Successful Malawi Pilot Leads to 200 SoyaKit Program

MM supplied 30 SoyaKits to Palladium International in Malawi in early 2018, as part of USAID’s Feed the Future AgDiv project. The field trial in Mangochi has been so successful (see below) that another 200 SoyaKits have been ordered. MM can provide the SoyaKits, delivered in Africa, for less than $300 per kit.

Masha Chiposyo, who is a lead mother to one of Feed the Children’s care groups in Mangochi, was one of the lucky recipients. Having been trained on operation of the equipment, Chiposyo started to produce soy milk for her family. One day, she produced a bucketful of soy milk, packed it in sachets and took them to Chinana Primary School in her village. She sold all her soy milk and went home MK2,000.00 ($US 3) richer. She is now feeding not just her own household with the highly nutritious soy products, her flavored soy milk is in high demand among school-going children and mothers. Selling at MK20 (USD .03) per 100 ml sachet, Chiposyo takes home an average of MK1,500 ($US 2) in a day, nearly three times the profit she could make from selling the soybeans unprocessed. “The SoyaKit has given me reason to believe. I want to be at the level where I can supply to two schools in a day. That way, I would supply nutritious food to more children than I am doing while making money for my family,” she says. The development of the SoyaKit was sponsored by Alpro CVA, a long-time supporter of MM. www.alpro.com

Cost of Protein in Africa

As the population in Africa and Asia continues to increase, and the number of people globally experiencing chronic malnutrition has also increased recently to over 800 million, the challenge to provide sufficient protein for healthy development of children and for healthy existence of adults, becomes more acute. Below is a retail cost comparison of various ‘whole’ proteins, using retail prices prevalent in 2018 in villages. A ‘whole’ protein means an amino acid profile equivalent to meat or milk, as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Base Soymilk</th>
<th>Soymilk (full-fat)</th>
<th>Soy Flour (full-fat)</th>
<th>Eggs (5 to 6 g protein)</th>
<th>Meat (local production)</th>
<th>Dairy Milk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>.63</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>.43</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.52 (ground beef)</td>
<td>2.25 (local in bulk)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>.56</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>.32 *</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.25 (chicken)</td>
<td>NA *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>.44</td>
<td>.94 - @</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.65 (ground beef)</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Soy flour is currently not available in Malawi or Ghana at the retail level, and wholesale availability is infrequent; the figure quoted for Ghana is from a local mill that may produce soy flour in future.
* Dairy milk is not commonly consumed and not widely available to lower and middle classes, except as very expensive powdered milk, condensed milk or imports in tetra Pak.
* Price data from SoyaKit and SoyCow-based sales: higher prices may moderate over time.

See the more detailed ‘Cost of Protein in Africa’ brief here.

SESACO’s Second SoyCow

In Uganda SESACO has for many years been successfully producing soy yogurt for commercial sale. Up until August, they were using one SoyCow E system, but now they have installed their second one which will give them a total capacity of about 80 L per hour. Workers are shown with the twin SoyCow operation at the facility in Kyengera, outside of Kampala. SESACO is a multi-product soyfood company which also produces soy analogs such as dry mixes and soy nuggets, soy coffee and baked goods.

www.sesacosoya.com

www.malnutrition.org  matters@malnutrition.org