

Investment in new grain cleaning factory pays dividends

Traditional grain cleaning methods are being complemented by a new mechanical system installed in a factory in northern Nigeria. Both turnover and quality are benefitting

A NIGERIAN ENTREPRENEUR has seen his business go from strength to strength after installing a new mechanical cleaning system; the traditional practice of women cleaning by hand still used today, is now complemented by a modern factory at his site in Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

Increased demand and ever more stringent quality standards from his main customers, including some major confectionery and beverage companies, have led Mr Ade Oyekanmi of Dabol Nigeria Ltd to invest in the future by purchasing a 10 tonne/ hour grain cleaning system from Alvan Blanch Development Company Ltd Wiltshire, UK, for cleaning sorghum, maize and soya beans to high commercial standards.

In response to increased demand, and ever more stringent quality standards, Mr Ade Oyekanmi of Dabol Nigeria Ltd is investing in the future by purchasing a 10 tonne/ hour grain cleaning system.

Chain of production

The chain of production is as follows:

- The grain is tipped by lorries or manually from bags into the intake conveyor where it is elevated to a special machine that removes the outer glume from the sorghum.
- Magnets remove tramp metal, and the grain is then elevated to an aspiration system that removes the dust and light impurities by passing air through the flow of grain.
- The grains are then sorted by size in order to remove large impurities like stalk pieces and small trash such as sand and weed seeds.
- In the final stage of separation stones are removed using slight differences in specific density.
- The grain is then weighed accurately into 50kg bags, which are manually transported to the warehouse or directly to trucks. **B**

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Women cleaning grain by hand in Zaria.



Overall view of the new installation.



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