

Osho Grain Millers Ltd builds maize mill

Osho Grain Millers Ltd wanted to increase production of maize (corn) flour while also having the flexibility to produce other products. The company opted to build a new 200-tpd mill in Ruiru, Kenya, with processing equipment supplied by Ocrim, based in Cremona, Italy.

The mill is 390 square meters and has four floors plus the ground floor. The milling equipment is in a self-supporting metal structure inside a warehouse. Grain storage capacity is 4,000 tonnes.

The facility, which sources most of its corn locally, is designed to produce maize flour for ugali, a staple meal popular in Kenya. It can also produce corn grits

that can be used by breweries and in the production of snacks.

Byproducts include animal meal, a product rich in fibers and fats, and corn germ, which can be integrated into the animal meal or used as a standalone product for the extraction of edible oil.

Ocrim supplied the mill's cleaning section that includes a control scale, grain separator, classifying aspirator and destoner. Capacity is 10 tph. The degermination and classifying section has a capacity of 8.3 tph and includes dry impact degerminators and densimetric tables.

Within the milling section, Ocrim supplied the roller mills and plansifters.

Corn first enters the cleaning section, coarse/fine, where light impurities and stones are removed. After a brief tempering, the corn is processed through impact degerminators type DGF that gently break the maize kernels, separating the germ from the vitreous part.

After the degerminators, the product is then classified by size through the sifter in different size of grits and germ. Through the gravity tables, the germ is then separated by density from the grits.

In the milling section, the degermed grits are reduced to the required granulation for their specific use.

The plant is fully automated with a dedicated control system to monitor, in real time, the status of each section, from storage to packing. Alarm systems are in place on each piece of equipment. All the systems are managed through a PLC centralized computer. **WG**



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Photo courtesy of Ocrim