

Post-harvest Losses, Challenges of Scaling New Technologies & the Zerofly® Storage Bag

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Introduction: Food Security is an issue that will impact everyone by 2050 it is projected there will be a global crisis unless action is taken. Within the UN Sustainable Development Goals, Food Security is one of the key areas that will receive focus over the next 15 years to circumvent this crisis.

Method: The ZeroFly® Hermetic Storage Bag is a new technology developed to reduce post-harvest losses. It contains a safe insecticide, Deltamethrin, incorporated into a storage bag. The active ingredient is released on the surface of the material in a controlled and sustained manner ensuring food is continuously protected against insects. Insecticide residues found on grains stored for up to three years in ZeroFly® Storage Bag are below CODEX & EPA maximum residue levels. Additionally, a hermetic liner can be added to the bag to remove the need for fumigation of grains and seeds prior to entry into the bag.

Results/Conclusions: Laboratory and field studies in 11 countries show that the ZeroFly® Storage Bag can effectively control key stored product insects for up to 36 months. The presentation will explore the current scale-up efforts and strategies of distribution planned throughout Africa and Asia.

Biography:

Allan Mortensen has a MA in International Business, Language and Culture from University of Southern Denmark. He joined Vestergaard in 2002 by relocating to Ghana opening up their West Africa Public Health Business by establishing offices in Ghana and Nigeria. With strong emphasis on business development Allan has opened businesses in Papua New Guinea, Australia, Ghana, Nigeria and Mongolia. Allan has developed and executed business models with in Public Health malaria prevention, Clean Water and today is the managing director of Vestergaard's food security organisation seeking to increase the real income of small and medium holder farmers in developing countries by introducing and taking to scale innovative tools to reduce post-harvest losses.

Company Mission: Vestergaard's innovation in disease control textiles is fueled by our humanitarian entrepreneurship to create a healthier planet. Our corporate DNA is embedded in Humanitarian Entrepreneurship, meaning the ability and desire to combine doing business and doing good. The company produce and sell Lifestraw® (Lifestraw.com), PermaNet® (Permanet.com) and ZeroFly® (Zerofly.com).