

FUNAAB, NASC train farmers on seed production

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No fewer than 150 farmers have been trained and empowered with skills in the production of high quality maize and cowpea seeds by the Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

The empowerment training was conducted by AMREC, in collaboration with the National Agricultural Seeds Council during the 'Field Day' organised for farmers in Imala community, Abeokuta South Local Government Area of Ogun State.

The event, which was coordinated by the Director, AMREC, Prof. Carolyn Afolami, also had in attendance farmers from the four agricultural zones of the state, NASC representatives, Ogun State Agricultural Development Programme extension agents as well as officials of the state Agro Services Corporation, FADAMA Development Programme and state Agricultural and Multipurpose Credit Agency.

Afolami said the main objective of the project was to teach farmers how to produce high quality and certified seeds for planting with a view to boosting their agricultural production and income generation.

She described the Seed Production Project as another milestone in the efforts of AMREC to address some of the problems confronting agricultural development, food self-sufficiency and poverty alleviation in the country.

The director said AMREC was committed to transferring proven technologies in agricultural production, processing, utilisation, packaging, storage and marketing to the farmers and other stakeholders in agriculture in the country.

While differentiating between seeds and grains, the director implored the farmers to utilise the knowledge gained from the field to improve their production and also diffuse the innovation to their colleagues in other communities.

Speaking on behalf of the community, the Omalu of Imala, Oba Moses Olabode, said the field day would boost the farmers' knowledge and skills, and give them additional impetus to increase their agricultural production and income.