Field Days in Zimbabwe

The months of March and April earmarked the harvesting season in Zimbabwe and farmers who participated in the N2Africa Project showed their appreciation and how much they gain the project by organising field days in their respective Districts and wards.

An example is ward 18 in Guruve district where a field day was organised through CLUSA – ZAPAD (Cooperative League for the USA – Zimbabwe Agricultural Production and Agribusiness Development Project), an N2Africa partner organisation working in the district. The field day was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Bopoto, lead farmers in the N2Africa project.

The field was attended by 70 people and 50 of them were women. Government departments were also invited to attend and learn about the new technologies that are being used in the production of legumes. The Department of AGRITEX (Agricultural Technical and Extension Services) which is a technical department in the Ministry of Agriculture in Zimbabwe assisted with technical advice for the production of the legumes and also gave lectures at the field day.

In other districts field days were also hosted and farmers in the N2Africa project took turns to explain other farmers how they had benefitted from the use of inoculants in the production of legume crops and how they had learnt about attainable production levels of legume crops. It was encouraging to hear that farmers who participated in the N2Africa project had benefited from the knowledge, practice and increased production of legumes. One farmer, Mr Peter Mukwenya pictured left showed the clear differences in performances between two sugarbean varieties that he had planted in his field. The varieties he planted were Speckled Eye and Red Cardinal.