

Article title	Seed Policy Reforms in Zambia
Topic Keywords	Agricultural productivity, Maize, Technological change
Authors	Nagarajan, L., A. Naseem, C.E. Pray
Abstract	<p>This study highlights the critical role of technological change in raising agricultural productivity to enhance farm incomes, alleviate rural poverty, and sustain economic growth. It emphasizes the underutilization of technology, particularly improved varieties (IVs), in many countries, with a specific focus on sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The study traces historical impediments to the adoption of new agricultural varieties in SSA, including slow varietal releases, government controls, and policy constraints. Furthermore, it elucidates the pivotal policy shifts in Zambia since the mid-1990s, which transitioned the nation from a stagnant public seed industry to a thriving private sector-driven seed market. These reforms, influenced by diverse economic interest groups and research studies, have significantly improved the formal seed system in Zambia. Key metrics demonstrate the competitive maize seed sector, increased variety registrations, maize seed exports, and notable maize yield growth, positioning Zambia as a leader in maize yields within Africa. This transformation underscores the vital role of policy reform and private sector engagement in catalyzing agricultural productivity and economic development in SSA.</p>
Publication date	2020.03.09
Citation	Nagarajan, L., A. Naseem, C.E. Pray. 2020. "Seed Policy Reforms in Zambia," Agrilinks, March 9, 2020. <a href="https://www.agrilinks.org/post/seed-policy-reforms-zambia">https://www.agrilinks.org/post/seed-policy-reforms-zambia</a>
Link to the actual article	<a href="https://www.agrilinks.org/post/seed-policy-reforms-zambia">https://www.agrilinks.org/post/seed-policy-reforms-zambia</a>