

Feed interventions to sustainably increase cows' productivity

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Aim

Test potential to increase productivity of cows and smallholder farms by introducing new forages

Conclusion

Feeding improved forages can increase livestock production and make the system more resilient to climate change and shocks.

Farmers can profit through A) higher milk production for home consumption and to sell,

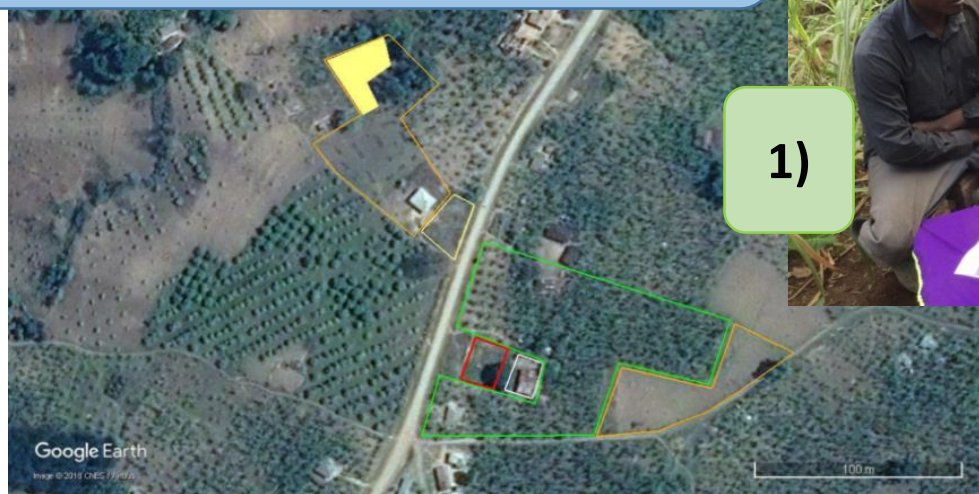
B) reduced time to daily collect natural grasses .

Increasing milk production by 10% (or 25% milk increase in the dry season) can be achieved by planting around 0.1 acre (400 m²) of improved forages.

Results

Plant 0.1 acre x animal to achieve 10% more milk per lactation or 25% more milk during the dry season (store and feed only in dry season)

- 1) Plan
- 2) Intercrop grasses and legumes
- 3) Plant in open, sunny place
- 4) Plant close to cowshed



Soil analysis

pH, SOC
Potassium (K)

- soils have good fertility
- especially required in banana fields

Nitrogen (N)
Phosphorus (P)

- high levels,
- low levels, choose P-rich fertilizers