**Project Title:** Effects of various supplements on performance of beef cattle and on rumen microbial community

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<th>Institute</th>
<th>Arid and Range Lands Research Institute</th>
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<td>Center(s)</td>
<td>KALRO Kiboko</td>
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<td>Principal Investigator</td>
<td>Bernard Korir;</td>
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<td>Other investigators</td>
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**Problem Statement**
Feeding of livestock continues to pose many problems due to lack of information on composition and utilization of locally available feed resources. These problems are aggravated by lack of access to and high cost of feed inputs. The use of cheap and readily available local feed resources has great potential to increase livestock productivity.

**Objective(s)**
To contribute towards the improvement of beef cattle production in the agro-pastoral production systems of Southeastern Kenya through evaluation of suitability of Bracharia, Cassava and Azolla for supplementation.

**Planned Activities**
1. Survey on cassava production and utilization
2. Feeding trial on effects of different feed supplement on performance of weaner cattle
3. Determine the effects of different feeds on rumen microbial diversity

**Outputs**
1. Production and chemical composition of Bracharia, Cassava and Azolla from across different ecological zones was documented
2. Feed supplements from Bracharia, Cassava and Azolla from Southeastern Kenya was formulated and evaluated
3. Influence of the feed supplements on rumen microbial populations in beef cattle was determined and documented

**Outcomes**

**Budget**
2,236,500.00

**Start date**
2013-01-01

**End date**
2017-04-30

**Funded by**
EU-ASAL APRP;

**Collaborators**