

Ugandan Farmers' Perceptions of Climate in Farm Management. (A08-phillips084721-Oral)

Authors:

- J.G.Phillips - *IRI, Columbia University*
- B.Orlove - *U.C. Davis*
- P.Luganda - *New Vision*
- P.Isabirye - *Uganda Dept. of Meteorology*

Abstract:

In both western and Ugandan culture, seasonal climate has traditionally been perceived as a constant, yet forecast systems exist, having evolved over generations in the case of Uganda, and over the past decade in the case of El Nino- based prediction schemes, to explain and anticipate interannual variability. Additionally, news and perceptions of decadal or longer-term climate change challenge the notion of constancy in climate. This study is designed to investigate current perceptions in rural Uganda regarding climate, climate variability, and climate change. Results from Nakasongola District indicate there is a strong perception that climate change is occurring, creating a sense of discomfort and lack of trust in forecast systems. The results of the investigation are being utilized in a series of educational radio programs on climate. Broadcast in the local language, the series attempts to create a dialogue investigating both traditional and 'new' climate information, with the intention of helping individuals and communities in Uganda cope with climate-related decisions.

Corresponding Author Information:

Jennifer Grace Phillips	phone: (845) 680-4422
Columbia University	fax: (845) 680-4864
IRI/LDEO, rm 120 Monell, 61 Rt	e-mail:
9W	jphillips@iri.columbia.edu
Palisades, NY 10964	

Presentation Information:

Presentation Date: Monday, November 11, 2002
Presentation Time: 3:45 pm

Keywords:

climate information, climate forecast, Uganda, risk management