

Crop Breeding Institute Contribution to Crop Variety Development in Zimbabwe

Crop Breeding Institute has the mandate to develop improved varieties of 17 field crops. The main breeding objectives include the following: development of biotic and abiotic stress resilient varieties as well addressing quality aspects such as micro nutrient content focusing on zinc, iron & provitamin A content. In its more than 100years of existence Crop Breeding Institute has released 196 varieties. Some of the recent maize and bean star varieties are featured below



ZS265 white medium maturing three-way hybrid

- ❖ It has good tolerance to major diseases such as MSV and GLS
- ❖ ZS265 has twin cobbing tendency when grown under optimum conditions
- ❖ ZS265 is suitable for production in drought prone areas and Low Nitrogen (N) soils especially in NRIII-V although it can also be recommended for production in high potential areas. It can also be recommended for production in GLS prone areas.
- ❖ Yield Potential of 12t/ha

ZS269 is white medium maturing three-way hybrid

- It is suitable for production in all the country's agro-ecological zones
- It has good tolerance to major diseases such as MSV , TLB, GLS and Rust
- It is particularly suitable for production in drought prone areas of the country
- Yield Potential of about 12 t/ha



ZS263



ZS263 is a white early maturing three-way hybrid

- ◆ It has good tolerance to major diseases such as Maize Streak Virus (MSV) and Grey Leaf Spot (GLS)
- ◆ ZS263 has twin cobbing tendency when grown under optimum conditions
- ◆ ZS263 is suitable for low to medium potential areas (NR III to V), though it can be grown in high potential areas (NR I and II).
- ◆ Yield Potential of up to 9 t/ha

ZS500A Provitamin A Rich Orange maize variety

- 130 - 138 days to physiological maturity
- For production under both optimum and stress environments
- Good tolerance to drought, low N and low P and good resistance to maize foliar diseases prevalent in Zimbabwe.
- Beta carotene content of 15.0 µg/g
- Yield potential of up to 12 t ha





NUA 45 A bio-fortified bean variety

- Very early, 90 days to maturity
- determinate bush growth habit
- Yield Potential : 2400kg/ha, 1900kg/ha, 2900kg/ha in the Highveld, Middleveld & Lowveld (winter) respectively
- Resistant to common bean rust, angular leaf spot & bacterial blight
- Good source of iron (95mg/kg) and zinc (38mg/kg)
- Large grain



Sweet Violet bean variety

SWEET VIOLET-a sugar bean type.

Attributes include

- Large seeded: 55g/100g
- Very early maturity (85days)
- Resistant to Bean Common Mosaic Virus, Angular Leaf Spot, & Bean Rust, Common Bacterial Blight
- Yield potential : Highveld (2500kg/ha), Middleveld (1500kg/ha), Lowveld winter (3300kg/ha)
- Recommended production areas: Highveld and Lowveld
- Iron and zinc content of 145mg/kg and 40mg/kg respectively
- Fast cooking

For more information on these and more improved crop varieties contact

The Head, Crop Breeding Institute
 P.O. Box Cy550
 Causeway Harare
 Tel: [+263242798073](tel:+263242798073)
 Cell: [+263772396700](tel:+263772396700)
 Email: cbi@drss.gov.zw



Protea- Canning Bean variety

PROTEA- a navy bean type attributes include

- ✓ Indeterminate growth habit
- ✓ Matures in 105-110 days
- ✓ Resistant to pod shattering
- ✓ Yield potential of up to 4.3t/ha
- ✓ Tolerant to angular leaf spot, rust & common bacterial blight
- ✓ Good canning quality
- ✓ Hydration coefficient meets industrial standard of 1.8
- ✓ % Washed Drained weight meets industrial standard of 60%
- ✓ No clumping at the bottom
- ✓ Very uniform
- ✓ Good taste and colour
- ✓ Soft grain texture

GLOXINIA- a red kidney bean type. Attributes include

- ◆ Matures Very early in 75-80 days
- ◆ Yield potential of up to 3.3t/ha
- ◆ Has excellent disease tolerance to angular leaf spot, rust & bacterial blight
- ◆ Recommended for canning purposes and commercial production



Gloxinia Bean Variety