

Profile



2013 BHEARD Scholar
Robert Mugabi

Position:	Assistant Lecturer
Institution:	Makerere University
Country:	Uganda
MSc:	Engineering Science University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Mentored by:	US: Curtis Weller University of Nebraska—Lincoln UGANDA: Yusuf Byaruhanga Makerere University

Research Area: Food Science and Technology

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2013

HOMETOWN: Kampala, Uganda

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

GRADUATE EDUCATION: Engineering Science, University of New South Wales, Australia

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Value-added processing of agricultural commodities; effects of new process technologies on food quality and food safety; Post-harvest technology fundamentals and applied aspects of grain storage and drying; and Process control of food processing operations

PERSONAL STATEMENT: As a young man Robert dreamt of becoming a medical doctor, but revised his goal to focus on food process engineering, a passion that sprung from a part-time job as a research assistant at the Department of Chemical & Processing Engineering at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. His desire further increased his search for a postgraduate degree. Later he joined the Department of Food Technology and Human Nutrition at Makerere University as a teaching assistant. After graduation with distinctions in his masters, he was able to immediately win a PhD scholarship sponsored by the USAID/Uganda Mission as a part of the Borlaug Higher Education Agricultural Research and Development Program.

Currently, Robert is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln seeking a PhD degree in Food Science and Technology with a minor in Statistics. He is planning to investigate the performance and durability of hammer mills used for processing cereal grains in rural Uganda as a part of his graduate research program. Upon completion of his PhD program, Robert will return to his faculty position at Makerere University.

In his spare time, Robert enjoys reading, playing basketball, and jogging.