



Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

Plant Variety Research and Development: Key Policy Issues

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Plant Variety Development: Policy Issues

- **Classical plant variety breeding versus biotechnology**
 - **Benefits and beneficiaries**
 - **Concerns and risks**
 - **Safety and quality control**
- **Variety development, dissemination and adoption**
 - **Research, extension, education and training**
 - **Testing, multiplication and release**
 - **Agro-climatic/environment**
 - **Infrastructure**
 - **Support services**
 - **Certification**

Plant Variety Development: Policy Issues

- **Subsidies: Should subsidies be provided and who should receive subsidies**
 - Direct to variety developers and market agents
 - To research and extension
- **Marketing and Pricing: Should prices of new varieties be controlled?**
 - Monopoly situation
 - Oligopoly
 - Competition

Plant Variety Development: Policy Issues

- **Intellectual Property**
- **Public and private sector partnership.**
Respective roles of:
 - **Public sector**
 - **Private sector**
 - **Farmers**
 - **Consumers**
 - **Other stakeholders**

FARA and the evidence-based plant variety policy cycle

