

Livestock sector

In the FY 2020-2021 an estimated 111.7 million litres of milk were produced, 63.3 million litres sold formally

Nyeri livestock farmers take home Kshs. 1.95 billion



Story & Photos | Governor's Press Unit

Livestock are the domesticated animals raised in an agricultural setting to provide labour and produce commodities such as meat, eggs, milk, fur, leather, and wool.

The term is sometimes used to

refer solely to animals that are raised for consumption, and sometimes used to refer solely to farmed ruminants, such as cattle, sheep and goats.

Nyeri livestock farmers earned Kshs. 1.951 billion which was generated from the sale of various livestock products including beef,

chevon, mutton, poultry meat, pork, eggs and honey during the year 2020-2021.

In the Livestock sector, dairy continues to be a major enterprise in the county with a total of about 192,483 dairy cows and about 80% of the rural house hold keeping at least a dairy cow.

During the year, an estimated 111.7 million litres of milk were produced with about 63.3 million litres having been sold formally through dairy cooperatives and self-help groups within the County.

Continued on page 2,3&4

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In this period, the prices of milk oscillated between Kshs.32- 40 at the processor level to Kshs. 33-37 per litre to the farmer. Most of the dairy animals are crosses of the main dairy breeds like Friesian, Ayrshire, Guernsey and Jersey. The animals are kept mainly in zero-grazing and semi -intensive systems especially in Kieni sub counties. During the period under review a total of 25 cooperatives societies and 37 self-help groups were active in the marketing of the milk across the county.

The poultry industry comes in second in importance with an estimated population of 804,433 birds followed by sheep at 143,752 and goats (both dairy and meat). Indigenous poultry continues to play an important role as an income generating activity especially in the poor to average households.

Other enterprises like bee keeping are slowly picking though honey production has not been very good nor consistent as is largely dictated by the weather conditions, while pig farming keeps fluctuating depending on

prevailing market conditions.

Dairy goat keeping continued to rise especially due to support from the county which has been assisting farmers with breeding bucks and does. On the other hand, rabbit keeping has been very silent with a very insignificant growth in the enterprise probably due to lack of a coordinated market of the rabbit meat

and products.

On extension activities, normal training programmes and methodologies through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries were greatly affected by the second and third wave of Covid-19 leading to minimal officer to farmer contact and engagement.

However, a few extension activities were conducted using favourable approaches like; -

- **Outdoor group trainings with minimal attendance**
- **Office consultations and issue resolution**
- **Demonstrations and Individual farm visits**

According to the Livestock Acting Director Warugongo Theuri, the livestock industry especially milk production remained steady in comparison to previous year due to availability and stability of fodder and pastures particularly during the first half of the year.

In general, there was also been a tremendous progress in livestock production leading to increase in population of species, improvement in body conditions and reduction in mortalities due to the tireless efforts by the County Government of Nyeri under the stewardship of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga.

Apart from the above- mentioned existence of conducive weather conditions, some of the contributing factors also are due to other initiatives including support by

PRICES OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

PRODUCT	UNIT	MARCH 2021
BEEF STEAK	KG	500.00
BEEF MIXED WITH BONE	KG	400.00
OFFAL	KG	280.00
MUTTON/CHEVON	KG	450.00
PORK	KG	350.00
BROILERS	BIRD	450.00
LOCAL POULTRY	BIRD	500.00
LAYER CULLS	BIRD	450.00
RAW MILK	LITRE	45.00
MILK MALA	LITRE	70.00
CRUDE HONEY	KG	500.00
REFINED HONEY	KG	1000.00
WAX	KG	800.00
EGGS	TRAY	360.00



the county government, national government projects and other stakeholders.

During the period contained in the 30-page report, several farm-

er groups also benefited through empowerment and procurement of breeding stocks, establishment of livestock infrastructures and also by dissemination of appropriate technologies extensively through farmers' groups trainings mainly by county government of Nyeri, KCSAP, SIVAP, ASDSP and Upper Tana projects.

