

Intro

Dear parents, brothers and sisters, Hello!

In recent years we have witnessed: a strong irregularity of rainfall in our communities and this saddens us greatly.

I respond to the name of Abiré, your daughter and sister who loved agriculture and who continued his studies in this direction in order to bring more to our communities. To this end, I have found it useful to tell you about the use of agricultural waste for better water retention in the soil. Can we start?

This year several corn fields have dried up, because producers have put down fertilizer, not knowing that it would not rain in the coming days. We let us see then that famine could arise in our communities if, several of them we are affected by this problem. Besides; we have agricultural waste like the remains of corn and millet crops...that we abandon while they could be used to retain more water in our soils.

So how can we turn this waste into food for the soil? It's very simple! In French, we will call it biochar and to obtain it, you just need to burn the harvest residues in an almost closed barrel (so that it does not neither turns into ash, nor does the smoke extinguish the fire). After 15 minutes, the contents will be poured out and left to cool. It will be used with mixed manure and will take it to the field at least 2 months before the next season.

This technique, already used in the North of Benin and the South of Togo, was appreciated by the producers, and especially that they spent almost nothing to do it. There-
low, producers have understood the importance of using sustainable practices and Some producers even produce biochar in quantity for the marketing. This practice not only helps retain water in the soil, but also helps the soil to recover its previous nature leading to an increase in

yield. We also know that soil that retains water does not need rains every day!

This is why I strongly encourage us to practice this method because the time is really; but really serious! according to some brothers and parents of our community, the purchase of the barrel is the only major drawback to practice; but on the other hand this barrel could be bought by several producers and it has a very long lifespan; also, we can no longer hoping without being able to act in the face of the incessant rains that destroy our crops. I firmly believe that agriculture will take on a better face with the efforts of all!

Dear parents and brothers, we have reached the end of our audio. I really hope that many will find their smile again with the use of this practice.

Thank you for listening.