In a humid climate, it is not enough to just dry a commodity (dried food or seeds); dried commodities must also be packaged to prevent rehydration from rain or the ambient air. Research suggests that one-third of total food produced is lost before reaching the consumer and not maintaining the dryness of food stores leads to the proliferation of mycotoxins in the African food and feed system.

DryCard™ is a cost-effective technology developed by the Horticulture Innovation Lab at UC Davis for monitoring ambient relative humidity (RH). It has a laminated RH indicator strip, consisting of cobalt-chloride, with an adjacent RH reference color scale. The back of the strip is exposed to the ambient air and the cobalt-chloride strip changes color in response to the ambient RH.

Simply place the DryCard™ and the dried product inside a sealed, transparent container allowing the card to be visually seen from outside of the container. After 30 to 60 minutes, the RH of the ambient air inside the sealed container — and consequently the RH of the product — will be indicated by the color of the cobalt chloride strip (see photo).

By properly drying the product prior to storage or including various drying agents or desiccants inside a sealed container, the RH of the ambient air inside should be kept below 65% RH, preventing the growth of any microorganisms or fungi.

**Application: Dried food and seeds storage**

To obtained more information: contact +66 89 685 2808

**1/3 of total food produced is lost before reaching the consumer and the lack of management of the dryness of food stores is responsible for wide distribution of mycotoxins...**

**About GO Organics**

GO Organics is a social enterprise based in Thailand. Working with Kasertsart University UC Davis Horticulture Innovation Lab, GO Organics’ mission is to enable small holder farmers and producers moving towards regenerative agriculture by creating an effective market place for them in selling their organic produce.

For more info: connect@goorganics.org or visit us at www.goorganics.org

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(1) (Gustavsson, Cederberg, Sonesson, Van Otterdijk, & Meybeck, 2011; Rockefeller Foundation, 2013)  (2) (Chulze, 2010; Magan & Aldred, 2007; Unnevehr & Grace, 2013).