

Training the next generation of legume research leaders; Legume Scholars programs recognizes Ugandan awardee Rosemary Bulyaba

By 2050, the world will need to feed **two billion additional** people. A challenge this serious requires the best and brightest minds in agricultural science to explore how to grow the food needed to meet this anticipated demand--in addition to the current need to improve food security in the developing world.

One program preparing the next generation of researchers and agricultural leaders is Legume Scholars. Managed by Michigan State University, the Legume Scholars Program is a partnership between the [CGIAR Research Program on Grain Legumes](#) and [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Legume Systems Research](#) and [Peanut Innovation Lab](#) to support of the graduate study of promising young scientists from developing countries who are committed to pursuing research careers in disciplines involving grain legumes.

Over 200 nominees vied for the five awards announced in 2015. Among them was Rosemary Bulyaba, a young Ugandan looking to make an impact in her country and the world. Earning a spot with the prestigious program, Bulyaba began her journey as a legume scholar at Iowa State University in 2015. Four years later she has returned to Uganda with her PhD in crop production and physiology with a minor in sustainable agriculture. Rosemary plans to make an immediate impact through teaching others at the University level or through research on cropping systems and plant adaptability to environments. Her long term vision is to own and run a demonstration farm.



Dr. Rosemary Bulyaba labeling samples in the field in Masaka, Uganda

Legumes are very familiar to Rosemary. "Legumes have always been part of my life and culture since they are a staple in Uganda. They are almost always part of every meal," says Bulyaba. "It was therefore such a privilege for me to learn more about them and contribute to knowledge and information that may aid farmers and communities at boosting their yield, nutrition and income. I hope that my research findings will contribute to the body of knowledge that may aid legume production and consumption among farmers and communities by filling gaps and providing more information on legume management and utilization."

As a legume scholar, Dr. Bulyaba has received numerous awards for research excellence and scientific presentations among others. She has also published several articles and is currently at work on a manuscript dealing with limestone

application effects on common bean. Grain legumes are critical crops in developing countries that have long been recognized as nutrient dense, staple foods that help ensure food and nutritional security in the world's most resource-poor regions. In many of these areas, grain legumes also provide needed household income for smallholder farmers--the principle producers of grain legumes in the world, a majority of whom are women.