

# High Yielding and Drought Tolerant Groundnut for Guinea and Savannah Zones in Ghana



**Achana Niagiah**  
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)  
PhD Candidate, WACCI, University of Ghana

[aniagiah@wacci.ug.edu.gh](mailto:aniagiah@wacci.ug.edu.gh)

## Design target

Delivery of high yielding and drought tolerant groundnut varieties

Achana Niagiah holds BSc Agriculture and MPhil in Biotechnology. He worked in various sectors including Faculty of Agriculture, KNUST as a Teaching and Research Assistant; Ghana Education Service as a Subject Teacher; Millennium Villages (NGO) as an Agricultural Project Supervisor and WAEC as an Assistant Registrar. His MPhil thesis was on Genetic Diversity and Heritability Studies of kenaf accessions in Ghana with the overall aim of determining variability of economic traits and selection of subpopulations with desired traits for creating lines with fine fibre. He is currently a PhD student at WACCI, University of Ghana and his research interest is in developing drought tolerant groundnuts using transposon-mediated mutagenesis.



## Product Profile design team

### Step 1

<b>PP Design Team Lead/Champion</b>	Achana Niagiah
	West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana

### PP Design Team

Person	Area of Expertise	Name of organization
Prof. P. Tongoona	Plant Breeder	WACCI, University of Ghana
Prof. Antonia Tetteh	Plant Breeding and Genetics	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
Dr. Ife Beatrice	Plant Breeder	WACCI, University of Ghana
Dr. Pearl Abu	Plant Breeder	WACCI, University of Ghana

### Step 2

Product profile descriptors	
<b>Product profile name</b>	Drought Tolerant Groundnut with high economic yield for Sudan and Guinea Savannah zones of Ghana
<b>Crop</b>	Groundnut ( <i>Arachis hypogaea</i> L.)
<b>Country</b>	Ghana
<b>Geographic regions</b>	Upper East, Upper West, Northern, Savannah, Bono East Regions of Ghana
<b>Market segment and positioning</b>	Farmers at the Sudan and Guinea savannah zones of Ghana
<b>Name of target variety to be replaced</b>	Chinese <b>Strength:</b> Early maturing (90 days). Relatively low oil content (35% oil). <b>Weaknesses:</b> low yielding and susceptible to drought Nkatiehari <b>Strength:</b> High yielding, high oil content, resistant to, early and late leafspot infections caused by <i>Cercospora arachidicola</i> S. Hori and <i>Cercosporidium personatum</i> respectively. <b>Weaknesses:</b> susceptible to drought
<b>Date PP created</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022

Target client and use	
<b>Value chain primary clients/customers</b>	Farmers, market queens, retailers, wholesalers, Consumers
<b>Market scale</b>	households, local, regional and national Markets
<b>Use</b>	Food, Peanut butter, cooking oil, animal feed
<b>Type of processing</b>	Drying, cooking, roasting, frying, oil extraction, milling
<b>Market class</b>	Seed, paste, oil, stalk

Target crop producers and production system	
<b>Number of farmers</b>	650,000 households
<b>% ratio: male to female farmers</b>	60-75 male; 15-40 female
<b>Production system</b>	Open field
<b>Area of production system</b>	350,000 - 400,000 ha
<b>Growth habit</b>	Erect
<b>Expected level of inputs</b>	Medium application of calcium
<b>Typical yield range of target system</b>	0.5 – 0.9t/ha
<b>Cropping system</b>	Continuous monocrop, rotation
<b>Mechanization</b>	None – manual planting, maintenance and harvesting
<b>Agroecological zone(s)</b>	Sudan and Guinea Savannah zones of Ghana
<b>Total seed or vegetative propagation material market</b>	1.6 MT

## Variety technical specification

### Step 3

Client/customer	Driver	Trait category	Preference group: Women (W) Men (M) Youth (Y) W+M+Y (All)	Trait demand classification: 1. Essential/"must have" 2. Niche opportunity 3. Added-value 4. Winning trait	Target traits	Trait description (Quantitative measures)	Name of benchmark variety	Performance required compared to benchmark variety <, =, > etc.
Farmer	Productivity	Yield	All	1	Economic Yield	Pod yield potential of 2.4/ha	SARI NUT 2	>=
		Biotic stress resistance	All	1	Early and late leaf spot	1-9 scale (9 – resistant)	Nkatiesari	=
		Abiotic stress tolerance	All	3	Drought Tolerance	Drought tolerant index (DTI) of 0.97, 92 days to maturity	SARI NUT 2	<=
	Fodder/forage	Biomass	All	1	Average weight of dried biomass of individual plants	Medium to high	"Chinese"	>=
		Animal digestibility		1	Highly digestible	high	Nkatiesari	
	Crop management and harvesting	Plant architecture	All	1	Average individual Plant height	Short to medium	"Chinese"	=
	Market value and price	Seed weight	All	4	Individual plant seed weight	100 seed weight = 50g	Nkatiesari	>=
		Crop duration	All	3	Early maturation	Planting to maturity of pods = 92days	SARI Nut 2	< =
Retailer	Sales and profit	Shelf-life	All	3	Duration from harvesting to processing	Medium to high	Chinese	>=
Consumer	Satisfaction	Taste	All	1	Palatability	Palatable	Oboshie	=
		Appearance	All	3	Colour	Brown	SARI NUT 2	=
		Shelf-life	All	3	Duration from harvesting to processing	Medium	Nkatiesari	>=
		Nutrition	All	1	Nutritional composition	Nutritive	Nkatiesari	=
		Digestibility	All	1	Fibre, protein, and carbohydrates	Digestible	Oboshie	=
Processor	Raw material quality specification	Milling	All	4	Oil content	45% oil content	Nkatiesari	=
		Paste	All	4	Butter /paste content	55% paste content	SARI NUT 2	=
		Appearance	All	1	Seed colour	brown seed colour	SARI NUT 2	=
Seed/vegetative material producer	Scalability and cost	Seed numbers	All	4	Average number of seeds per plant	Many	Nkatiesari	>=



(A) Seed multiplication at Plantation field, KNUST

**“Demand-Led Breeding is helping African groundnut Breeders to produce varieties with farmers and consumers preferences, adaptable to climate change and with high adoption”**



(B) Seed multiplication at KNUST Agric field, Awomanso field, KNUST