



Nyeri dairy farmers earn Kshs. 3.5 billion

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Dairy farming is a class of agriculture for long-term production of milk, which is rich in high-quality proteins. Milk contains all essential amino acids in sufficient amounts to qualify it as a good source of protein. Milk products include butter, cheese, ice cream, yogurt and dried milk. The demand

is ever high both locally and internationally.

Cows are mostly used for milk production in Nyeri County. Other species used include goats.

This has led to Nyeri dairy farmers turning into commercial farming earning over Kshs. 3.5 billion in the last 2019/2020 financial year.

Dairy farming continues to be a major enterprise in Nyeri County with a total of about 178,000 dairy cows and about 80% of the rural house hold keeping at least a dairy cow, the farmers were able to produce over 115 million litres of milk.

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fully supported the farmers through the support of dairy cooperative societies and self-help groups on milk value addition through provision of milk coolers, backup generators and solar heating equipment.

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Nyeri commercial dairy farmers earn over Kshs. 3.5 billion



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga during the launch of 39 milking gallons for co-operatives in Mweiga ward, Kieni East in April. On the left is Mweiga ward MCA Hon. Njuguna Kawanjiku while on the right is Agriculture CEC James Wachih.

The County Government of Nyeri under the stewardship of H.E Mutahi Kahiga has fully supported the farmers through the support of dairy cooperative societies and self-help groups on milk value addition through provision of milk coolers, backup generators and solar heating equipment.

In the last three years, the county government has procured, installed and commissioned 26 milk coolers.

These include five coolers by the county government,

16 coolers through lobbying from national government, five coolers from Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Project and one cooler from Eastern Africa Dairy Development Project. Other value addition equipment includes one milk boiler, two pasteurizers and butch packaging machine.

The milk coolers help in reduction of milk wastage through shortening the time and distance to the processing plant, increasing marketed milk through collection of evening and chilling milk

which increase the farmers earning by an extra Kshs. 2 per litre, job creation and improving livelihood to the dairy farmers.

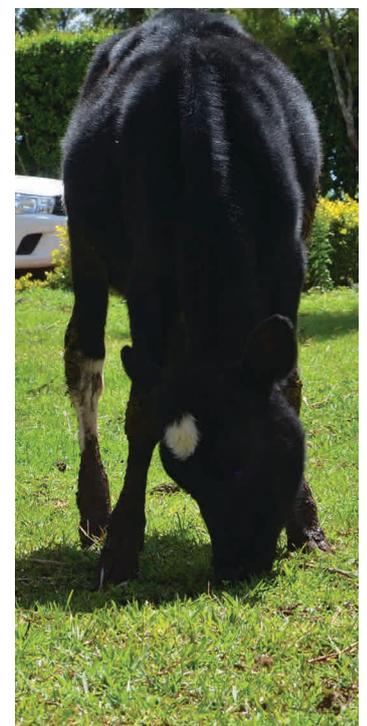
“During the year under review an estimated 115 million litres of milk were produced with about 80 million litres having been sold formally through dairy cooperatives and self-help groups within the county. In this period, the prices of milk went down from Kshs. 34 at the processor level to Kshs. 32 per litre. A total of 25 cooperatives societies and 37 self-help groups were active in the marketing of the milk,” said Nyeri Livestock Production and Fisheries ag. Director Warugongo Theuri.

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 in-

tensive systems- especially in Kieni sub counties.

“It is also important to note that nearly half of the milk produced in the county was traded informally implying that there is potential for dairies to expand their milk collection and hence more milk can be delivered to processors,” added the director.

The directorate officers have been busy in major activities which include the provision of breeding stock in order to increase productivity, buck rotation to prevent in-breeding, registration of goats with Kenya Stud Book to increase the value of breeding stock, marketing of milk and breeding of livestock through organized sales and also in the provision of extension services on livestock husbandry.





At the same time, Nyeri County dairy goat farmers sold 337 breeding goats and 5,000 litres of milk worth Kshs. 4,500,000 and Kshs. 500,000 respectively.

On meat production, the farmers further earned about Kshs. 590 million from the sale of beef, mutton and chevon, pork and poultry meat.

Meanwhile, the local poultry industry comes in second with an estimated population of 366,000 birds followed by sheep at 119,000 and goats (both dairy and meat). Indigenous poultry plays an important role as an income generating activity especially in the poor households.

“Other enterprises like bee keeping are slowly gaining popularity, though honey

production has not been very good nor consistent largely dictated by the weather conditions, while pig farming keeps fluctuating depending on prevailing market conditions,” added Theuri.

Dairy goat keeping is also on the rise with the county having injected some fresh genes through support to 45 Dairy Goats Association of Kenya registered groups with 90 French Alpine



dairy goats (45 does and 45 bucks).

The County Government of Nyeri has further partnered with other collaborators including Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Programme (UTaNRMP), Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP), Small Holder Irrigation and Value Addition Project (SIVAP), Agriculture Sector Development Support

upscale livestock production and productivity, uplift the living standards of livestock farmers, increase household incomes, enhance food security and enhance performance through Kilimo Biashara concept and realization of Sustainable Development Goals.

