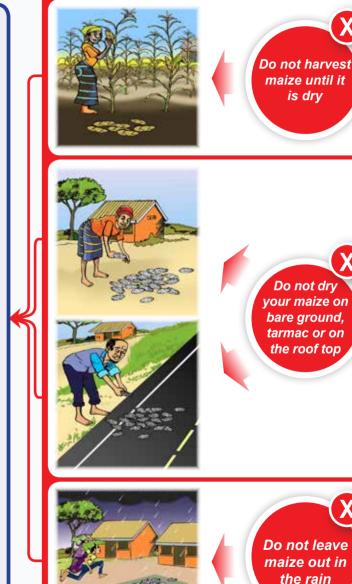
Aflatoxins and Fumonisins are poisons released by certain moulds. Moulds come from soil and air and grow when grain is handled poorly. They can not be seen by the naked eye and have to be tested by a qualified personnel.

Aflatoxins can cause cancer and liver damage. At high levels of concentration, it can cause death. Aflatoxin B1 is highly potent.

DISCOLOURED GRAIN

These are kernels which are damaged by heat, frost or water.

	Maximum Limit		
Characteristic	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Discoloured grains, % m/m	1.5	2.0	2.5



BAD PRACTICES