Hermetic Storage Bags

“A smart and healthy way to store your grain”
AWISI LINDIWE AND HIS WIFE ARE SMALL SCALE FARMERS SOMEWHERE IN RURAL ZAMBIA...

Have you noticed the way Komaki always has good and clean grain all year round?

Yes, I have. In fact, his grain is never attacked by pests.

Exactly my wife. We end up losing a lot of grain which we could have consumed later in the year or even sold at the market to supplement our income. I will need to find out from Komaki how he does it so well.

TRUE AWISI LINDIWE. WE NEED TO FIND OUT HOW KOMAKI MANAGES TO STORE HIS GRAIN WITH ZERO LOSSES. I WISH I COULD GO WITH YOU BUT AS YOU KNOW, IT’S THAT DAY FOR ME TO GO FOR ANTENATAL AT THE CLINIC.

I HOPE TODAY’S SESSION WON’T TAKE VERY LONG.

CLINIC
WELCOME LADIES...TODAY’S TOPIC IS ABOUT NUTRITION. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR PREGNANT WOMEN TO BE EATING NUTRITIOUS, HEALTHY HOMEMADE FOODS SO THAT YOU AND THE BABY CAN STAY HEALTHY AND STRONG. PLEASE AVOID CONSUMING FOODS THAT CONTAIN HARMFUL CHEMICALS ESPECIALLY THOSE USED IN GRAIN STORAGE.

THOSE CHEMICALS, IF CONSUMED CAN CAUSE SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS SUCH AS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, CANCER AND OTHER COMPLICATIONS FOR YOU AND THE BABY.

AWISI LINDIWE VISITS KOMAKI...

HOW ARE YOU MY FELLOW FARMER?

HOW ARE YOU MY FRIEND? WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE THIS EARLY?
I've been wondering. We harvest the same yield and we have the same family size but we don't manage to keep our grain up to the next harvest season like you do. What's your secret?

Don't tell me you don't know about the hermetic bag?

What's that my friend?

Let's go inside the house I will show you.

This is how I store my grain: the hermetic bag keeps it safe from insect pests and moisture. I don't have to worry about storage losses. ....... but are they not expensive?

Not at all my friend, they are affordable. Of course, they cost more than an ordinary bag but remember they have many more benefits. Let me explain more.
The hermetic storage bags are airtight and water proof bags that are used to store grain to reduce post-harvest losses.

They have one or two layers/plastics that prevent insects or pests from entering the sack and those already in the sack are killed because there is no air coming in or going out.
They are more durable, can be used for more than 3 years,
- you do not need to spend money on chemicals.
- 'You can't buy life'.

- They preserve the quantity but also the nutritional quality including colour, flavour aroma, taste, and freshness
- you can also consume the grain any time, there is no waiting period.
- Besides, this is how people store their grain - be smart!
1. Step 1
Check and test to ensure the bag and plastics are air tight and not punctured.

2. Pour a small amount of grain into the first liner to allow it to be more easily inserted into the second liner. Then put both liners into the outer bag and fold the lips of the three bags together from inside.

3. - Make sure no grain gets between the liners to avoid punching the liners.
   - Ensure a lip remains at the top for tying

4. Fill the inner bag with grain while shaking gently to remove pockets of air.
5. Gently twist the lip of the innermost liner forcing the trapped air out.

6. ...fold it over and tie.

7. Tuck the knot from the first liner inside and repeat for the second liner.

8. Finally, fold and tie the outer bag.
Put the bag of grains away in a safe and clean environment on a raised platform or logs. Leave enough passage between the sacks and the wall. Do not drop grain in the storage room to avoid rat attacks.

WHERE CAN I GET THESE BAGS? I HEAR THEY ARE VERY EXPENSIVE.

NOOO! NOT AT ALL MY FRIEND THEY ARE QUITE AFFORDABLE AND CAN LAST ABOUT THREE YEARS IF PROPERLY USED.

LET'S GO! I CAN TAKE YOU THERE. I KNOW AN AGRO AGENT BY THE CORNER.
They meet Amake Lindiwe on their way to the Agro Shop.

AWISI Lindiwe explains to her about the effectiveness of hermetic bags.

Oh, thanks for letting me know about the hermetic bags. The fact that they store the grain in a natural way without adding any chemicals that can badly affect my health and that of the baby. It reminds me of the lesson we had today at the clinic about making sure that we eat healthy nutritious homemade food without chemicals that can badly affect our health in the long run.

This is a great way of keeping our grain safe. I can't wait to start using this formula with my wife. Here she comes. Let me tell her about this.

Hello Madam......

That's very true.

The advice you got was very helpful. Let me go and buy the hermetic bags.

Back home Awisi Lindiwe shows his wife how to use the hermetic bags...

I'm so impressed with this idea and the benefits are worth it.

I need 7 by 100kg hermetic bags.

Right away sir.
When I go for the savings group meeting, I will remember to let my fellow farmers know about this solution to grain losses I have been facing over the years.

That's perfect. We can't keep the good news to ourselves.

Safer storage...

...and healthier nutrition.

The end...