



*Presents*



# Growing a Castor Farmer

CASTOR BEAN FARMERS INITIATIVE (CBFI)

“Castor is a jar  
where the oil  
never runs dry”

## Abstract

### OIL SEEDS

Non-edible oilseeds carry special importance along with edible oilseeds in the world oilseeds economy. The castor oil seed is one of the most valued oil seeds in the world with vast usage and purpose. One cannot overemphasize the economic value of the castor oilseed especially as a means of extra income for farmers and castor-based producers.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Agriculture as a branch of the world economy plays a significant role in human life. Its main goal is to meet the population's needs for food and provide industries with raw materials.

Agriculture is the largest sector of the Nigerian economy in terms of employment provision. Nigeria was once known as a major exporter in agricultural products before the era of oil boom in the 1970s. Before then, agriculture was Nigeria's major source of revenue.

### OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

The resilient nature of the sector is evident in its ability to recover more quickly than other sectors from shock resulting from disruptive events like the civil war (1967-1970) and economic recession (1981-1985) periods. This sector is also largely dependent on the growth of the crop production aspect (farming). This subsector is the main reason for agricultural growth in Nigeria. This indicates the importance of this subsector, and probably, lack of attention and investment to the other subsectors has led to a great decline in the growth and development of agriculture in Nigeria over the years.

### LOOKING AHEAD

The agricultural sector accounts for more than forty percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and has the highest growth rate of 2.4% in 2010 (CBN, 2010). In spite of the importance of the sector to Nigeria's economy, it is largely dominated by small-holder farmers that produce most of the domestic food requirement. The bulk of the benefits end up with the medium to largescale operators.

Castor is an oil rich plant that is valued mostly for its oil. The world demand for castor oil keeps increasing daily while the productions

of castor isn't growing proportionately. We look at what the future holds for castor farmers and other users especially in Nigeria and Africa.

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## About Us

### African Castor Acres Foundation

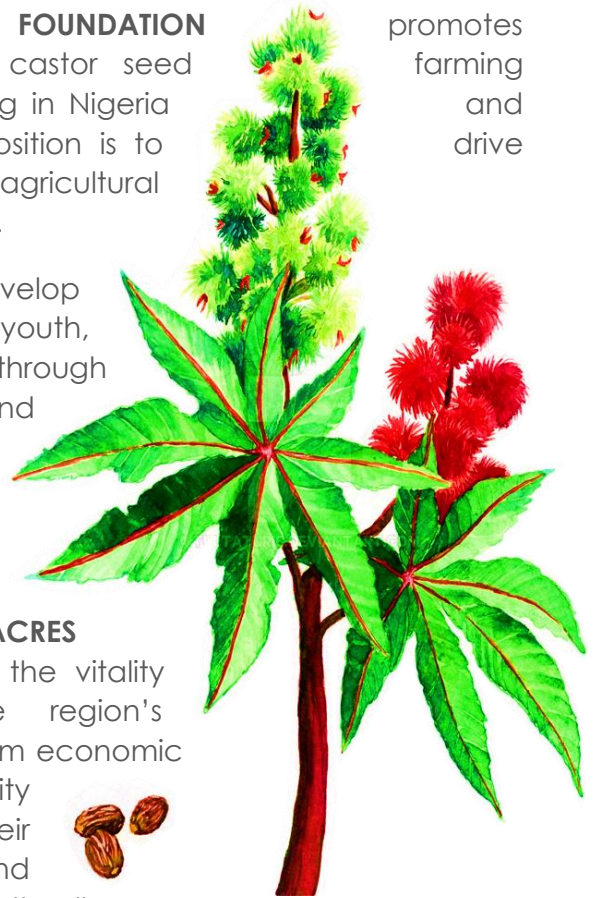
Evolving Agriculture,  
Transforming Lives...

The **AFRICAN CASTOR ACRES FOUNDATION** promotes the specific knowledge of castor seed and castor seed oil processing in Nigeria West Africa. Our value proposition is to youth empowerment through agricultural development and technology.

promotes  
farming  
and  
drive

We sensitize, promote and develop the skill and capacity of the youth, women and the rural farmers through our seminars, workshop and demonstration farm exercises in remote villages and suburban across West Africa.

