

Webinar Highlights: A Glance at Ghana Cashew Season 2025

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Collaboration with:

Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana

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Speakers:

- **Mr Anim J Jerry**, *Directorate of Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana*
- **Mr António Caramelo Raposo**, *General Manager, USIBRAS*
- **Mr Philip Oppong**, *Basileia Shipping & Logistics Ghana Ltd (Kingdom Exim Group)*

Highlights from the discussion:

This year, the late flowering and fruiting due to climate change have resulted in low quantity and quality. The low volume has led to price hikes and competition, affecting the value chain. The ministry is anticipating a higher volume due to favourable weather conditions, but the effect of climate change is still a concern.

◆ **Delayed flowering and erratic weather** affected early yields, reducing volumes and lowering nut outturns (previous average 49–52 lbs now reportedly lower).

◆ **The official minimum price** for RCN was set at **GHS 15/kg**, but scarcity and competition pushed prices up to **GHS 20–25/kg**, benefiting farmers but straining processors.

◆ **By March-end**, Ghana had exported **130,000 MT** of RCN, **down from 160,000 MT** during the same period last year.

Stricter border controls by IVC at porous land borders with Ghana have reduced the leakage of RCN, which has led to a shortage in the Ghana market

- ◆ **Significant export shift** observed: **Vietnam-bound shipments dropped significantly**, while **exports to India increased substantially** due to quicker payments and favourable pricing.
- ◆ **Local processors unable to compete** with foreign buyers offering up to **USD 1,500/MT**, forcing some factories to run far below capacity (e.g., one such big factory is said to have procured only 1,500 MT procured vs 25,000 MT installed capacity).
- ◆ **Moisture content and quality issues** were reported in traded nuts, with experts stressing the need for **better drying practices and regulatory oversight**.
- ◆ Ghana's **total production for 2025 is projected at 255,000 MT**, a slight increase from **252,000 MT in 2024** (excluding cross-border volumes as per TCDA).
- ◆ **TCDA's pricing framework** aims to ensure fair distribution of margins along the value chain, though processors find current price levels unsustainable.
- ◆ **Traceable supply chain model** introduced by TCDA to regulate aggregator activity and improve quality control.
- ◆ Under the **Ghana Tree Crop Diversification Project**, **3 million cashew seedlings** are being distributed to **10,000 farmers in 2025**, with a goal of **7 million seedlings in 2 years**.
- ◆ TCDA is also offering **agro-input subsidies, farmer training**, and has proposed a **matching grant scheme for processors** (under World Bank review).
- ◆ Although **logistics cost advantage over Côte d'Ivoire** remains, however, continued **Ivorian border scrutiny** further reduces transit volumes. Shipment times to India now average 30–35 days, slightly longer than previous years, as specialised cashew shipping services have diminished.