Tumbukiza!

A Better Way To Grow Napier Grass For More Milk

PRODUCTION AREAS
Low to medium altitude areas of Kenya

NAPIER GRASS VARIETIES
* Bana
* Clone 13
* French Cameroon
* Pakistan Hybrid

SOURCES OF NAPIER FOR PLANTING
* Research institutions
* Other farmers
* Ministry of Agriculture

TYPES OF TUMBUKIZA
1. The round pit type
2. The rectangular pit type

FOR ROUND PITS
Dig pits 2 feet in diameter by 2 feet deep.
The rows of pits should be 2 feet apart.
FOR RECTANGULAR PITS
* Dig pits 2 feet deep by 2 - 3 feet wide.
* The length of the pit can vary depending on available land.
* The pits should be 3 feet apart.
* Separate top-soil from sub-soil.

PLANTING
Mix 1 debe of top-soil with 1 to 2 debes of farmyard manure and put into the pits. For the rectangular pit put the top-soil/manure mixture for every 3 feet length.

- Leave about 6 inches unfilled space at the top of each pit.
- Plant 5 - 10 cane cuttings or single root splits in round pits.
- In the rectangular pits, plant 5 - 10 cuttings or single root splits for every 3 feet length.
Mix 1 ded of top-soil with 1-2 debes of farmyard manure

Plants 5-10 cuttings per pit

**MANAGEMENT**

* Hand weed, if there are any weeds
* Use spaces between the pits to grow other crops, especially sweet potatoes.
* Apply farmyard manure or slurry after every 4 to 6 harvests.
HOW TO HARVEST

- Do not graze animals directly on Napier grass
- Cut Napier grass when 2 to 3 ft tall

FEEDING
Feed 70 kg or 7 headloads of fresh unchopped Napier grass to a dairy cow per day.

One acre of Tumbukiza Napier grass can give enough feed for 2 to 3 dairy cows for one year.

WHY TUMBUKIZA IS BETTER

- Better growth in the dry season.
- Feed available even during the dry season.
- More milk.
- More money from increased milk sales.

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