The broader goals of **AFRICAN CASTOR ACRES FOUNDATION** are to support the vitality and sustainability of the region's agriculture, to build a long-term economic self-reliance and food security among participants and their communities, and to expand access to high-quality, culturally appropriate foods in under-served areas through production of locally-grown foods.



Through strategic alliances we provide Funding for certified Castor Farmers, Farmlands for castor beans cultivation, and most importantly, we procure specialized hybrid castor seed varieties at subsidized prices for farmer-groups. We also have an off-taker who buys up.

We work at different farms located in various communities in Enugu State. We are partnering with various communities and have farms in those communities. Our work takes us anywhere there are people, youths and farmers who desires be trained and sensitized on the benefits of castor production and also train them on how to cultivate castor. Pilot farms will be established in our host communities, and also, we provide the necessary support needed for farmers to thrive in the cultivation of castor beans.

Our project is designed to accommodate every certified member into a group of 10, where an individual will own an acre of castor farm. Every member of every group will be fully involved in the process, we monitor the process for maximum results.

Just like our name, every member owns an acre. We help to set up each farm, monitor and provide support where necessary. Help members with challenges and proffer solutions.

## ACAF Goals



- To place Nigeria and Africa in the world map of major producers and exporters of castor seeds and oil.
- To aid our local castor-based producers and minimize the cost of importing castor-based raw materials.
- To increase the employment rate in Nigeria by providing jobs through castor farming and castor processing.
- To add to the Nigerian GDP.
- To help reduce the growing rate of crime in the country by also engaging the minds of young people and farmers positively.
- To reduce the very high rate of poverty and increase income earnings for farmers and young people.
- To train and retrain members on the best castor farming practices and move with trends and technological advancements.

## Facts About Castor

Castor is one of the valued oil seeds. It is also a major source of biofuel.

It is also important in the making of paints and inks, hair dyes, lubricants serve as coolants for electricity transformers.

Castor is very vital in the pharmaceutical industry. It is used in the production of drugs like anti-inflammatory drugs.

**It is also a very powerful laxative.** It is classified as a stimulant laxative, meaning that it increases the movement of the muscles that push materials through the intestines, helping clear the bowels. Stimulant laxatives act rapidly and are commonly used to relieve temporary constipation.

**Castor oil promotes wound healing.** Applying castor oil to wounds creates a moist environment that promotes healing and prevents sores from drying out. Castor oil promotes tissue growth so that a barrier can be formed between the wound and the environment, decrease risk of infection. It also reduces dryness and cornification, the buildup of dead skin cells that can delay wound healing. Studies have found that ointments containing castor may be especially



helpful in healing pressure ulcers, a type of wound that develops from prolonged pressure on the skin.

**Impressive Anti-Inflammatory effects.** Ricinoleic acid, the main acid found in castor oil, has impressive anti-inflammatory properties. Studies have shown that when castor oil is applied topically, it reduces inflammation and relieves pain. The pain-reducing and anti-inflammatory qualities in the castor oil may be particularly helpful to



those with an inflammatory disease such as rheumatoid, arthritis or psoriasis.

Castor oil is also very effective in the treatment of acne.

Induces labor during pregnancy (childbearing).

Keeps your hair and scalps healthy.

Fights fungus.

**The bottom line:**

People have used castor oil for thousands of years as a powerful natural treatment for a variety of health issues.

It has been shown to help relieve constipation and moisturize dry skin, among many other uses.

In ancient Egypt, castor oil was burned as a fuel in lamps, used as a natural remedy to treat ailment like eye irritation and even given to pregnant women to stimulate labour.

Today, castor oil remains a popular natural treatment for common conditions like constipation and moisturize dry skin, among many other uses.

## Why Become a Sponsor?

The Growers' Grower.

The farmer is the grower, you as a sponsor is growing the farmer who is the grower.

Becoming a sponsor in our castor farm projects is like being "the growers' grower". Sounds interesting right?

That is exactly the idea. The farmer is the grower, you as a sponsor is growing the farmer who is the grower.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of farmers. All our food comes from the farm. Most of the relevant raw materials used in a various production sector.

**African Castor Acres Foundation** is giving you the opportunity to change history and recreate our nation's story.

The farmers in our registry are trained, dedicated and eager to deliver. Most of them lack the initial funds to start off.

This program also avails you as a sponsor direct link with our products and services in the future. You can also earn from the proceeds after sales from your sponsored farm projects.

