

An African Perspective on Food Security and the International Movement of Grain.

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Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Overview of Food Security
- The need for an ISPM
- Way forward
- Conclusion



Introduction



Map shows the **37** African countries out of **54** that are known to be food deficient



Introduction

IPPC standards help address Africa's food security challenges








Overview of Food Insecurity in Africa (1/2)

Several countries in Africa experience food insecurity as a result of factors such as:

- 🪲 **Climate change**
- 🪲 **Degraded soils and loss of fertile land**
- 🪲 **Outbreaks of new pests**
- 🪲 **High population growth rates**
- 🪲 **Low agricultural yields**
- 🪲 **Urbanization and migration**



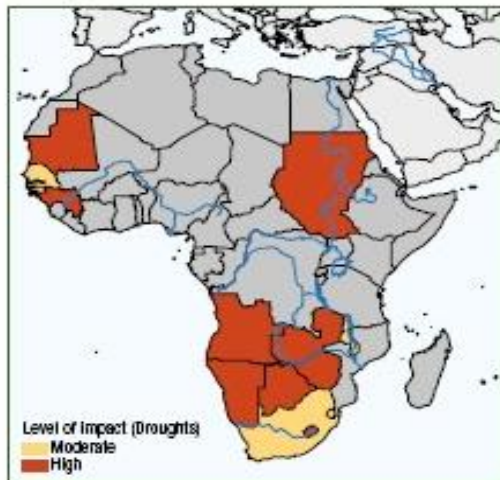
Overview of Food Insecurity in Africa (1/2)

-  **Weak agricultural extension for farmers**
-  **Lack of investment into agricultural infrastructures**
-  **Civil unrest, conflicts and displacements of people**
-  **Changes in dietary preference**
-  **Deficit in grains production has led to huge annual imports**



Climate Change Challenges: Effects of drought

Droughts



Africa's response to help:

- **End hunger**
 - **Achieve food security**
 - **Improved nutrition**
 - **Promote sustainable agriculture**



African policies on food security focus on

Agricultural productivity improvement to meet Sustainable Development Goal (# 2)

Through:

🪲 Developing and promoting
drought tolerant varieties of
staple crops



🪲 Building capacity on good
agronomic practices



Crop Productivity Improvement Initiatives



Capacity Building



The need for an ISPM on Grain

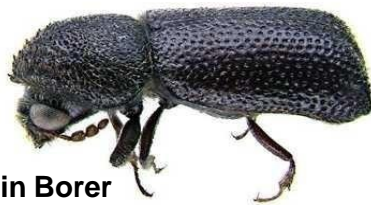
(1/2)

 ***Prostephanus truncatus* (Larger Grain Borer, LGB) was introduced to Africa through food aid from Central America in 1979**



Larger Grain Borer and its predator

Terestrius nigrescens



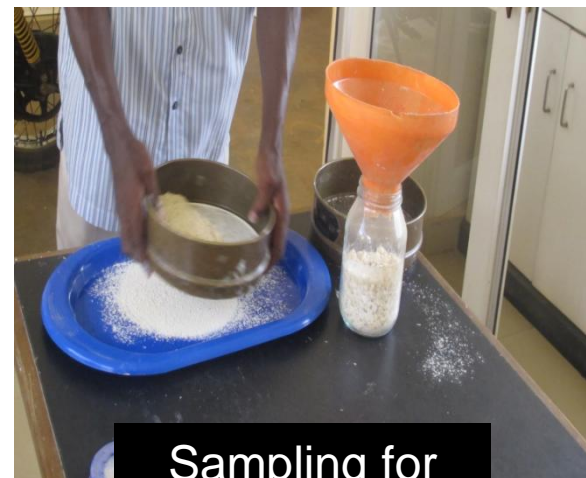
Larger Grain Borer



Examples of pest damage to food staples



Terestrius nigrescens



Sampling for pests



Need for an ISPM (2/2)

- ❖ International grain trade is century old but no internationally harmonized phytosanitary standard
- ❖ Assumption that grain commodities are low risk because associated pests are ubiquitous
- ❖ Industry and trade specifications focus on grain quality and food safety
- ❖ Quarantine Pests are threatening



Imported rice at a Ghanaian market



Way forward

An ISPM on international movement of grain should be developed as a matter of urgency:

- 🪲 Guidance to identify, assess and manage the pest risks before export, during transport, on arrival, and during handling and processing in the importing country.
- 🪲 Criteria to establish globally harmonized phytosanitary import requirements
- 🪲 Phytosanitary measures that follow an ISPM do not need additional technical justification and are not trade restrictive.



Conclusions

- ✦ **Several factors contribute to food insecurity in Africa**
- ✦ **Transboundary pests is a contributor to food insecurity**
- ✦ **The introduction of *P. truncatus* (LGB) in Africa is still negatively impacting food security**
- ✦ **Food and feed losses due to pests infestations can be minimized or prevented through the use of global tools provided under the IPPC framework.**
- ✦ **Both grain-exporting and grain-importing countries would benefit from guidance on technically justified phytosanitary measures to manage quarantine pest risks, creating a level playing field.**



Thank you

