

## MADE IN UGANDA

NEW PRODUCTS AND DEVELOPING IDEAS THAT  
WILL AFFECT YOUR EVERYDAY LIVES

### KUNGULA, THE IMPROVED MAIZE THRESHER

BY DERRICK KYATUKA

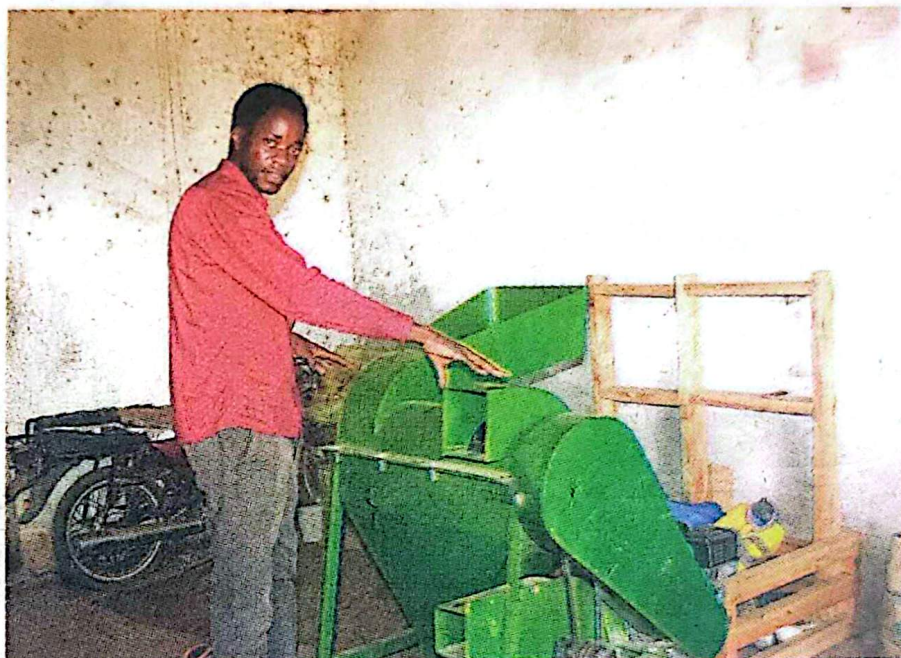
Some of the grain processing methods that many farmers use are time-wasting and tiresome. Stephen Ssenkanyo, together with three other innovators, have come up with a machine that will help farmers to thresh seeds and provide efficient winnowing on the farm at the same time. The Kungula machine has been designed specifically for maize farmers. It enables farmers to have better quality grain that can fetch better prices.

"Traditionally, people used to remove maize grains from the cobs using hands while others would put the maize in the sacks and then start hitting it to separate the grains from the cob. In the process, much of the grains would be destroyed and made dirty," Ssenkanyo explains.

"The maize business is still a lucrative venture in the country. Therefore, farmers should be in position to produce grains that are of good quality. That is why we came up with this type of machine," he adds.

Many of the machines that most farmers use have only been removing the grains from the cobs, leaving farmers with the task of winnowing.

Ssenkanyo, a graduate of



Ssenkanyo explaining how his machine works

mechanical engineering, says the machine can thresh and winnow 1,000kg of maize in one hour using a litre of fuel.

"The machine has been tested for eight months and it has proved that the threshing effectiveness has been improved to about 99.9%. I pray companies that produce seeds that the Government distributes to farmers across the country buy it," he adds.

Ssekanyo says in case the machine gets a problem, they can fix it for free and when beyond repair, they replace with a new one. The machine

comes fully equipped with a 5.5 horse power Honda engine.

#### HOW IT WORKS

The ears of dry maize go into the large opening on the machine, where the machine separates the grains from the cobs using a small metal inside.

The chopped cobs come out from one side of the machine. The grains are then separated from dust and chaff by a winnowing fan built inside the machine. Clean grains are then collected from the lower side of the machine.