We at **African Castor Acres** believe that money actually grow difference is, most people have been in the wrong places, and doing the same over again and expecting different

**Foundation** on trees. The looking for money things over and results.

In castor, you cannot loose when you follow the rules.

The market is always there for the

The castor oil is on a high demand

producers. The quality of seeds we are projecting for cultivation is one of the best castor seed type in the whole world. It has very high tolerance, very high yield and very high oil content and one of the finest.

As a sponsor, you have the privilege of choosing the people you wish to sponsor. We have over a hundred registered members in our Foundation. You can also bring in new people that you wish to sponsor, we will train them and certify them as castor farmers if they fulfill all conditions.

You get our recognition in every seminar, events and more.



This one-time sponsorship will be recycled to serve the purpose of setting up more farms and grow more new castor farmers.

## Yield Projections

Castor farming and castor oil processing is a huge money-making venture. The sad thing is, Nigerians are not even aware about the wealth that abounds in this wonder plant.

An acre for every farmer is our goal. This will at least avail the farmer the opportunity to make enough profit and expand by the end of the final harvest (eight months).

The required quantity for an acre is 2kg of the AGF-M hybrid castor seed. The potential yield for an acre of 2kg castor seeds planted will yield up to 1,750kg.

In **African Castor Acres Foundation**, we don't intend to grow farmers individually. Our goal is to grow them in groups of 10 members each. This is to say, each activated farm will have 10 farmers in it. That automatically amount to 10 acres per group.

So our projections will be done in groups.

### Yield Projections for (8 months)

Input	Cost	Yield	ROI
1kg	₦200,000	875kg	\$1,312.5
2kg	₦260,000	1750kg	\$2,625
5kg	₦900,000	4375kg	\$6,562.5
10kg	₦1,500,000	8750kg	\$13,125
20kg	₦2,000,000	17500kg	\$26,250

This 20kg yield is what we project for 10 farmers. That is each farmer will have a share of 2kg each. The 2kg returns is what each farmer will be having at the end of 8months.

This is where growing



money starts on trees

## Community Sponsorship

Our pilot location is Enugu State. However, we don't want to leave anyone behind. This illustration is expressed using Enugu State because it is where we are starting from.

We currently have 17 Local Governments in Enugu State. We want to have at least two groups of pilot farmers emerging from every local government.

This will go a long way in creating jobs and increase the overall output of Enugu State. This will also reduce the poverty rate in the State drastically. And it is a continuous project.

Since we will be having 2 groups in each Local Government, and there are 17 Local Governments in Enugu State.

We will be having 20 pilot farmers from each Local Government (least)

$20 \times 17 = 340$  this means we will be having 340 pilot farmers from Enugu State. Total number of pilot farmers = total number of acres. This amounts to 136 hectares.

$340 \times 2 = 680$  this means that 680kg of castor the AGF-M hybrid castor seeds will be planted.

$680 \times 775 = 527,000$  this means that total expected returns of castor seeds after harvest is 527,000kg (527 tons) in 8months.

$527,000 \times 1,312.5 = 691,687,500$  this means that in 8months, the castor farmers and castor farms in Enugu State will be generating \$691,687,500.

This is simply amazing.

## Other Sponsorships

Our organization also need sponsors who can provide farm equipment like tractors and other relevant farm tools.

With these tools in place, it will save a lot of funds, time and improve productivity.

Farmers will have access to all farm equipment when needed and they will be properly supervised and handled by expert operators.



## Conclusion and Recommendations

Castor oil plant is a typical golden crop which stands out as a strategic commodity for varieties of industries and nations. Its oil is strategic to USA national security. Its production contributes millions of dollars to India, China and Brazil economy.

Indeed, castor is seen as an ideal candidate for agricultural revenue-generating produce which has the potential to become the premier vegetable oil plant across the globe, generating thousands of jobs for African youth and women. The local and international markets are guaranteed.

Its oil has proven excellent performance for production of high value products in industrial world. The high potential yield and unique fatty acid composition allow castor oil to produce economically competitive feedstock needed for production of premium quality biodiesel, short chain aviation fuels, derived fuel lubrication additives and very high value biopolymers.

**Now is a good time to be a sponsor in the revolution of castor in Nigeria and Africa.**