Director Theuri (*pictured above*) has since noted that there are many opportunities in livestock production and fisheries at various nodes of



Programme (ASDSP) and National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) to

H.E Mutahi Kahiga (in a red tie) distributing chicks to community groups at Wambugu ATC earlier this year. On the left is Agriculture Chief Officer Ruth Mwangi.

the livestock value chains which should be exploited in order to improve livelihoods. Such areas include value addition and marketing of livestock and fish value chains.

Environmental clean-up exercise at Kiawara



Some of the 50 youths and Community Health Volunteers at work during a clean up exercise at Kiawara, Nyeri town.

The Ministry of Health in partnership with Amref Health Africa and Nyeri Municipal Board conducted a mass environmental cleaning programme at Kiawara, Rware ward, Nyeri Municipality (Nyeri Central sub-county).

The programme, which will run for two days in a week, is aimed at sensi-

tizing the area residents on the need of maintaining cleanliness, enhancing community engagement and preserving the environment in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

Youth Empowerment Development Network (YEDN), Kazi Mtaani and Community Health Volunteers were engaged in the exercise which involved

activities such as; unclogging and desilting of open drains, bush clearing, garbage collection and sweeping of streets.

Joram Onditi, Amref Health Africa Nyeri Coordinator called upon the residents to maintain cleanliness, to wash their hands regularly and encouraged proper disposal of masks to curb rate of infections.

Perister Kigwa - Municipal Manager, Nyeri Municipal Board thanked the organization for collaborating with the board in order to improve sanitation levels.

The programme is in its fourth phase, as part of Covid-19 Emergency Response Project.

John Mwangi Public Health Officer in charge of Municipal sanitation unit thanked the volunteers who participated in the sensitization programme adding that they will also participate in Nyeri town beautification exercise.

In brief

Ongoing construction of a burning chamber at Naromoru Health Centre, Kieni East sub-county. Once completed, the chamber will aid in improving management of waste within the facility.



Covid-19 IPC peer to peer training

The training is one of the activities under the #AngamizaCorona campaign which is a youth led sensitization campaign targeting community at the grassroots level.



In partnership with Amref Health Africa and Youth Empowerment Development Network (YED-N), courtesy of European Union in Kenya, the County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services convened a training on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in Nyeri.

The intensive training brought together youth representatives across Nyeri County. The training aimed at equipping them with skills on prevention and control of the transmission of Covid-19, use of Personal Protective Equipment

(PPEs), communication and psychosocial support in the context of Covid-19.

The training is one of the activities under the #AngamizaCorona campaign which is a youth led sensitization campaign targeting community at the grassroots level.

Other activities under this campaign include; door-to-door sensitization and environmental clean up activities. The campaign is in its fourth phase, taking place across nine counties, Nyeri being one of them.

Gender, Youth and Social Services CEC Esther Ndung'u (*pictured*) lauded the

participants for their proactiveness in conducting community education as well as being community ambassadors.

She further noted that the County Government of

Nyeri is launching 16 days of activism early next week for a campaign which will call out for a society free from rape and violence. The campaign will target over 4,000 girls within the county.



Head of Project Charles Waweru noted that the youth are key in this campaign since they are innovative, proactive as well as creative in risk communication within the community. The County Government of Nyeri calls upon individuals to practice individual responsibility which has been noted as one of the best ways to combat the spread of Covid-19.

SRC pays governor a courtesy call



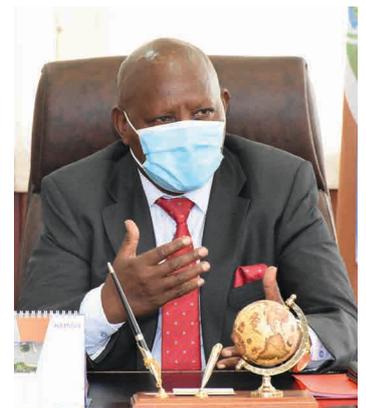
From left; Nyeri County Secretary Ben Gachichio, SRC official Violet Kemboi, H.E Mutahi Kahiga, SRC officials David Muthaka and Martin Kirung'o and Chief Officer Mwangi Kamanja during a courtesy call at the Governor's office.

A team from the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) paid a courtesy call to H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga at the Governor's office, Nyeri town.

They held discussions on the county's wage bill sustainability, the county revenue and cordial working

relationships amongst the staff for optimal performance and other key issues. The team that comprised of David Muthaka, Martin Kirung'o and Violet Kemboi is also in Nyeri to carry out compliance checks in the county. As part of its mandate, SRC undertakes compliance checks in pub-

lic institutions to ensure adherence to the remunerations and benefits as set and advised by the commission. In addition, compliance checks provide an opportunity to identify areas of support to institutions visited in relation to implementation challenges of SRC advisories.