Besides the support from the county and the National government through the above - mentioned projects, the directorate also had collaborated mainly with other stakeholders in order to ensure that services delivery was achieved. It is hoped that going forward the impacts and conditions within the sector will continue to improve with more funding from the county government, support of other stakeholders and conducive weather patterns as has been the case.

Going forward, there is extreme need for the government to employ more staff as well improving on facilitation on the existing personnel in order to bridge the existing gap of one technical officer serving over 8,000 farmers within

the sub-county.

During the reporting period the Covid -19 pandemic affected the flow of work leading to lowered achievements especially for activities that required field visits or group congregation whereby an officer was required to limit the number of farmers attending a training at any given time meaning fewer farmers were reached.

However, as the Government continued to give directions it was possible to do some of the activities while observing Covid -19 containment measures. Some activities that were achieved included group training through support of ASDSP II project, SIVAP and laying of soil and water conservation structures through support of Upper Tana project.

Livestock Production Projects and Programmes:

The main collaborating projects

include:

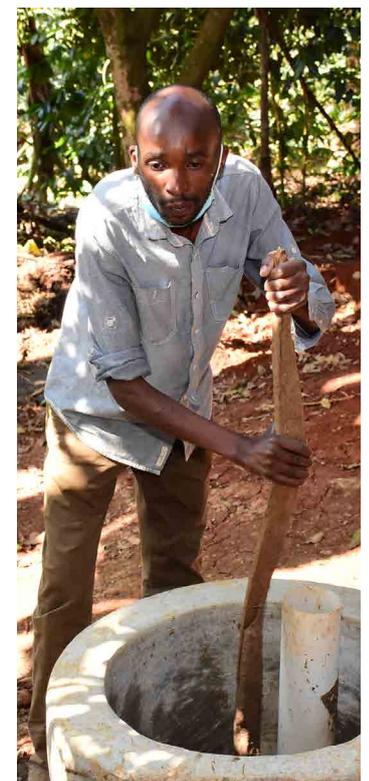
1. NDMA - National Drought Management Authority

The authority seeks to address issues that relate to food security so as to cushion the farmers from impacts of climate change. Recently, the Authority launched the Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) programme, with the aim of building the communities resilience through timely response and mitigation actions by the relevant actors.

The authority is also involved in activities geared towards Community Managed Disaster Risk reduction through enhancing their capacities to cope with any occurrences.

2. Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP)

This project is running in three



Total revenue is Kshs. 1,951,293,370

The price of the livestock products remained relatively stable throughout the year. Milk payment to members of dairy cooperative societies remained fairly stable with a slight rise as compared to previous year.



sub counties within Nyeri. Its main objective is to increase productivity and build resilience to climate change risks in the targeted small holder farming communities. The project addresses climate issue through five components. The project is operating in 3 sub counties and 6 wards as follows; Thegu and Gakawa in Kieni East, Gatarakwa and Mugunda in Kieni West and Rugi ward in Mukurweini.

During the year under review, farmer groups continued to undergo trainings on various dairy and poultry husbandry practices through the service providers. Some CIGs are still sourcing their additional breeding materials and equipment as need arises and as per the proposals through the support of the technical and procurement officer. During the period in mention, the project performed exceptionally well and Nyeri was recognized as the best

3. SIVAP – Small Holder Irrigation and Value Addition Project

The project operates within Ndiriti Aguthi Water Project area in Naromoru- Kiamathaga ward, with the objective of attaining “A food-secure and prosperous nation”, and Mission, “An innovative, commercially oriented and modern agriculture”, lays the foundation for the MTIP which forms the implementation framework (MTIP). The key target of the ASDS is to sustain a 7 percent agriculture sector annual growth rate. It is deemed that this level of growth for the agriculture sector will yield the momentum to address poverty and food insecurity and contribute to the development of a modern, competitive sector. This will ultimately result in an overall annual GDP growth

rate of 10 percent envisaged by the economic pillar of Vision 2030 within the life of the ASDS.

