



2016 BHEARD Scholar
Jean Bosco Shingiro

Profile

Country of Study:	United States
University:	Michigan State University
Department:	Food Science and Human Nutrition
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—Ph.D.
Hometown:	Kigali, Rwanda
Home Institution:	Rwanda Agriculture Board
Home Position:	Associate Research Fellow
Mentored By:	USA: Dr. Leslie Bourquin, Professor, Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, Michigan State University

Research Area: Food Science

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2016

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: B.Sc., Food Science and Technology, Kigali Institute of Science and Technology, Rwanda

GRADUATE EDUCATION: M.Sc., Food Technology, Wageningen University, Netherlands

RESEARCH INTERESTS: In different parts of the world, people enjoy coffee as a drink with special pleasant taste and aroma. This drink reaches the consumers after a long journey from planting up to the cup, and the quality of the final product depends on the raw materials and post-harvest and processing operations during that journey. Sometimes an unpleasant flavor is perceived during coffee cupping, and is termed as Potato Taste Defect (PTD) which is found in defected coffee beans. PTD has been affecting coffee beans making them unmarketable and thereby causing losses to farmers. It is in this regard that during Jean's research under BHEARD scholarship, he will investigate the origin of PTD and chemical compounds associated with PTD and their thresholds as perceived by sensory evaluation.

The results of this study will provide directions to practical actions to reduce the prevalence of PTD in coffee. This will impact the creation of confidence among coffee buyers to buy quality coffee, and the income of farmers will therefore increase as a result of producing premium quality coffee sold at premium prices.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: As a research scientist, Jean will be delightedly involved in reducing the post-harvest losses by improving the quality and safety of farmers produce. This will have desirable effects to the livelihood of farmers due to increased income. After graduation, Jean wants to actively participate in knowledge transfer to the university students as well as farmers and processors with the aim of managing and improving the quality of food after harvesting. Jean wants to be among the leading researchers in food science and technology by conducting research with desirable impact to the food security.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Jean enjoys music, updates on new technologies in any field, astronomy sciences, watching basketball and travelling.