

# AFICAT Newsletter (Ghana No. 2)

Issued on August 4, 2023

This newsletter presents the activities of the “Africa Field Innovation Center for Agricultural Technology” (AFICAT). In this second issue for Ghana, we mainly focus on two activities conducted in collaboration with Japanese companies and/or their Ghanaian distributor in February and March 2023. We also report the last year’s Farmer’s Day event held in Koforidua, where we learned the importance of the Ghanaian agricultural sector.

## Honda products demonstration in Weija

# HONDA

On February 28, 2023, the AFICAT team, with the cooperation of the Ghanaian Government, participated in a demonstration event conducted by Overseas Union Ltd. (OUL), the local distributor of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. ('Honda'). It was held for Honda power products under the Weija Irrigation Scheme managed by the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA). A total of 44 people - 30 farmers, three from the District Agriculture Department, three from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), three from GIDA, and four JICA officials – participated in the event. The products demonstrated included (1) a tiller and ridger, (2) a backpack power sprayer, and (3) a brusher cutter (disc blade and wire-type cutters).

After the OUL staff explained to the participants how to operate and maintain all products at the Weija Irrigation Scheme Office, they moved to the field to experience the operation of each machine. The demonstration took place in the okra field. Under the instructions of the OUL staff, they operated the tiller in the field after harvest, spraying water on the leaves with the sprayer, and using a brush cutter to cut the residue and remove weeds in the area. After observing the operation of the products, the participants provided feedback,

stating that the Honda products were easy to operate and could be quickly familiarized with. In addition, using the machines can decrease their working time. The participants also mentioned that they would like to use Honda products in the future, although the prices are high for them to purchase the products immediately.

If you are interested in Honda products, please contact Overseas Union Limited, Honda’s local distributor in Ghana.

- Overseas Union Ltd.:  
Mr. Joseph Kwabena Daniels  
Sales and Marketing Executive  
Tel.: +233 (0) 302 220 216/ 221 768  
Mobile: +233 (0) 244 343 117  
E-mail: [jdaniels@hondaoverseas.com](mailto:jdaniels@hondaoverseas.com)
- Honda Power Products Website:  
<https://global.honda/products/power.html>



*A farmer can easily operate the brush cutter, UMK450T.*



A farmer uses the WJR2525 sprayer to spray the okra field. The sprayer felt so light that he could move quickly.



The farmer is experiencing the tiller, FQ650.



A group photograph of participants after the demonstration.

# HONDA

The Power Of Dreams



**HONDA BRUSHER CUTTER UMK450T**

Special heat treated bearing for durability Optimum Cutting Efficiency. Bigger blade and bigger nylon for optimum usage.

**HONDA BRUSHER CUTTER UMR435T**

Mini 4-stroke CHC engine, working through a full 360 degree with 2-blade cutter Wide type throttle lever 6 Side type engine switch to stop the engine in one motion A robust 28mm diameter pipe frame housed up to 7 bushes, yields low vibration and prolong usage life.

**HONDA TILLERS FQ650**

Equipped with Honda GF200 High Power 14.2KW Easy start High lifting stability Low vibration, Low noise Low fuel consumption Reliability/Usability Proven GF200 durability Mud-water resistant recoil starter

**HONDA ACCESSORIES UMK450T & UMR 435T**



Overseas Union Ltd

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# HONDA

The Power Of Dreams

**HONDA WATERPUMPS WL30XH**

Honda water pump with easy maintenance features ensures long life, perfect for irrigation, construction and Rental applications



**HONDA BACKPACK SPRAYER WJR2525**

Long-sustained spraying is supported by the fuel-efficient Honda engine and usability based on ergonomics



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Honda agricultural machines available at OUL



## Second Kett seminar & demonstration



On March 2, 2023, the AFICAT team, in cooperation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA), helped Kett Electric Laboratory Co. Ltd. (Kett) to conduct the second seminar to introduce their measuring instruments to Ghana. A total of 35 participants from both the public and private sectors attended, including dealers of agricultural equipment, rice millers, the Ghana Cocoa Coffee Sheanut Farmers Association (COCOSHE), the MoFA, and GIDA. They learned how to use Kett's six products, including moisture testers, huskers, polishers, and whiteness testers.

