

# Maziwa Zaidi (More Milk) in Tanzania: Best-bet Technologies and Innovations

## Cash from Brachiaria and Rhodes grasses hay production

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### Key messages and solutions

- Improved forage grasses to improve cattle feed quality and quantity
- Demand for animal source foods to double by 2050 cascading demand to improve livestock productivity
- Between 55 -70% of the costs in livestock production are feed and forages related
- Forage deficits due to seasonality best bridged with forage conservation – hay, Silage
- These products and especially, hay possible to be traded in the market important to address on nutrient quality

### Problem statement

- Low livestock productivity due to nutrient under-feeding leading to low contribution to livelihoods
- There need to increase livestock productivity for incomes, nutrition and lower greenhouse gas emissions per unit livestock product - milk/meat

### Evidence

- For forage business though hay production, work elsewhere in east Africa shows you need to cultivate at least 4 acres
- The net income (NI) of USD 1400 – 2590 per acre for Rhodes grass with gross margin of 52 -54% is possible
- Brachiaria Net Income of USD 7,500 per acre with gross margin of 64% is possible
- Since the grasses can be maintained over several years, there is need to observe soil fertility amendments, while maintaining the fields weed free

### Opportunities and benefits

- Self employment for youth and women especially in groups - through production and sale of hay
- Farmer dairy cooperatives can produce hay for sale to members and beyond
- Owners large land with possible mechanization in forage production
- Livestock numbers are increasing as well as human population raising the demand for animal product raising demand for livestock feeds and forages
- Does not require heavy initial investments

### Suitability

- Functioning of forage seed systems for ease of access by the hay producers
- Brachiaria requires > 800mm annual rainfall for good performance
- Rhodes requires > 600mm annual rainfall for it to perform

### Resource requirements (low to high, between 1 and 5)

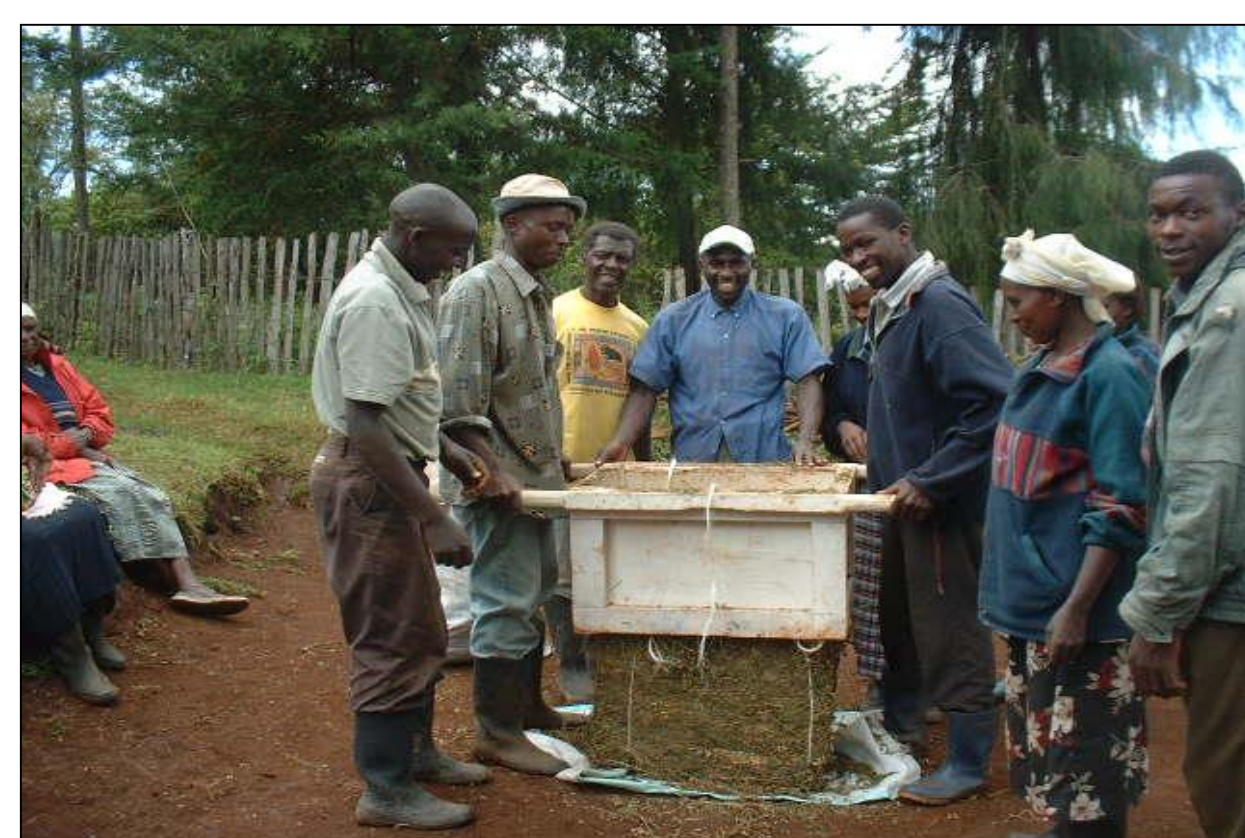
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Water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Labour	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cash	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to inputs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge and skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Impact areas (low to high, between 1 and 5)

Food security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nutrition and food safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth empowerment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Women empowerment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Livelihoods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Market access and linkages	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Outcome difficulty (low to high, between 1 and 5)

Business profitability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental sustainability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth empowerment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Women empowerment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



MAZIWA  
ZAIDI

More Milk in Tanzania (MoreMilkIT)



ILRI  
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SNV

CIAT  
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