



Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
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Emergency Locust Response Program
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Sustainable Agricultural Livelihood Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resilience in Kenya

Guidelines on Sustainable Ruminant Feeds and Nutrition Security for Kenya

CHAPTER 4 STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS RUMINANT FEED AND NUTRITION INSECURITY

4.3 Pillar 3. Feed utilisation

The factors influencing feed utilisation include its quality, safety, standards, processing, and value addition, among other factors. This section contains the strategic interventions to address the critical issues hindering feed utilisation

4.3.1 Intervention 1. Strategies to improve feed quality

4.3.1.1 Improve feed handling (harvesting, processing, conservation, storage, transportation, adulteration)

- i. Harvest pastures and fodder at optimal yield and quality (Timely feed harvesting to maintain optimum levels of ME, CP, CF and weight of the feed)
- ii. Feed processing to increase palatability and utilisation (chopping, pulverising, grinding, roasting, decorticating/ dehulling, crumbling, dry rolling, flaking, pressure cooking, exploding, pelleting, reconstituting, extruding)
- iii. Feed value-addition including crop residues (treatment, leaf meal, feed blocks, fortification, densification, supplements, probiotics, feed formulation)
- iv. Train farmers and feed handlers on proper feed handling practices, including cleaning and disinfection of storage and transportation equipment and sound storage practices.
- v. Provide farmers with appropriate storage facilities and materials, such as moisture-proof bags and silos.
- vi. Develop and enforce regulations on feed handling practices to ensure compliance with standards and reduce adulteration.
- vii. Packaging and labelling for enhanced phytosanitary requirements.

4.3.1.2 Limited accredited laboratory services for feed quality standards and weak enforcement

- i. Increased the number of accredited laboratories and improve their capacity to analyse a broader range of feed quality parameters.
- ii. Reduce the analysis cost by subsidising laboratory services or establishing public-private partnerships to provide affordable laboratory services to small-scale farmers.
- iii. Strengthen regulatory agencies to enhance monitoring and enforcement of feed quality standards.
- iv. Facilitate capacity building and accreditation of existing feed testing laboratories
- v. Establishment of more feed testing laboratories at the County level
- vi. Create awareness of the need for feed testing
- vii. Train more laboratory staff on feed testing



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4.3.1.3 Limited skills of the feed business operators

- i. Develop and implement training programs for feed business operators on feed production, formulation, storage, and marketing.
- ii. Provide access to technical assistance and mentorship to enhance skills and knowledge transfer.
- iii. Establish business development services centres to provide support in business planning, financial management, and marketing

4.3.1.4 Limited regulation of feed business operators

- i. Develop and enforce feed quality and safety standards, including regulations on feed additives and processing practices.
- ii. Establish a licensing system to regulate feed production and marketing, focusing on small-scale producers.
- iii. Conduct regular inspections and monitoring of feed production facilities to ensure compliance with standards and regulations.
- iv. Enforce feed operators' registration with KEBS and follow Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs)
- v. Enforce feed regulations- labelling, ingredient standards, and manufacturing practices.
- vi. Skill capacity building of the feed business operators
- vii. Enforce operationalisation of feed quality standards
- viii. Establish feed-quality surveillance systems