The ASDS focuses on five strategic objectives:

- (i) **Increasing productivity and promoting commercialization and competitiveness of all crops, livestock, marine and fisheries, and forestry;**
- (ii) **Promoting private sector participation in all aspects of agricultural development;**
- (iii) **Developing and managing the national water resources, land resources, forestry, and wildlife in a sustainable manner;**
- (iv) **Reforming agricultural service, credit, research, regulatory, processing and manufacturing institutions for efficiency and effectiveness;**
- (v) **Increasing market access and trade through development of cooperatives and**

agribusiness.

4. Climate Smart Agriculture-FAO (CSA) – in Kieni West

The project operates within Endarasha / Mwiyo ward, with an aim of promoting climate smart agriculture technologies in order to increase productivity, enhance the resilience of the farming community while reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

5. World Vision

Operates within Kieni West with an aim of building the capacities of the farming community and enhancing their resilience for improved livelihoods through increased production for food and nutrition security.

6. Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Programme (UTaNMRP)

7. Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP)



Governor commissions Ihithe dairy cooling plant

Story | Joseph Wambugu & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The dairy industry in Nyeri county is one of the leading value chains with an estimated herd of 193,000 dairy cows and about 80% of the rural households keeping at least one dairy cow.

In the year 2020/2021, Nyeri farmers produced over 126 million liters of milk, which was sold through the 25 active cooperative societies and self-help groups earning them Kshs. 5.6 billion.

To reduce on post-production losses of milk, the Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries has been supporting farmer groups with milk cooling facilities and value addition equipment.

In collaboration with National Government, 25 milk coolers have been issued to dairy co-operative societies and self help groups, i.e. 19 coolers from National Govern-



ment and six milk coolers from County Government of Nyeri. In Tetu Sub County, dairy cattle population of 27,000 animals, the annual milk production is 15 million litres with an estimated value of milk produced in Tetu being

Ksh. 540 million.

It is on this note that Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Wamagana MCA Hon. Sebastian Mugo, commissioned a modern milk cooling plant at Ihithe Farmers Cooperative Society.

Through the intervention of the County Government of Nyeri, the cooperative society received 2,000 litres capacity cooler, prime power diesel generator and 300 litres solar water heater (high pressure).

The membership of the cooperative has increased to 200 dairy farmers aggregating about 1,000 litres per day, paying the farmers at Ksh 40 per litre according to the Chairman Joseph Waigwa.

Intervention of the County Government includes carrying out to improve dairy industry, provision of milk coolers and milk processing equipment (pasteurizer), provision of free breeding program where farmers get free A.I. services, promotion of sexed semen for germ plasm multiplication, support technical support through dissemination of extension messages and promotion of technologies and innovations.



Governor launches 4th cohort internship programme



Nyeri speaker Hon. John Kaguchia lauded the governor for this transformative initiative and pledged the County Assembly's support towards this programme including approving budget towards the same.

The programme which was started four years ago by Governor Kahiga has so far seen 800 youths benefitting. The interns work closely with their mentors, attend departmental meetings, participate in departmental projects, engage in day-to-day situations which gives them an opportunity to engage in concept to production as well as problem-solving and crisis management. The success of this programme is clearly evident seeing that over 45 interns from the previous three cohorts have been absorbed as employees in the various county departments while others have joined the business sector.

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga officially launched the 4th cohort of the internship programme at the Nyeri Cultural Centre. A total of 200 interns have been hired to work in the various departments within the County Government of

Nyeri for the next year. The Nyeri County Public Service Board received a total of 1,976 applications when the positions were advertised out of which 1,094 were shortlisted. The applicants underwent a matriculation examination out of which 200 were selected, 190 have since re-

ported. Governor Kahiga encouraged the interns to take full advantage of this programme which not only provides them with a platform to gain requisite experience from the mentorship of seasoned public servants but also a space to forge long lasting networks.



Governor officiates CBEF sensitization workshop

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Peter Wangari

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi today officially opened a two-day sensitization workshop on the County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) 2022 and the Annual Development Plan (ADP) FY 2022/2023 for all the County Budget Economic Forum (CBEF) members.

