

**A REPORT ON THE 38TH FARMERS DAY CELEBRATION HELD ON 2ND
DECEMBER, 2022 AT GORM D/A SCHOOL PARK**

INTRODUCTION

The 38th farmers' day celebration was held at Gorm D/A School Park on the 2nd December, 2022 with the theme, 'Accelerating Agricultural Development through Value Addition'. The programme was graced by the District Chief Executive, Hon Sarah Dugbakie Pobee, the District Director of Agriculture, Mr. Victor Avah, the Mankralo of Ada Traditional Council, and Nene Obitchere III who was the Chairman for the programme, Assembly Members, and some Assembly Staff.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF AGRIC

The District Director for Agriculture, Mr. Victor Avah welcomed everyone to the programme and thanked all farmers for their hard work despite the harsh weather conditions and encouraged farmers to consecrate themselves to good Agricultural practices.

KEYNOTES ADDRESS BY THE DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. The District Chief Executive (D.C.E) for Ada East District Assembly, Hon. Sarah Dugbakie Pobee urged farmers within the District to venture into value addition to increase revenue. Speaking on the theme, 'Accelerating Agricultural Development through Value Addition', Hon. Sarah stated that if Ghana is to maximize the benefit within the Agricultural Sector, then it is imperative to scale up investment in the Sector especially in the areas of development of irrigation processing, value addition and storage.
2. She assured the farmers that, the Government and the District will continue to massively invest in the development of the Agricultural Sector to ensure increased productivity, thereby increasing food security and higher levels of income for farmers and all stakeholders in the value chain.

3. Hon. Sarah stated that, despite the Russia-Ukraine war, which has negatively affected the importation of goods including food and fertilizer into our country, the Government is putting strategies in place to prevent food crisis.
4. She also stated that there are a lot of Agribusinesses along the Agricultural value chain that require discovery and development by individuals and groups within the district and beyond. Some of the Agribusiness programs undertaken by the district include;
 - The Ghana Peri-Urban Vegetable Value Chain Project (GPVVCP)
 - Pilot Research Project for Tomato Production in Ghana
5. To end her speech, she stated that the District has benefitted from a number of programs initiated by the Government under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Some of the programs include;
 - Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ)
 - Planting for Export and Rural Development
 - Fall Army Worm (FAW)

MESSAGE BY THE CHAIRMAN

Nene Agudey Obitchere III, Mankralo of Ada Traditional Area and Vice President of Ada Traditional Council who chaired the occasion also admonished the farmers to take advantage of the programs and initiatives by the Government and the Assembly to add value to their produce to increase revenue.

AWARDS

The District Chief Executive (D.C.E), Hon Sarah Dugbakie Pobee, together with the District Director for Agriculture, Mr. Victor Avah and the Chairman, Nene Agudey Obitchere III conferred the District Best Farmer Award on Mr. Ebenezer Adolf Tetteh Ayornu for his dedication and hardwork over the years.

Mr. Ayornu is forty-five (45) years old and has been farming for the past twenty (20) years.

He has over eighty-four (84) acres of farmlands and grows crops like tomatoes, watermelon, okro, cassava, maize, chile pepper and other vegetables. He also rears livestock like cattle, goats, pigs and some local birds. Mr. Ayornu has supported and trained over twenty six (26) youth in his community. He was awarded the overall best farmer due to his incorporation of modern technology into farming and his use of good agricultural practices.

He was awarded a rice miller, refrigerator, Knapsack sprayers, fertilizers, and other farming equipment.

Mr. Daniel Tetteh Asigbey (Best Crop Farmer), Nene Osusey Ackwerh II (Best Livestock Farmer), Mr. Evans Danso (Best Aquaculture Farmer), Mr. John Ofotsu McCarthy (Best Physically Challenged Farmer), and Mr. Agbetiamah Moses Tetteh (Best Agric Extension Agent) were also awardees during the occasion.

In all, six (6) farmers were awarded with certificates and items like refrigerators, Knapsack sprayers, machetes, wellington boots, Television set, bicycle and other farming equipment.

The awardees said they were honored to be chosen among the many farmers and were even encouraged to work harder.

CONCLUSION

The program came to a successful end with everyone pleased and encouraged to add value to their produce by engaging in modern farming practices.

SIGNED

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