

## **FARMPower DEMONSTRATION OF FACASI MACHINERY 10/09/15**

<b>Hosting farmer</b>	Mr Kisimusi
<b>Attendance</b>	350 people
<b>Area</b>	Gambuli Resettlement Area
<b><u>Present</u></b>	Mechanisation Dept (District, Province & Head Office) SIRDC (Harare) Agritex (District) Ministry of Health Education Local leaders Farmers

Farmers in Gambuli were shown a wide variety of machinery ranging from the **2** wheeled Power Tiller, double row planter, jab planter, portable sheller.

People were organised into two large groups and demonstrations were carried out on calibration of the planter, with the planter having to run at different graduations. Hitching of different implements on the power tiller was also demonstrated. Operation of the power tiller and double row planter was also demonstrated with all present seeing the implements in operation practically. Those present also had an opportunity to practically test for depth, make necessary settings and adjustments and ascertain rates of seed dispersal from the double row planter.

SIRDC also had an opportunity to showcase their brands of conservation agriculture machinery namely, their version of the **2WT**, ridger etc.

To cap it up the farmers were shown the portable sheller in operation. After the demonstrations were concluded, farmers were taught on advantages of shifting from their traditional convectional farming to conservation and environmental and monetary benefits that came from that shift. They were also told how they could access the machinery by engaging FACASI team operating within the district.

### **Overview**

As has been raised in the preceding demonstration concern was raised on the pricing of the double row planter. Farmers also pleaded with the officers present to raise the issue with FACASI over involvement in the programme as they showed a desire to be included and trained as service providers and also wish to be earmarked for training and have their area

identified as a project demonstration area. Also issue of loans was raised in order to help the farmers purchase these technologies. The majority of farmers showed great zeal and desire to own these technologies

## Pictures



**Picture 1:** Speeches and prize giving at the field day



**Picture 2:** Farmers following proceedings at the field day