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CRAN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2017 "FAITH WITH DEEDS"

UPDATE ON THE COMBINE HARVESTER

Rice farmers in the Hohoe Municipality have shown delight in receiving a combine harvester services. For most of the farmers in the Hohoe and Afadjato districts, the coming of the combine harvester has brought a relief to them. According to Mr. George Asare, the municipal Director of Agriculture, the coming of the combine harvester has motivated most farmers to expand their cropping areas. When the combine harvester started work, farmers expressed joy about the manner in which their farm produce gets harvested within a short time. CRAN's combine harvester has a unique storage compartment which the other combine harvesters operating in the irrigated fields do not have, given CRAN's harvester a greater edge over the others.

The management and the team in Hohoe also professed some challenges for the board to look at and resolve in order to avert unforeseen damages to the machine.



The combine harvester and operators on the fields



RICE REAPERS AND THRESHERS

At the beginning of the year 2017, CRAN purchased two reapers and a thresher that is hitched to the power tillers for harvesting. The objective of buying the reapers and the thresher was to enable CRAN provide harvesting services to the smallholder rice farmers, who largely cultivate the produce on undeveloped fields in and around Hohoe municipality. Harvesting with the reapers and threshers is more laborious than the combined harvester. However, the combined harvester cannot work on undeveloped fields so the need for reapers and threshers. The Hohoe management team was able to train one person to man the operations of the reaper and the machine has duly started work as depicted below.



Rice in the fields being harvested with the reaper

CRAN MF'S LAST QUARTER MANAGEMENT MEETING

Management of CRAN Microfinance held their 2017 last quarter management meeting to plan for the year 2018. The major issue tabled for discussion has been the budget, as targets are being set and modalities put across in meeting the set targets. The Board's target for the Management team in 2017 was to make a minimum profit of one hundred thousand cedis (Ghc100,000). Having realized at the time of preparing the budget that the set target for 2017 was achievable, Management projected to build on the gains of 2017 and increase profit by at least 50% in 2018.



A cross section of members in attendance

CRAN RICE HARVESTED

Aside assisting farmers in harvesting their farm produce, CRAN also has engaged in a 20 acre rice farm as a demonstration farm and a commercial venture. Harvesting has been done, the yields were good and winnowing is being done as depicted in the images below.



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