



THE POTENTIAL OF TANZANIA MAINLAND FOR PRODUCTION OF JUNCAO GRASS

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1. Over view of Livestock Sector

- Livestock keeping is one of the main agricultural activities in the country that is contributing towards the National Strategic Goals (NSGs) and the objective of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025.
- The livestock sector plays a significant role in the economy of agricultural households in Tanzania as it provides best source of animal protein, food security, cash income, manure, draught animal power and other socio – economic functions.
- Livestock products such as milk, meat, eggs, skins and hides contributes significantly into the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country.

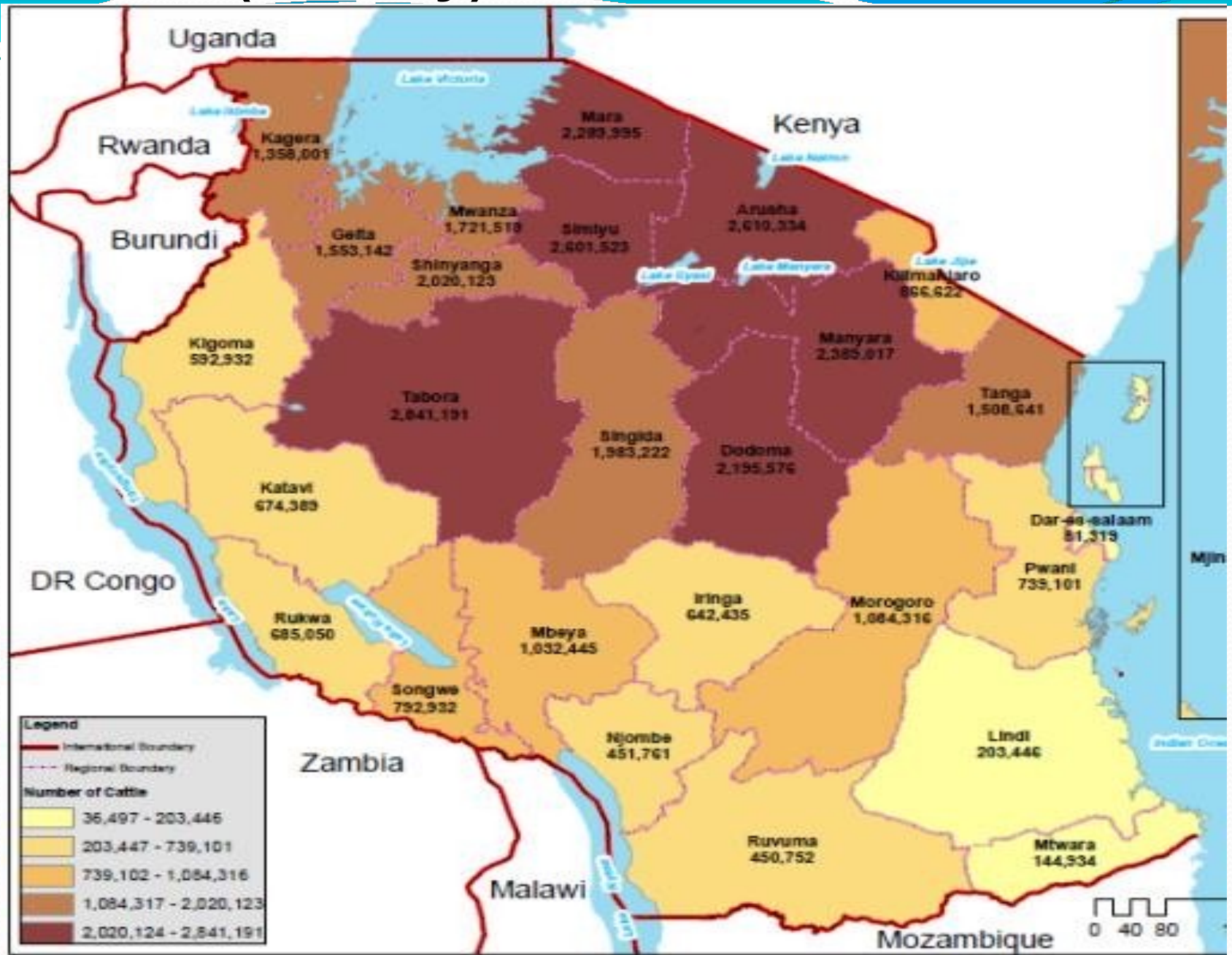
Over view of Livestock Sector

Tanzania ranks the second in terms of Cattle population in Africa of which 96.5% of cattle are indigenous breeds grazed on natural pasture under communal grazing lands and 3.5% are improved ones kept under Semi intensive and intensive livestock keeping systems.



