



Tef near harvest
Photo credit: Beth Medvecky

Breeding Pipeline: Tef Project 1995-2013

What's not in this case?: From the breeding Pipeline ToC:

- Capacity strengthening in PPB approaches
- Multi-environment trial methodologies and protocols

Connect to other development institutions & initiatives

Availability of high quality seed

Over **13,000 farmers** in Tef growing regions have **received Quncho seed** as part of several scaling strategies sponsored by governmental organizations. **Most of the seed was purchased from farmers.**

Long-term perspective

Options x contexts

Variety testing and release systems that test varieties under targeted conditions

The project:

- Developed an exceptionally **popular cultivar (Quncho) for high rainfall environments.**
- Improved **early maturing varieties** (e.g. Boset) for lower rainfall areas. First early varietal release since 1984.
- Demonstrated the Simada tef variety performs well in regions where the **short rains** are scarce. Simada also appeared useful in **double cropping** trials with **chickpea** on waterlogged vertisols. However **farmers did not appreciate** the very open and loose panicle of Simada, they rather preferred the variety DZ-Cr-37 an early maturing variety.

Value heterogeneity, Integrate farmer knowledge into the research



Farmer managed seed production and dissemination

87 t of seeds (i.e. 47 t of Quncho and 40 T of other improved varieties) **were multiplied by project partner centers** and **distributed to users** primarily for **seed multiplication**, on-farm demonstration and **scaling-up**, and **research purposes**



Equity



Understanding context: bottlenecks in seed system

2008-2009: In a survey of 200 sample farmers selected from two major Tef growing districts in Luma -Ejere and Minajar-Shenkora,

- **72%** report that current **seed supply** of improved **Tef varieties is inadequate**
- **59%** report bias in **seed distribution** in favor of **better off farmers**
- **37%** say **seed is too expensive**

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Eastern Africa Community of Practice



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