WACCI: Africa Centre of Excellence (ACE) for Agricultural Innovation and Entrepreneurship

West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) (www.wacci.ug.edu.gh)
College of Basic and Applied Sciences
University of Ghana, Legon

Prof. Eric Yirenkyi Danquah - Centre Leader
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Dr. Agyemang Danquah - Coordinator, Academic Programmes
Vision and Mission

Vision
- become the foremost Centre for postgraduate training and research in crop improvement in Africa

Mission
- transform WACCI into a Centre for Agricultural Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Current Areas of Research

- **Legumes**
  - Genetic enhancement of *cowpea*, *soybean* and *groundnuts* for resistance to abiotic and biotic stresses in Africa

- **Root and Tuber Crops**
  - Integration of modern molecular tools for developing resilient varieties of *cassava* and *sweet potato* for food and nutrition security in Africa
  - Genomic approaches for developing nematode resistant *yams*

- **Cereals**
  - Develop high yielding *maize*, *rice*, *sorghum* and *pearl millet* varieties with resistance to major biotic and abiotic stresses

- **Vegetables**
  - Developing climate resilient, high yielding and consumer acceptable *tomato pepper*, *okra* and *garden egg* varieties for all year-round production
WACCI Maize hybrids

Drone shot of the WACCI Plant Breeding Farm, University of Ghana main campus

WACCI Hybrid Maize
(Yields are between 9 – 11 t/ha in multi-locational trials)
Areas of Collaboration

• Joint proposal development
• Collaborative research
• Joint commercialization of research outputs
• Faculty exchange
• Joint business incubation and development
• Student exchange and internships
• Joint student supervision
• Mentoring of faculty and students