

Yam facts

Tackling yam viruses will expand production leading to more food security, increased income and improved health

Join
our
network
connectedvirus.net



- ✓ A preferred staple food for over 300 million people in west Africa
- ✓ Can be eaten roasted, boiled, fried or ground as flour
- ✓ Some yam species used in pharmaceutical compounds
- ✓ Drought tolerant and flexible in harvesting
- ✓ High in market value: a major income source for smallholder farmers

Aphids spread yam mosaic virus, causing the most economically damaging viral disease of yams in west Africa – average yield loss of 40%

93%
of world yam
(61.6m
tonnes)
is produced
in western
Africa

Yam viruses impact the number, size and weight of yam tubers

Sources: www.connectedvirus.net/infographics