

Reject planting materials you do not need, farmers told

KAMPALA

By Prossy Nandudu

Farmers should reject planting materials they do not need and also report officers who deliver items that farmers have not requested for.

The call was made by the chief coordinator of Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), Gen. Caleb Akandwanaho (Salim Saleh), in a speech read by Maj. James Nkojo during the annual James Mulwana Business Symposium, organised by the Private Sector Foundation Uganda at the Uganda Manufacturer's Association (UMA) hall in Lugogo, Kampala on Tuesday.

"We want to make sure that we only deliver what is requested for by the farmer and at the right time," Nkojo said, adding that the idea of OWC is not to frustrate agricultural production but to grow it to increase production for home consumption, as well as commercial purposes.

Nkojo said they will file reports about every activity, including the origin of the planting material and the suppliers so that they can be tracked down in case of delivery of wrong planting materials.

The symposium also discussed the transformation of the agricultural sector from subsistence to commercial farming and how the youth can be drawn into the sector.

Private Sector Foundation Uganda boss Gideon Badagawa said one of the reasons for organising the event was to interest the youth in agricultural entrepreneurship.

Badagawa said to make the youth love agriculture, there is need for more investment to make agriculture more profitable.

"Agriculture is still at subsistence level and is being affected by the changing weather patterns," Badagawa said.



Nkojo (left) with former Uganda Investment Authority boss Maggie Kigozi (centre) and Dr. Diana Nambatya after taking part in the Mulwana Symposium on Tuesday. Photo by Prossy Nandudu

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Barbara Mulwana urged the youth to emulate his father, who she said exercised a lot of patience when he was building his businesses.

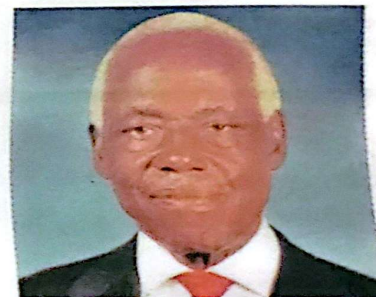
He said apart from creating employment for the youth, agriculture is one of the areas that will develop the industrial sector, hence the need for investment.

Badagawa urged the Government,

through the Uganda Development Bank, to avail low interest-credit to those involved in agriculture value-addition.

Barbara Mulwana, daughter of the late James Mulwana, urged the youth to emulate the patience her father exercised while building his business.

The annual James Mulwana Business Symposium is always held in memory of the milestones of the late James Mulwana, who founded Uganda Batteries Limited, Nice House of Plastics among other businesses.



The late James Mulwana

NEWS IN BRIEF

Engola takes oath as Lango clan chief

Former Erute South MP Sam Engola, who is also the NRM regional vice-chairperson for northern Uganda, over the weekend took oath of office to serve for a second term as the leader of Otikokin clan. Engola together with his cabinet and chiefs, took at Lango Cultural Centre during a ceremony presided over by Grade One M Simon Peter Odoo. Engola was enthroned the paramount chief of Lango, Yosam Odr, during a ceremony at his Adegokwok outside

Wakiso district boss appointed

Wakiso chairperson Bwanika has been appointed the district head of the region against the backdrop of a meeting of the headquarter council and census vice-chairman Nalunjo. The appointment was made by the acting Governor Sir...