

About Africa Rice Center (WARDA)

Africa Rice Center (WARDA) is an autonomous intergovernmental research association of African member states. WARDA is also one of the 15 international agricultural research Centers supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

WARDA's mission is to contribute to poverty alleviation and food security in Africa, through research, development and partnership activities aimed at increasing the productivity and profitability of the rice sector in ways that ensure the sustainability of the farming environment.

The *modus operandi* of WARDA is partnership at all levels. WARDA's research and development activities are conducted in collaboration with various stakeholders—primarily the national agricultural research systems (NARS), academic institutions, advanced research institutions, farmers' organizations, non-governmental organizations, and donors—for the benefit of African farmers, mostly small-scale producers, as well as the millions of African families for whom rice means food.

The *New Rice for Africa* (NERICA), which is bringing hope to millions of poor people in Africa, was developed by WARDA and its partners. The success of the NERICAs has helped shape the Center's future direction, extending its horizon beyond West Africa into Eastern, Central and Southern Africa.

WARDA hosts the African Rice Initiative (ARI), the West and Central Africa Rice Research and Development Network (ROCARIZ) and the Inland Valley Consortium (IVC). It also supports the Coordination Unit of the Eastern and Central African Rice Research Network (ECARRN), based in Tanzania.

Since January 2005, WARDA has been working out of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)-Benin station in Cotonou, having relocated from its headquarters in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, because of the Ivoirian crisis. WARDA has regional research stations near St Louis, Senegal and at IITA in Ibadan, Nigeria.

For more information, please visit www.warda.org

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New Horizons