

Mpango kabambe wenye tija kwa wafugaji waja

Na **ATHNATH MKIRMWENI**

WAZIRI wa Mifugo na Uvuvi, Mashimba Ndaki, amesema serikali inakuja na mpango endelevu utakaowapa tija wafugaji kwa kuwahuisha ng'ombe wenye vinasaba wa maziwa mengi.

Kauli hiyo aliitoa juzi alipokuwa akizungumzia mafanikio ya sekta ya mifugo katika kipindi cha 'Twende Pamoja' kinachorushwa na luninga ya Channel Ten.

Ndaki alisema lengo la serikali ni kuhakikisha mifugo inayofugwa inakuwa na tija kwa mfugaji na taifa kwa kuwa na maziwa na nyama nyingi.

"Mpango tulionao kwa wafugaji ni wa kuhuisha mifugo kwa kubadilisha ng'ombe wa asili kuwa wa kisasa na uzito unaostahili na kuwa na maziwa mengi kwa sababu ngombe aliyeboreshwa anauwezo wa kutoa maziwa lita 15 hadi 40.

"Tanzania ni nchi ya pili Afrika kwa kuwa na ng'ombe wengi, ng'ombe

tulionao wanakaribia milioni 34 huku asilimia 99 wakiwa wa asili, sasa lazima tuwabadilisha kwa kuwahuisha ili wawe na tija," alisema.

Alisema ili tija ionekane kwa mfugaji anatakiwa kupewa elimu itakayomuelimisha kuwa afuge mifugo ya aina gani.

Ndaki alisema wizara imeshawaandaa wataalamu kwa ajili ya kutoa elimu na tayari imeshaandaa kambi kwenye kanda saba ambazo zinaelimisha wahimilishaji watakao kwenda kuhimilisha mifugo kwa wafugaji.

"Tunayo madume machache lakini katika uhimilishaji mifugo tutatumia zaidi njia ya chupa ili tuweze kuwafikia wafugaji wengi na malengo kwa mwaka huu tuwe tumeshahimilisha mifugo milioni tano," alieleza.

Alisema hadi sasa jumla ya ng'ombe 33,000 wameshahimilishwa katika mikoa ya Arusha, Mwanza, Manyara na Tanga wanaelekea kuhimilisha.

Govt finds solution for dying livestock due to the drought

By Guardian Correspondent

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki has said in order to fight the issue of dying livestock due to lack of fodder, they have come up with a solution - a new technology dubbed Juncao to be distributed to herders.

Ndaki made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening a meeting for discussing the Juncao technology that will soon start to be used by herders country-wide.

He said Tanzania wanted the technology to be used because they want to close a gap brought about by shortage of animal fodder.

He said they had asked for assistance from China and talks have reached at advanced stage in regard to being provided with the technology.

He said it would be re-

called that last year disaster struck in some areas of the country that saw livestock dying due to lack of fodder and water.

He added that the technology will help animal fodder producers to increase production as well as increasing the quality of livestock for more economic benefits.

Ndaki added that after the meeting, a process in procurement Chinese government permit will be made and believes that the process will be finalised within one month.

He said thereafter, they will begin providing education on Juncao technology to all stakeholders, universities, colleges and other government institutions, after which they will go to livestock keepers.

"We shall establish demonstration farms in each district to be used in providing education to livestock keep-

ers in areas where they are," he added.

He said the country's total livestock population is estimated at 67 million including cattle, goats, sheep and donkeys.

For his part, the Director for animal Feed Development and Food Resources in from the Livestock and Fisheries ministry, Dr Asimwe Rwiguza said they have met in order to get expertise to see how Juncao technology will help Tanzania in regard to the production of animal fodder including mushrooms.

"Juncao is a kind of grass fodder used by livestock and has been researched by the Chinese as it grows fast with high protein content.

"We have already planted the grass in our farm and have seen how fast the grass grows and one stalk produces many braches," said Dr Rwiguza.