The County Budget Economic Forum members will be taken through the Annual Development Plan (ADP) FY 2022-23 and the County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP), 2022. Subsequently, they will expound this information to other stakeholders on issues of county planning and budgeting therefore promoting transparency and accountability.

Governor Kahiga noted that his government has worked hand in hand with all leaders in an honest manner so as to take the development of the county to the next level. The governor has always



consulted the elected MCAs and allowed them to present their priorities for consideration and thus the budgeting of the ward specific projects which have greatly transformed the livelihoods of Nyeri people.

The County Government prepared the County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022) outlining its development aspiration for a period of five years. This plan is implemented through the Annual

Development Plans (ADPs) that run for one financial year. At the beginning of this financial year, the County Treasury coordinated the preparation of the fifth ADP for FY 2022-23 which is the last for the current CIDP.

The Annual Development Plan outlines the county 'strategic priorities and how the county is responding to the changes in the economic environment as well as programmes and capital projects

to be undertaken within a financial year. It is however important to note that the projects and programmes are usually more than the actual resource basket and this calls for prioritization. This is done through the County Fiscal Strategy Paper, where departments prepare and submit their budget proposals for consideration together with the views obtained from the public through public participation process.

Health boost

The Audiologists were trained in Assessment, diagnosis and management of disorders associated with hearing and balance

Nyeri receives two audiologists

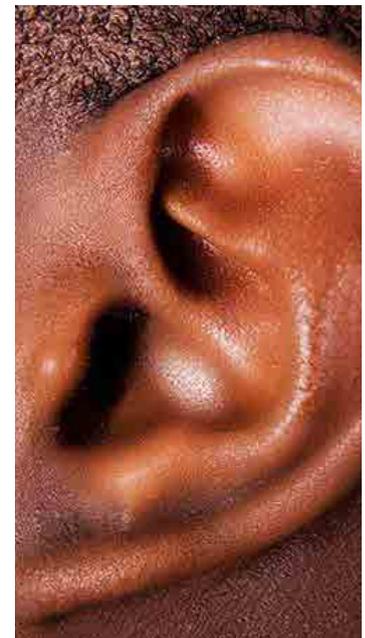
Story | Saveria Nyambura

The Department of Health Services is happy to announce that Nyeri County Referral Hospital has received two Audiologists who were trained in Assessment, diagnosis and management of disorders associated with hearing and balance. They were received by the medical superintendent Dr Pauline Kamau. All patients and residents of Nyeri

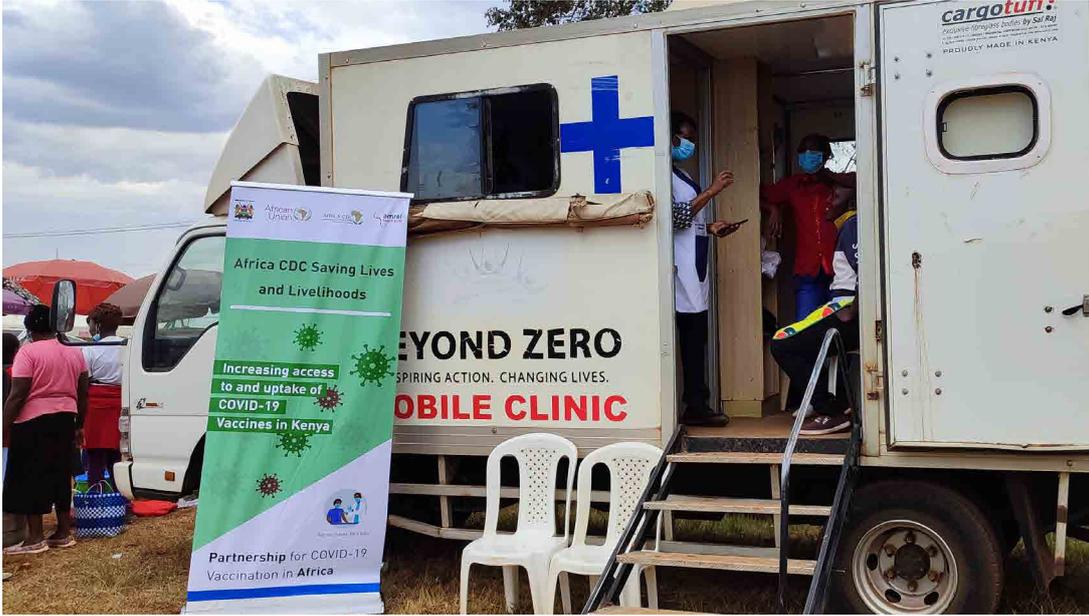
county with any of the below mentioned conditions are required to report to the Hospital for consultation and further treatment.