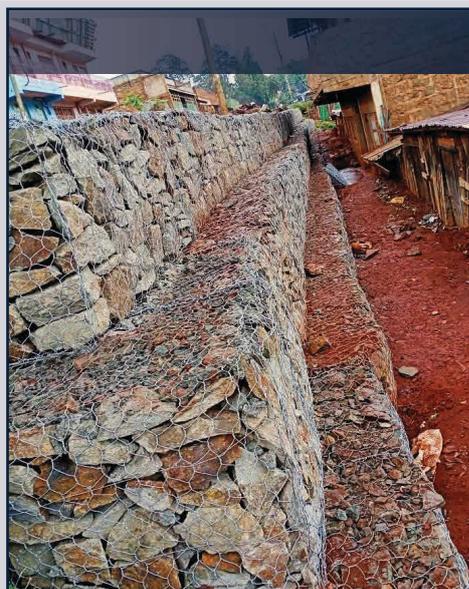



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

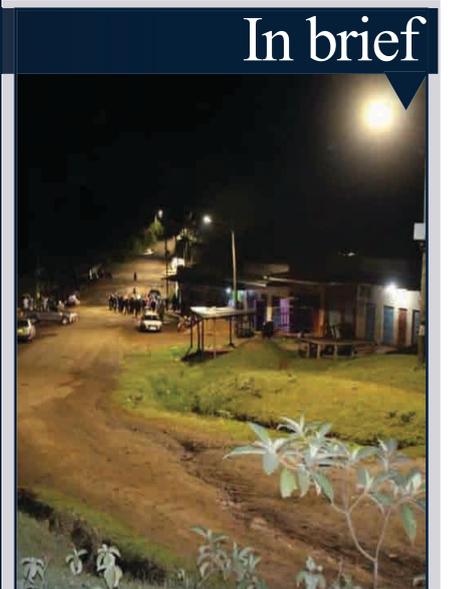
The County Government of Nyeri advises all Nyeri residents to continue paying for NHIF in order to receive medical services since the UHC program under national government was terminated.

We are also requesting all Nyeri County residents to always wear a mask, wash hands/sanitize and maintain social distance in order to stay safe amid the Covid-19 pandemic.


Afyā Yetu. Bima Yetu



The ongoing construction of gabions and retaining wall at Kianda road Phase 3, Rware ward in Nyeri town.



Newly installed streetlights at Kairuthi shopping centre in Iria-ini ward, Othaya sub-county.

In brief

Sarah's children accommodated at Karatina Children's Home

The children have been undergoing immense suffering, as Sarah's health continues to deteriorate and was unable to take care of them.

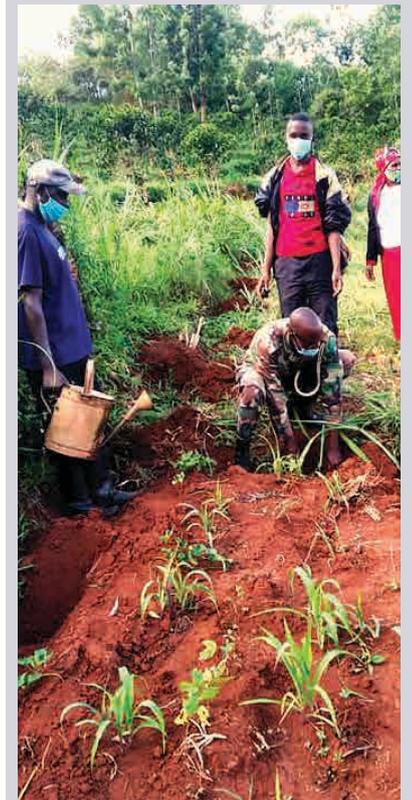


The County Government of Nyeri through the Department of Social Services visited the home of Sarah Wairuri from Kiruguru village, Karima ward, Othaya sub-county, to rescue her three children who are in need of care and protection. The children, who are aged 9, 5 and 2 years, were accommodated temporarily at Karatina Children's Home. The children have been undergoing immense suffering, as Sarah's health

continues to deteriorate and was unable to take care of them.

Karatina Children's Home, which is run by the county government through the Department of Social Services, is home to over 80 orphans and vulnerable children, in need of care and protection. The department takes care of all their needs. The children, who blended in well at the home were happily welcomed by the other children. Sarah, a mother of 9 was

living in a deplorable condition before well wishers led by Ms. Faith Nganga of #beyourbrotherskeeper and support from the county government, constructed a decent house for her. She suffers from a mental illness and has been receiving treatment from the Health Department through regular checks ups. The department will continue following up on her condition. Plans are underway to admit her, till she is medically stabilized.



Tree planting in Mukurwe-ini to increase forest cover

The Department of Public Service Management and Environment carried out a tree planting activity in three Vocational Training Centres namely; Thangathi, Gathungururu and Kaheti in Mukurwe-ini sub-county.

The activity was coordinated by Mukurwe-ini sub-county Environment Field officer and Kenya Forest Service Forester, accompanied by Environmental Officer Kieni West sub-county. This initiative aimed at increasing tree cover in Nyeri County. The trees planted will play important roles including, improving aesthetic value, education resource, carbon sink, improving air quality and shade among others.