

Project Summary

Title	Developing Ecological Management Strategies for the Aphid Vected Cucumber Mosaic Virus on Tomato in Uganda
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Purpose	The main aim of the research is to provide ecological information and develop strategies for the management of aphid-vectored viruses of tomato in particular, and other host crops in general, in a bid to increase yields and incomes at all farming levels in Uganda.
Project Summary	Tomato is among the most important high value horticultural crops in Uganda offering opportunities for employment creation, access to education, food security and health care to growers of both gender. However, yields of tomatoes at farm levels are very low due to a number of production constraints notably pests and diseases. To increase yield potential of tomato at small holder farm level, key pests and disease need sustainable interventions that fit in local farming systems. Viral diseases, particularly cucumber mosaic virus (CMV) disease, vectored by aphids is today one of the most devastating disease of tomato in Uganda. As such, it is of great priority that safe and affordable management strategies for the vector and the disease are developed in order to rejuvenate and increase yields of the crop at the small scale levels. This research proposes to achieve this

	<p>through studies that will establish how host crop-vector-CMV relationships are influenced by ambient ecology and farmers' practices to determine entry points for management. Eco-friendly management strategies will be studied solely or combined for efficacy in the management of aphid vectors and CMV on tomato. The most promising strategies will then be verified in an on-farm trial in a CMV hot spot region in the country. The on-farm validation trial will host farmers' field days to create a platform to interact with tomato farmers and disseminate research findings. Research findings will also be presented in print media for local and international communities. The study will involve 2 MSc students and selected farmers.</p>
Country and Specific Location(s)	Uganda
Participating Institutions	<p>Makerere University</p> <p>National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI)</p>
Start Date	September, 2012
End date	August, 2014
Amount of Funding	US\$60,000