- Those with reduced hearing either one or both ears
- Those not able to pick some words during conversation
- Those with hearing issues which are age related
- Those at risk working in noisy environment eg Quarries, welding,

- noisy factories, noisy clubs and restaurants
- Those with persistent dizziness despite having been treated for other health conditions
- Those experiencing ringing ears (Tinnitus)
- Those using hearing aids
- Those who need hearing aids and batteries
- The team is stationed at the consultant's clinic next to the ENT clinic.



Covid-19 vaccination mass campaign



March, 2022.

Recently, Nyeri County was recognized for leading in the number of population vaccinated for Covid-19 in the country which has been made possible by intensive mobile mass.



Story & Photo | Kenneth Ngatia

The Department of Health Services with support from Amref Health Africa and Beyond Zero today conducted a successful vaccination exercise at the New Bus Termini in Asian Quarters and Wambugu ATC Farm, Nyeri Town.

The exercise saw 35 people receive either their first, second or booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The County Government of Nyeri salutes all the vaccinated individuals and urges the rest to get vaccinated in order to protect

themselves and their loved ones. The vaccination exercise which is being funded by the Africa CDC through the Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative will continue in all the 30 county wards in Nyeri County. The exercise is set to end on 31st

Training

The training will help the upscaling of the vaccination activity in order to reach the unvaccinated members

National vaccine and immunization training program



Story & Photo | Catherine Muthoni

The Department of Health Services in partnership with Amref Health Africa launched the National Vaccine and Immunization

Program by training Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) and Health Care workers on COVID 19 vaccination.

The training, held on 23rd and

24th February across the 8 sub-counties, was officially launched by the Director Nursing services, Nelly Muiruri and Amref Health representative Joram On-

diti.

The trainees were taken through the overview of COVID 19, objectives of vaccination on each vaccine, vaccine storage, transport and logistics, bottlenecks of effective communication and crisis communication as well as how to use the electronic vaccine registry website Chanjo.ke.

The training will help with the upscaling of the vaccination activity in order to reach the unvaccinated community members.

Consultative meeting with higher learning institutions students' leaders



Story & Photo | Catherine Muthoni

The Department of Health Services has been involving a wide range of stakeholders to

achieve its objectives especially during this Covid-19 pandemic era. Through the support of Amref Health Africa, a consultative meeting involving student leaders from higher learning

institutions in the county, as key stakeholders in the fight against Covid-19 pandemic. It has been noted that the youth are hesitant to vaccination, which was the main reason of involving

the leaders in a bid to understand why the hesitancy and how they can be reached.

The broad objective of the meeting was to come up with a work plan and strategies on how to reach the unvaccinated youth at the institutions as well as sensitize the student leaders to be vaccine advocates at the institutions. Fear of the expected side effects and the perception of physical strength and aura by the Youths were identified as the key reasons behind their vaccine hesitancy.

Extension

The application period for the Enterprise Development Fund has been extended from 28th February to 7th March

Extension of Enterprise Development Fund (EDF) application period

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR LOAN APPLICATION NYERI COUNTY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF)

THE NYERI COUNTY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND BOARD (EDF BOARD) INVITES FOR LOAN APPLICATIONS FROM ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.

