

## 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

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- Uganda National Commodity Exchange
- Uganda National Bureau of Standards
- Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Uganda National Farmers Federation
- USAID Feed the Future Uganda Commodity Production and Marketing Activity
- USAID Feed the Future Uganda Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity
- World Food Programme

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# MAIZE IS MONEY: KEEP IT CLEAN

East African Community Maize Grain Standard



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## MAIZE IS MONEY: KEEP IT CLEAN

### GOOD PRACTICES



✓  
Dry maize on tarpaulins, mats, canvas or cribs



✓  
Maize should be shelled on tarpaulin



✓  
Winnow and sort maize before selling it



✓  
Maize should be sieved, sorted and graded before selling

### STANDARD IMPACTED

#### FILTH:

Filth are impurities of animal origin for example animal bone fragments, bird excrement and rat droppings.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Filth, % m/m	0.1		



#### INORGANIC MATTER:

This is foreign matter of inorganic origin such as stones, metal, sand, soil and glass.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Inorganic matter, % m/m	0.25	0.5	0.75



#### ORGANIC MATTER:

This is any animal or plant matter (seed coats, straws, weeds and wood) other than grain of maize, damaged maize grain, other grains, inorganic matter and harmful/toxic seeds.

**Note:** No limit by itself. But limited in terms of foreign matter.



#### LIVE PESTS:

For all grades, no live insects of any kind are acceptable.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Live insects, % m/m	Nil		



#### FOREIGN MATTER:

This is the total of all organic and inorganic material (such as leaves, bits of maize cobs, wood, sand, soil and glass) other than maize, broken kernels, other grains.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Foreign matter, % m/m	0.5	1.0	1.5

**Foreign Matter = Inorganic Matter + Organic Matter**

### BAD PRACTICES



✗  
Do not dry maize on bare ground or tarmac



✗  
Do not let rats, chickens or other animals on the maize



✗  
Do not add stones



✗  
Do not sell maize which is not cleaned or sorted or graded