BHEARD

Borlaug Higher Education for
Agricultural Research and Development

Profile

2016 BHEARD Scholar
Haswell Blair Dambolachepa

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	University of Nairobi
Department:	Plant Science and Crop Protection
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—M.Sc.
Hometown:	Lilongwe, Malawi
Home Institution:	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
Home Position:	Agricultural Research Scientist
Mentored By:	Home: Dr Limbikani Matumba, Senior lecturer at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi University: James W. Muthomi, Professor, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Research Area: *Crop Protection*

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2016

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: B.Sc., Agriculture (Agricultural Extension), University of Malawi, Malawi

RESEARCH INTERESTS: As a crop protection scientist Haswell is interested in undertaking a research on Aflatoxin management on grown groundnuts in Malawi. Malawi is facing a number of challenges due to high levels of aflotoxin in groundnuts produced. Aflatoxins are polypeptides type of metabolites that are produced by Aspergillus flavus strains and their mycotoxins are presenting health hazards to humans as well as livestock when consumed.

Consequently, groundnuts produced in Malawi are facing international trade or market restrictions because of high levels of aflotoxin contaminations. This problem has ignited Haswell to do research that will come up with management options that would reduce aflotoxin contamination in groundnuts produced in Malawi.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: The goals for Haswell's future academic/work are to develop technologies for protecting crops from pest and disease attacks in Sub-Saharan region and providing advisory services to farmers and other stakeholders involved in crop production on how best they can protect their crops from pests and diseases. To summarize, his goal will ensure that Malawi produces crops that are free from pests and diseases.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Haswell enjoys watching movies and football, as well as listening to gospel songs.