VISIT: www.nyeri.go.ke FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION FORM.

DEADLINE IS ON 7TH MARCH, 2022.



The County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives wishes to notify all its residents that the application period for the Enterprise Development Fund has been extended from 28th February to 7th March 2022.

The following are the necessary requirements:

1. The business to be located in Nyeri county.
2. Be operational for at least one year.

3. Provide financial statements and business records.
4. Business licenses and other permits as applicable.
5. CRB status report.
6. Tax compliance and copy of security.
7. Interest 5% p.a on reducing balance.
8. Maximum repayment period 2 years.
9. Maximum loan amount 500k.

Distribution of empowerment items in Tetu

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Investing in our women, People Living with Disabilities (PWDs) and youth is one key agenda for the County Government of Nyeri. This is because of the enormous contributions they make to our economies hence empowering such groups not only sets a direct path to poverty eradication but also inclusive economic growth. In light of this, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with Hon. Sebastian Mugo issued out empowerment items for hire in-

clusive of chairs and tents to the following groups in Wamagana ward: Kathuthi women SHG, Vine SHG, Murata SHG, Kihuro SHG, Gura women, Gura/Kahira women group, mbari women group, Unjiru/Mwituria SHG, Kihuro B SHG and Hubui-Ini Ihithe SHG. They also issued out a public ad-

dress system to Kioni SHG youth group which they will use to generate income for the group. In support of sporting activities, we distributed uniforms and balls to Wamagana, Kagwathi, Karangia, Kihora, Kiandu, Kariguini, Ihithe, Hubuini, Mathakwaini football and volleyball clubs in the ward.



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Launch of Tetu Technical and Vocational College strategic plan



Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga was delighted to join Tetu Technical and Vocational College fraternity during the launch of their five-year strategic plan (2019-2024) in Kagwathi, Wamagana ward Tetu sub-county.

The strategic plan launched will provide a roadmap for the institution, guiding it from where it is

now to where it would want to be in the next five years. The event also doubled as an Open Day, where the students got a chance to showcase their talents in different categories including modelling, singing, dancing and poetry.

Governor Kahiga encouraged the youth to enrol more to TVET institutions as they offer a wide range of courses which impart hands-on skills for a wide variety of jobs as

well as avenues to self-employment. He also encouraged them to apply for bursaries offered by the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Education & Sports in support of students from vulnerable homes. The governor also commissioned a street lighting project at Kagwathi shopping centre which has helped improve security for the students and the area residents.

Tetu Technical Institute opened its doors to its first learners in February 2019, and has since grown exponentially in terms of admissions. Courses offered in the school include Craft & Artisan in Electrical Engineering, Building & Civil Engineering, Building Technology, ICT, Beauty Therapy, Food & Beverage, Plumbing, Hair Dressing among others.

ICT lab

The governor accompanied by Wamagana MCA Hon. Sebastian Mugo commissioned a fully fledged ICT laboratory

In support of ICT in Nyeri's VTCs

Story | Njambi Mugo & Photo | Kennedy Karanja

The County Government of Nyeri led by Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga continues to forge key partnerships which have seen various sectors in the County benefit.

The governor accompanied by Wamagana MCA Hon. Sebas-

tian Mugo commissioned a fully fledged ICT laboratory with computers, projector and projection wall at Gathuthi polytechnic in Wamagana ward, Tetu sub-county. This lab which has been furnished by Taiwan Africa International Service Association (TAISA) will empower both teachers and learners, promote change and foster the development of '21st century skills. The polytechnic, which is supported by the County Government offers welding and fabrica-

tion, hair dressing, masonry and carpentry courses. Governor Kahiga encouraged the youth to take up more technical courses as they are quite marketable and to apply for the bursary funds, provided by the County Government, which supports learners from vulnerable homes. The Department of Education has allocated funds towards construction of a modern ablution block in the polytechnic. At the same time the governor distributed learning materials for

ECDE centres in Wamagana ward which will improve the learning environment for young learners.

