The U.S. Feed the Future Peanut & Mycotoxin Innovation Lab (PMIL) is applying cutting-edge science to increase the productivity and profitability of peanut production for smallholder farmers and to reduce the negative impacts of mycotoxin contamination along the value chains of peanut and other crops in five Feed the Future countries – Haiti, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.

**RESEARCH**

Development and dissemination of informational materials on the importance of peanuts and impacts of mycotoxins is an important focus of the communications strategy for PMIL, which serves researchers in the U.S. and abroad, smallholder farmers in partner countries and the American public.

- **The PMIL website** – www.pmil.caes.uga.edu – contains project numbers and descriptions for the more than 100 individual projects that have been conducted under the PMIL and PORES (Peanut Collaborative Research Support Program).
- **Webinars and short videos** on mycotoxin sampling and detection, and methods to produce better peanuts and reduce aflatoxin contamination have been produced. All of these are available on the PMIL site (pmil.caes.uga.edu), as well as on the PMIL YouTube channel.
- **A data base** is under construction that will contain 1,000 publications and other media related to peanut research. Fully searchable and free, it will serve as a convenient resource for students, researchers and others beginning later this year.

**EXTENSION**

Getting information to smallholder farmers is key to making the most of findings about varieties, yields, growing conditions and pest control. To help partners reach growers and reinforce information from former field days, PMIL creates or facilitates printing of production guides, which also are available on the website.

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**STORYTELLING**

Telling the stories of students who are making an impact in the area of peanut innovation highlights their research and shows the public the important work of these young scientists. Through feature stories on the website and a monthly newsletter, PMIL draws attention to the work of partners around the world. These stories often are republished by USAID and the students’ home universities.

**Abraham Fulmer**

U.S./Haiti: A PhD student at the University of Georgia, Fulmer works with a Peanut & Mycotoxin Innovation Lab project in Haiti, where researchers are working to find the varieties and growing conditions that lead to the boost yield and discourage disease in peanuts.

**William Appaw**

Ghana: A master’s student in Food Science and Technology at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi, Appaw is assessing different scenarios in production and storage to see if certain practices in combination work to reduce aflatoxin contamination and methods to produce better peanuts and reduce aflatoxin contamination have been produced. All of these are available on the PMIL site (pmil.caes.uga.edu), as well as on the PMIL YouTube channel.

**Tchilwe Moyo-Chunda**

Malawi: A master’s student in Food Science at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Moyo-Chunda sampled freshly processed peanut butter for quality and safety, then developed a training program to educate processors about standards, sources of contamination and ways to improve the consistency and quality of their products.

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**GRAPHICS**

**ONE HANDFUL**

By producing simple, yet clear infographics, PMIL is spreading the word about the nutritional benefits of peanuts and the simplest ways that we know to fight aflatoxin contamination in crops. Compiled from various studies analyzing the health benefits of consuming peanuts, the ONE HANDFUL graphic (above) explains how a single handful can provide as much protein as other common foods while improving overall health.

**ONE HANDFUL GRAPHIC**

Translates into more than a dozen languages, these graphics are in use across Africa and the Americas, available in print and online.

**CONTROLLING AFLATOXINS**

Stresses some of the research-proven ways to reduce the risk of aflatoxin contamination in various crops, while emphasizing that aflatoxin is not only a peanut problem. The graphic follows the same design template as the ONE HANDFUL GRAPHIC and, while the message is relayed visually, the graphic is being translated into numerous languages for use around the world.

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**Available from the Feed the Future Peanut & Mycotoxin Innovation Lab**

A. FLOYD*, M. MCGEEHAN, J. RHOADS and D. HOISINGTON, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.