# http://dapa.ciat.cgiar.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/image001.jpg

**TECHNOLOGY: THE MBC33 CLIMBING BEAN VARIETY**

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In Malawi climbing varieties have not yet released. However, MBC33 was one of the two varies that showed potential for release. MBC33 variety is a large seeded variety and is a moderate climber. Yield results for the current year were quite low (0.4 ± 0.5 Mgha-1), which was not in agreement with its performance in the 2013 -2014 season (1.4 Mgha-1), when rains were normal. In the current year MBC33 had the highest yield variability (CV = 117. 6 %) than even DC86-263, which came second Yield (CV = 112.5%). Interestingly all bushbean varieties had CV > 71%.

Table 1: MBC33 yield in the trial sites

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **MBC33** | Mean | 0.4 |
| Conf-95% | 0.3 |
| Conf 95% | 0.5 |
| Std | 0.5 |
| CV | 117.6 |

Highest yields for MBC33 were encountered in treatments Bc (0.9 Mgha-1) (purestand bean with manure only) and Bcf (1.0 Mgha-1) (purestand beans with both manure and fertlisers applied). The difference between them was insignificant (p < 0.05) implying that the addition of fertlisers where manure is already applied, did not bring forth any positive response in yield for MBC33. This further meant that use of manure is the best and cheapest option to increase the yield for the variety when grown as a sole crop. Further, a significant drop in bean yield was observed, when neither of the soil fertility improving technologies were used (B). This meant that farmers should be encouraged to use soil fertility improving technologies if they are to increase yield of MBC33, where manure is the most preferable choice.



Figure 1: Response of MBC33 to different treatments

Intercropping with maize showed that MBC33 yield in such treatments (BM, BMc, BMcf and BMf) was insignificantly different (p > 0.05). Soil fertility improving technologies did not significantly contribute the yield in MBC33 when under intercrops for the season of 2014-2015. Most probably due to drought. It was seen that use of manure only is as productive as the use of or a combination of manure and fertlisers. As such it is suggested here that farmers could use manure only in the production of these beans to realise high profits (i.e. if manure are available). (**Refer to main report for details**)