

## CGCEO Seminar

**Friday February 20, 2015,  
11:00 AM**

**Room 105 Manly Miles Building**

### **Topic 1: In search of middle ground:**

**Coupling scientific experimentation with  
co-learning for enhanced use of  
agricultural innovations by poor farmers**

**Speaker: Regis Chikowo, PhD**



**Regis Chikowo** is an Assistant Professor in MSU's Plant, Soil & Microbial Sciences Department with interests in nutrient cycling on smallholder farms in sub-Saharan Africa. Much of his research has focused on finding models for increasing use efficiencies of scarce nutrients resources on these farms, recognizing the diversity of both farms (soil resource base) and farmers (resource endowments). He also has special interests in harnessing biological N<sub>2</sub>-fixation for improved nitrogen economy on farms. Regis will outline approaches being employed in implementing the Africa RISING (Research In Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation) in Malawi.

### **Topic 2: Making sense of the middle ground:**

**Adding value to participatory research efforts  
using cropping systems modelling.**



**Speaker: John Dimes, PhD**

**John Dimes** reports that, despite appearances, he is not yet retired and is not even a grandfather! After 14 years working for the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), mostly based in Zimbabwe, he is now an independent agricultural consultant assisting research projects with APSIM applications and training. Professionally, he is a cropping systems agronomist with (some) expertise on soil N and C dynamics. His main interest these days is assisting research projects to work more effectively for smallholder farmers in rainfed cropping systems of eastern and southern Africa.

***Please join us!  
Refreshment will be served  
At 10:45***

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