Horticulture CRSP Immediate Impact Projects Quickly Address Needs in Developing Countries
Crump, A., Shapland, P.C., Bell, M.A., Voss, R.E., Mitcham, E.J., Reid, M.S.
Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program, Department of Plant Sciences, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA 95616-5270

Introduction
The Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program (Hort CRSP), funded by USAID, awarded nearly $2 million to support 15 one-year projects to improve the production and marketing of horticultural crops and products developing countries. The collaborative research effort will be responsible for a broad range of activities demonstrating how horticulture can reduce hunger and malnutrition and raise the incomes of the rural poor.

Information Accessibility
- Identifying food and plant safety problems in Nigeria and developing a Good Agricultural Practices education system.
- Training bell pepper farmers in current and best management practices to improve production and postharvest quality in Central America.

Technology Innovation
- Improving techniques to dry and store seeds where temperatures and average relative humidity are problematic in India, Nepal, and Thailand.
- Determining the effectiveness of different coatings and essential oils in controlling postharvest disease of mango and papaya and maintaining fruit quality in Sri Lanka.
- Deploying rapid diagnostic tools to detect Phytophthora disease on horticultural crops in Central America.

Participants
Ten U.S. universities collaborating with 51 international organizations, agencies and institutions conduct projects in 20 countries.

Countries
Africa – Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia
South and Southeast Asia – India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand
Central and South America – Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama

Gender Equity & Nutrition
- Increasing consumer awareness of the nutritional and cultural importance of orange-fleshed Sweetpotato to increase Ghanaian food security and nutrient intake.
- Improving production and use of indigenous vegetables to provide a long-term source of food for economic security and improved nutrition for Kenyans.

Improved Market Access
- Exploring export of cut flowers from Honduras using existing fruit exporters and improved storage technology.
- Increasing Ghanaian export production of indigenous spices, medicinal plants and horticultural crops and providing employment and income to farmers.
- Helping Zambian farmers develop market consistent vegetable products for hotels and other tourist industries.

Developing a concentrated solar drying unit for mango and tomato in Tanzania.

Increasing access to fair trade and other markets for Rooibos tea farmers in South Africa.

Introducing and evaluating appropriate and disease resistant vegetable varieties in Central America as a way to increase family incomes.

Expanding nursery facilities, creating demonstration gardens, and developing Farmer Field Schools to promote fruit and vegetable production in Uganda.

Using solar power and improved cooling to create storage coolrooms (left) and transport where electricity and infrastructure are limited in India, Uganda, and Honduras.

Up-to-date information on these projects can be found at the interactive Horticulture CRSP website, www.hortcrsp.ucdavis.edu.

This project is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under Agreement AID-EE-00-06-00011. The contents are the responsibility of the Hort CRSP and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Photo: Michael Reid

Photo: Diane Barrett

Photo: James Kembuis

Photo: Kate Scone

Photo: Sandra Kruger

Photo: James Kembuis

Photo: E.J., Reid, M.S.

Photo: Diane Barrett