

# Post-harvest loss reduction in Nigeria

Results from alternative product packaging in the tomato value chains, 2nd measurement (July 2018), Southern region

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# Plenary reflection on experiment





# Research approach & methodology









# Results -1

- Of the total Grade A product that enters the VC **more Grade A** remains when using crates
  - Baskets: 73%
  - Crates: 98%
- **Difference** in weight loss from farmer to retailer between baskets and crates
  - Baskets: 7% loss
  - Crates: 2% loss

# Results – 1 (Comparison)

## July 2018

- **More Grade A** remains when using crates
  - Baskets: 73%
  - Crates: 98%
- **Difference** in weight loss
  - Baskets: 7% loss
  - Crates: 2% loss

## December 2017

- **More Grade A** remains when using crates
  - Baskets: 65%
  - Crates: 85%
- **Difference** in weight loss
  - Baskets: 11% loss
  - Crates: 5% loss



# Results - 3

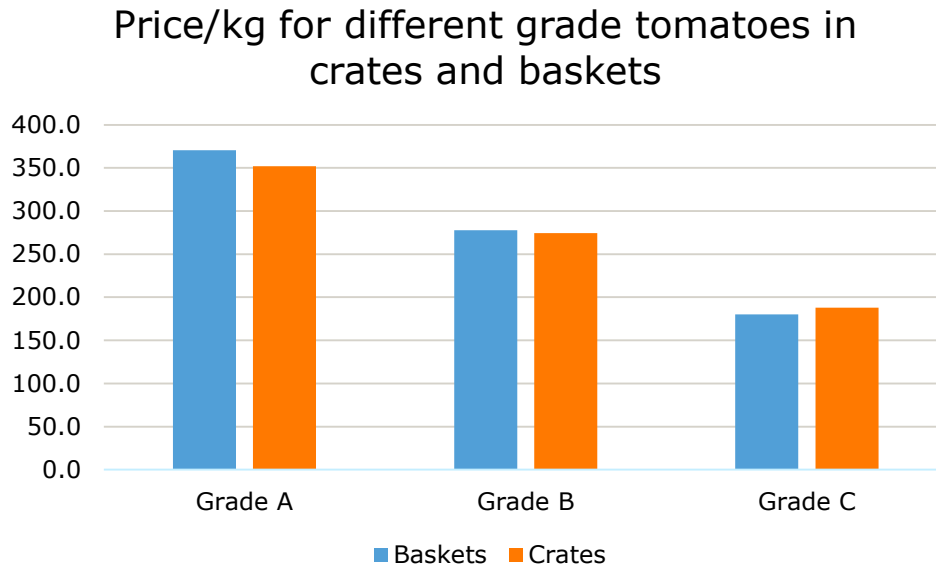
Percentage of the different grades filled in the baskets and crates at farm level					
	VC1	VC2	VC3	VC4	VC5
Grade A	90%	88%	74%	58%	90%
Grade B	6%	10%	25%	26%	7%
Grade C	4%	2%	2%	16%	2%
Total weight	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

- Differences between value chain
- Differences at farm level already in quality
- It seems that the quality of tomatoes at farm level influence the loss within the rest of the chain
- What can be the reason for this?
  - Enumerators involved in these value chains grade tomatoes differently compared to the other enumerators?
  - Tomatoes grow at different circumstances?
  - Other ideas?





# Results - 5



- Price for quality A tomatoes is highest followed by quality B and quality C respectively

- In this pilot the **average** price for grade A tomatoes is slightly higher for baskets compared to crates
  - Explanation: Retailers start selling Grade A tomatoes from baskets, because they degrade easier compared to the crates?
  - Tomatoes sold at higher prices in the morning?



Transport can be quite  
challenging and is  
sometimes











# Conclusion

- When using crates:
  - Less losses
  - More grade A to sell
  - Higher shelf life for grade A tomatoes
  - Higher profitability
- But also, for some higher transportation costs
- Revenue not for all actors yet)





# Struggles and solutions

- Cost for transportation of plastic crates is more expensive compared to the raffia baskets in terms of quantity
  - Did you made agreements about this?
- Cost of returning the crates higher compared to squeezing of empty baskets
  - Did you made agreements about this?
- Only one size for the plastic crates
  - Are smaller plastic crates still in favour?







# Future of Tomato systems

From pioneering to a  
paradigm shift  
to behavioural change