Species	Number (millions)
Cattle	33.9
Goats	24.5
Sheep	8.5
Donkeys	0.6

Cattle (density) distribution in Tanzania



Over view of Livestock Sector

Livestock contribution to GDP is about 7.1% with annual growth rate of 5%.

Livestock in Tanzania are almost raised under organic production:

- Extensively grazed on natural grasslands and shrubs found in most of the rural areas.



Over view of Livestock Sector

- A total of 7.8 million households involved in the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors, 2.7 million households which is 35% are engaged in livestock keeping.
- The livestock sector employs about 50% of her population, which is equivalent to 4.6 million households who their income depends on livestock value chains.

2. Livestock production in Tanzania

Challenges facing
livestock sector



- ❖ Insufficient pasture and water,
- ❖ Undeveloped grazing lands,
- ❖ Degraded grazing lands,
- ❖ Poor quality pastures,
- ❖ **Inadequate supply of improved pasture seeds,**
- ❖ Land conflicts between pastoralists and other land users.

Livestock production in TZ....

- Livestock keeping in Tanzania is unevenly distributed with large number of herds of animals in the regions with semi-arid climatic conditions in which most of these areas suffer pasture and water shortage during the dry season.
- Due to climate change, Livestock Sector in Tanzania has experienced several adverse effects.
- This resulted into translocation of huge numbers of livestock to other areas in search for pasture and water causing conflicts.

Livestock production in TZ.....

- In 2016, 2017 and 2021 Tanzania experienced prolonged dry season which caused shortages of pasture and water for the livestock.
- This condition has negatively affected livelihood of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities, which in turn deters attainment of aspiration of sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Effect of prolonged drought in 2021 – Loliondo area



3. Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tz

- Vikuge and Langwira
- Livestock multiplication units (Sao hill and Mabuki),
- Livestock research stations (Tanga, Mpwapwa, Uyole and Kongwa),
- Livestock Training Institutes (Tengeru, Buhuri and Morogoro),
- Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)
- Private farms

Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tanzania....

- Despite all these efforts, the capacity producing pasture seeds and forage is still low compared to the current demand.
- The low production capacity is attributed by low investment, inadequate supply of improved pasture seeds, lack of equipment and machinery coupled with high operating costs.

Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tanzania...

- Average pasture seeds production in TZ for consecutive last five years from 2017/2018 to 2021/2022 is about 4,028.2 tones which is less than the amount required to meet the demand for improving forage production.
- The country has demarcated area of about 3.0 million Hectares for grazing of which half of it (1,500,000 million hectares) expected to be improved and needs **7.5 million tons** of pasture seeds.

Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tanzania....

- Increased animal units have created a greater demand for livestock forage which is about **141.4 millions tones** of forage per year.
- Current production of forage from demarcated grazing land is about **16.8 millions tones** per year
- The rise in livestock units coupled with the fall in forage supplies has meant the dramatic fall of livestock productivity, low milk and meat yields in the country, further worsening poverty among 50% of the population depending on livestock value chain.
- The Government, through the MLF-Livestock Sector intends to promote production of Napier Grasses (Juncao) in order to maximize pasture seeds and forage production in the country.

Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tanzania....

Therefore, intensification of high forage producing species such as JUNCAO - Napier Grasses is a useful strategy to ensure sustainable pasture production in order to feed the existing and ever-increasing number of livestock throughout the year.



Pasture and pasture seeds production in Tanzania...

- Since Tanzania is committed to promote agricultural development while safeguarding the environment:- Environmental (2021); Agricultural (2013) and Livestock (2006) policies and ASDP II, 2015.
- The presence of JUNCAO technology is expected to conserve the environment through sustainable livestock production, especially in semi-arid areas of the country where animal pastures are limited and land degradation is high.

Established Juncao grass at elite farmer Prof. Elisante Ole Gabriel



Juncao feeding to dairy cattle at elite farmer - Dodoma



Establishment of Juncao at Loliondo LGA farm



Established on 21/02/2022

Juncao Pasture established at TALIRI Tanga



A Maasai pastoralist herding his cattle



Well managed dairy cattle at LMU - Kitulo Farm



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

