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Sustainable Agricultural Livelihood Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resilience in Kenya

Guidelines on Sustainable Ruminant Feeds and Nutrition Security for Kenya

CHAPTER 3 KEY PILLARS AND ISSUES ON RUMINANT FEED AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.3.1 Strategic Issue 1. Poor feed quality

The following are the critical factors contributing to poor feed quality

- i. Poor feed handling (processing, conservation, formulation, storage, transportation, adulteration) leads to spoilage, nutrient loss, and contamination, reducing the quality of the feed and the productivity of the ruminants.
- ii. Few of the operational laboratories are not accredited, can analyse limited quality parameters, are located far from the farmer, take long periods to analyse samples, and the high cost of analysis is prohibitive, particularly to the small-scale farmer
- iii. Limited skills of the feed business operators can lead to inefficiencies, poor quality feed, and reduced profitability.
- iv. Limited regulation of feed business operators leads to substandard feeds, reduced productivity, and increased incidence of ruminant diseases.
- v. Few watering points and contaminated water sources