

# Waxing of fresh cassava roots to extend the shelf-life and increase marketability



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Extend shelf-life of fresh cassava

The waxing technology for cassava roots starts from careful cultivation to produce commercially acceptable roots. Before harvest, leaves are pruned to prevent damage. After harvest, roots are sorted, washed, weighed, disinfected, and dried at a pack-house. Finally, a food-grade wax is applied to extend their shelf-life.

This technology is **TAAT1 validated**.
 
**7·7**

 Scaling readiness: idea maturity 7/9; level of use 7/9

Gender assessment 4

Climate impact 7

Technology originally documented by  
ProPAS

Commodities  
Cassava

Sustainable Development Goals

Categories  
Prevention & storage, Practices, Post-harvest management

Tested/adopted in

■ Tested & adopted  
■ Adopted  
■ Tested

### Problem

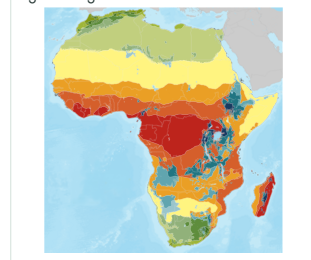
- **Deterioration:** Cassava roots deteriorate rapidly post-harvest.
- **Marketability:** Their size, shape, and harvest damage affect marketability.
- **Food Security:** Short shelf-life limits availability, affecting food security.

### Solution

- **Preservation:** Waxing extends freshness and protects cassava roots.
- **Shelf-life:** It significantly extends the roots' shelf-life.
- **Food Security:** The technology enhances food security by ensuring longer availability of cassava roots.

<p><b>126 USD/ton</b> total cost for waxing</p>	<p><b>32 %</b> Marginal rate of return when compared to unwaxed roots.</p>
<p><b>3,000—5,000 USD</b> Estimated investment cost for an "all-inclusive" packhouse or processing centre, including water supply</p>	<p> <b>IP</b> Open source / open access</p>

Where it can be used  
This technology can be used in the colored agro-ecological zones.



Target groups  
Farmers



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<https://e-catalogs.taatafrica.org/org/technologies/waxing-of-fresh-cassava-roots-to-extend-the-shelf-life-and-increase-marketability>

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