

Emmanuel Kasimbani realizing the benefit of growing Quality Declared Seed (QDS) straight away from the first season

Mr. Emmanuel Kasimbani, is a farmer from Nyakatete village, member of Amani group in KIOSA SACCO - Kikukuru zone located in the eastern part of Kyerwa district, Kagera region. He has been growing a number of commodities including beans, maize, Irish potatoes and bananas. Mr. Kasimbani has been growing home save seed for all the above mentioned commodities that he grows. After attending the establishment of beans demonstration plots training, organized by Kilimo Trust he was taught the benefit of adopting the good agronomic practices. Mr. Kasimbani was convinced that beans can be grown for business. There was an opportunity within the project for interested farmers to grow Quality Declared Seed (QDS). In collaboration with ARI Maruku, qualified farmers for QDS production were selected and received seed according to their available land. Mr. Kasimbani was one of them and had put aside 1 acre for QDS production.



Mr. Kasimbani's field before BEST EAC Intervention



Mr. Kasimbani's QDS field after BEST EAC Intervention

Mr. Kasimbani's yield from one (1) acre which he had reserved for QDS was 0.48MT/Acre as opposed to 0.24MT/Acre he used to produce from the same unit of land using home saved seed. This is a double increase in yield. In addition, this producer will benefit from the premium price of QDS (US\$1.15Tsh/Kg) as opposed to the price of dry beans (US\$0.4/Kg). With the increase in yield and premium price offered to seed (The Bean Seed Price is US\$1.16/Kg vs US\$0.41/Kg for bean grain), the farmer will make an additional profit of about US\$ 450 just from one acre within one season. Imagine when he expands the land and he does the same business for many seasons....



Mr. Kasimbani and wife harvesting their QDS field



Winnowing=Kupepeta