

Good grain storage

using metallic silos for better food security



Benefits of metallic silos

- Maintains maize quality.
- Keeps away rodents and other pests; therefore no need for insecticides.
- Requires little storage space.
- Has low maintenance costs.
- Reduces losses because there is less attack by storage pests and less chances of theft.
- Enables farmers to take advantage of fluctuating grain prices.

The cost of the household metal silo varies with size but its benefits are more than costs.

How to use metallic silos

1. Place the silo in a covered area and on a pallet to avoid contact with moisture. Ensure it is away from direct heat and sunlight.
2. Dry clean grain to less than 13% moisture for cereals and less than 10% for pulses and oil seeds.
3. Clean and dry the inside of the silo.
4. Load clean and dry grain or seed in the silo and seal with adhesive tape or rubber bands.
5. Insert a burning candle in the silo to use up all oxygen to ensure all pests die. Do not open the silo for 30 days to ensure all living organisms die.
6. Inspect the grain every 30 days and replace the seal if broken.
7. Remove the grain as needed and replace the seal tightly.

NOTE: Ensure that the outlet lid is always properly closed and tied with a rubber band. Using metallic silos with other storage methods is recommended.

Working in partnership to create down-to-earth messages on integrated soil fertility management

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