TECHNOLOGY: THE SER83 BUSHBEAN VARIETY

SER45 is a small seeded bean variety, bred for tolerance to drought, just like SER45. The variety has shown potential in resistance to diseases and give high yield. Its performance in the current trials was quite encouraging (1.0 ± 0.6 Mgha-1). Yield variability was relatively lower (CV = 61.1%) than SER45 (CV = 70.9%) (**Table 1**).

Table 1: Yield of SER 83 in the trial sites

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **SER83** | Mean | 1.0 |
| Conf-95% | 0.9 |
| Conf 95% | 1.2 |
| Std | 0.6 |
| CV | 61.1 |

Consideration of treatments indicated that SER83 responded well in the Bcf treatment (combination of manure and fertiliser) (**Figure 1**). Interestingly, the difference in yield between treatment Bc and Bcf was significant (p < 0.05). This Indicates that for SER83 Bcf has an effect of increasing the overall yield. Comparisons between sole beans with manure (Bc) and bean under intercrop with maize (BM, BMc, BMcf, and BMf) showed insignificant differences (p > 0.05). This entailed that the SER83 bean variety, when intercropped with maize did not differ significantly in yield, whether or not manure or a combination of manure and fertiliser were applied (23:21: 0 + 4S).



Figure 1: Response of SER83 to different treatments

At a high note, the high performance of SER83 (yield > 0.4Mgha-1) under drought conditions, meant it has potential for use in such conditions. With frequent recurrence of drought and erratic rains the variety should be released and promoted release. To significantly improve yield SER83 required use of a combination of manure and fertiliser (Bcf)