3. Loaning goods					
3-1. Models with prices in Sep. 2022					
Rice Moisture Testers / Grain Moisture Tester		Paddy husker(Auto)	Polisher	Rice Whiteness Tester	
Riceter f(Rtg)-512	PQ-520	TR-260	Prestest(TP-3000)	C-600	
(Ver.5205)	(Ver.PM-8515)				
USD 380	USD3,800	USD550	USD670	USD3,100	
					
Long & short rice. (Paddy, brown rice and milled rice)	Many grains & seeds. Maize(Corn), wheat, Barley, Soybean, Coffee bean, Cacao bean, Tea, Sesames, Cashew nuts(Kernel), Palm oil seed, Cowpeas, Telf, Vegetable seeds, etc.	Paddy to brown rice.	Brown rice to milled rice.	Measurable whiteness both of brown & milled rice.	
Parboil rice is also measurable by Riceter f(Rth)-202.	✓Approx. 150 applications is available per unit(version) and selectable versions of PM series.				
✓Rth-202 : USD300	✓Data base of applications(master calibration curves) are total 300 approx.				
✓PM-450(Ver. 4523) : USD770					

*Kett's products introduced during the seminar. The prices are indicated based on the Japanese market. Shipment fee and other fees shall be added when they are sold to foreign customers.*

In the first half of the seminar, Kett staff in Japan lectured on the importance of moisture management using a Webinar style. In the second half, other Kett staff from Japan joined online, and the AFICAT team at the local site jointly demonstrated how to operate the products.

During the Q&A session, the participants noted the importance of the accuracy of the instruments used to measure moisture content. Although the instruments are accurate at the time of purchase, after-sale services are necessary to maintain their accuracy.

To achieve high accuracy, Kett believes it is crucial to produce products with the correct calibration curve corresponding to each crop to be measured. In Myanmar (Burma), Southeast Asia, moisture

content measured using Kett's product is adopted as the national reference value. Following this successful achievement, Kett recently prioritized after-sale services to maintain product quality. Kett is currently searching for distributors who can offer services dedicated to Ghanaian customers. During the seminar, several participants from the private sector showed interest in becoming distributors for Kett, and they continued with lively discussions.



*AFICAT members demonstrated Kett's products, in which many participants indicated strong interest.*

As a follow-up to the seminar, AFICAT will continue to help Kett identify potential local distributors. If you are interested in Kett's products and/or becoming a distributor, please get in touch with them via the following channels:

- Kett Electric Laboratory Co. Ltd.:  
Mr. Ryosuke TAKAHASHI  
International Sales Department  
Tel.: +81-3-3776-1121  
E-mail: [ry-takahashi@kett.co.jp](mailto:ry-takahashi@kett.co.jp)  
Website: <https://www.kett.co.jp/english/>
- Kett Corporate Profile Video on YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SPsCofmOil>

## The National Agricultural Fair on Farmers' Day 2022 in Koforidua

On December 1 and 2, 2022, the AFICAT Team visited the National Agricultural Fair in Koforidua, which was held as the Farmers' Day celebration. First, the team was surprised by the large number of booths and visitors, as well as the speech by the President, Mr. Akufo-Addo, who demonstrated the importance of farmers and the agricultural sector to the country.

The team visited several local company booths and conducted a survey of agricultural machinery and equipment markets. This is because one of the functions of AFICAT is to convey local market demands and information to Japanese companies so that they can make business entry decisions in the African/Ghanaian markets.

According to the team's observations, many Chinese and Indian agricultural machinery and related equipment are in the Ghanaian markets, but only a few Japanese machineries were observed at the fair. It must be admitted that the presence of Japanese machinery is still minimal in Ghana. Through this AFICAT initiative, the AFICAT team will continue to invite as many Japanese companies as possible to Ghana and contribute to promoting agricultural mechanization in the country.



*The fair had a vibrant atmosphere because of the presence of many visitors.*

## Editors' postscript

We hope that you enjoyed reading our second newsletter in Ghana. We are preparing the next issue to present the next AFICAT activities, and we hope that you will continue to read our newsletters.

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AFICAT HP (only in Japanese):

<https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/issues/agricul/aficat/index.html>

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