

# **ARTEMISININ PRODUCTION IN EAST AFRICA**

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# PRODUCTION CAPACITY IN EAST AFRICA

Two Operating Artemisinin Producers:

- Botanical Extracts EPZ Ltd. Kenya
- Afro Alpine Ltd. Uganda.
- Close Cooperation.

Nominal Production Capacity – Combined:

- Approximately 25 tons per year. Not yet operating at this level.
- Pure Artemisinin (No derivatization).

# GENERAL OVERVIEW

## **Processing:**

- Achieving viable recovery rates was initially a major challenge.
- Now solved – good quality product and competitive efficiencies.

## **Raw Material:**

- One year crop cycle.
- New crop – Effective Production Systems being established.

## **Potential for Further Improvement:**

- There are significant potential improvements to be made.
- Steady progress is being made in doing this.

# COMBINED OUTPUT VOLUMES

## 2012:

- < 5 tons
- Raw material significantly less than previous production:
  - Increasing competition with higher food prices.
  - Disappointing results from Contract Suppliers.
  - Third parties buying BE leaf – did not happen before.
  - Unusual rainfall.

## 2013:

- Targeted production – approx. 14 tons
- Restructuring of raw material production chain:
  - Higher prices to compete with higher food prices.
  - Expansion of directly controlled production.
  - Better auditing of crops close to harvest and leaf security.

# MARKET ISSUES

- Off-take and pricing remain volatile.
- Concern of overproduction and lower prices is still very high.
- Clarification on Synthetics progress/policy urgently required.
  - Confirm Stated policy to supplement Natural Artemisinin.
  - Can it be used to stabilize prices.
  - Target price range.
  - Timelines.
- Possibility to diversify production remains a high priority.