AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

CIP INTERNATIONAL POTATO CENTER
CGIAR

TAAT
Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation

ORANGE-FLESHED SWEETPOTATO (OFSP)

Quality seed is the foundation of successful sweetpotato production. This ensures farmers have access to clean, virus-free, high-yielding planting materials that guarantee better harvests and food security.

Improved OFSP Varieties



Rich in beta-carotene (Vitamin A), these varieties boost household nutrition and income. Most mature in 3–5 months, with early types ready in 90–120 days. Bred to withstand drought, heat, and pests like weevils, aphids, and whiteflies, they give reliable yields even in semi-arid, erratic-rainfall areas. They can be eaten fresh or processed into flour, puree, chips, and baked goods. Planting materials are available through certified multipliers and national programs.

Early-Generation Seed (EGS) Systems



EGS systems deliver clean, virus-tested planting material. Tissue culture plantlets from labs move to screenhouses for pre-basic seed, then multiply in controlled settings into basic seed for certified multipliers, seed enterprises, and farmer groups — ensuring a steady supply of quality planting material at scale.

Rapid Vine Multiplication Technology (RMT)



RMT rapidly produces clean planting material via open nurseries. Farmers set up beds (6m × 1.2m) with virus-tested starter vines at close spacing. With good watering, weeding, roguing, and pest monitoring, vines are ready in 3–4 weeks and can be re-harvested (ratooned) repeatedly. Renew planting material regularly from clean sources.

Triple S Method (Storage in Sand and Sprouting)



Triple S gives farmers in long dry-season areas early access to planting material. After harvest, healthy roots are stored in dry, clean sand in a cool place. About 6–8 weeks before the rains, roots are sprouted and planted in small, well-watered nursery plots near home — so vigorous vines are ready by rains onset, reducing delayed sprouting, grazing, or theft loss.

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