

SP/10114

MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
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POLICY PAPER ON MURANG'A COUNTY CASH and FOOD CROPS NUTRITION FOR ENHANCED PRODUCTIVITY AND FARMER INCOMES

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
CLERK
09 FEB 2016
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FORWARDED TO THE
HON. SPEAKER FOR APPROVAL

kindly approve before we table

*Approved
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18/02/16*

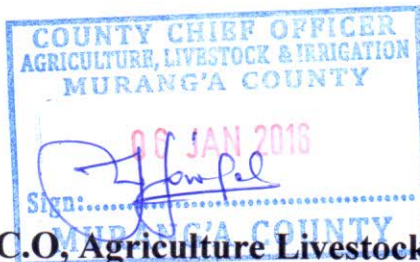
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Murang'a County Government has developed a programme of reviving the coffee sector through improving the coffee varieties, nutrition and making coffee management institutions in the county more efficient.

The coffee cooperative societies were audited and recommendations done. The County also established a pilot on subsidized fortified manure programme that benefitted over 10, 000 coffee farmers.

This pilot created demand of the fortified manure and it was therefore decided that the manure programme be up scaled to benefit more cash and food crop farmers.

The aim of up-scalling the program is to avail approximately 50, 000MT to 50,000 farmers by mid April 2016. The object and purpose is to accelerate the growth and development of cash and food crops in the county, enhance productivity and incomes to farmers and improve food security. It is expected to increase coffee productivity by 100% in 1.5 Years creating additional earning to coffee farmers of Kes2BN annually, increase tea productivity by 42% increasing tea earnings by Kes3.3BN and increase banana productivity by 30% increasing banana earnings by Kes420M annually. Productivity of other crops is expected to increase after incorporation of the nutrition program into other sectors



C.O, Agriculture Livestock and Irrigation

Murang'a County Government

C.E.C, Agriculture Livestock and Irrigation

Murang'a County Government

HON: ALBERT MWANIKI
C. E. M - MURANG'A COUNTY
Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation

Date: 07/1/16 Sign: [Signature]

1. BACKGROUND

In July 2015 coffee stakeholders in Murang'a County held a stakeholders' forum in Kenol to deliberate on how the sector could be improved. Among those in the forum were County government officials led by Hon. Governor and the Deputy Governor. In the meeting also were representatives of Coffee Research Institute, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology Enterprises and Deloitte.

The following was the output of the forum;

1. There was need to increase production of coffee in the County.
2. There was need to improve quality (hence payout rate).
3. Expand coffee markets including increasing the domestic consumption.
4. There was need to improve and build capacity of the organizations and associations involved in coffee business in the County.

The residents representatives have also made recommendations geared towards improving the sector e.g. On APRIL 1 2014, Murang'a county assembly adopted a motion requiring the ministry *to initiate and implement a program on organic farming* vide ref MCA/C/14/110. On 19TH NOVEMBER 2015, the County Assembly adopted a motion that the County to assist in strengthening Murang'a Farmers Cooperative Union and also improve the quality and quantity of the coffee produced. This was contained in a notice of motion reference *MCA/SPK/08/111/74* titled '*Adoption of motion on cooperative committee recommendation*' clause 18 number C.

As a result of the various deliberations the Murang'a County Government decided to pilot a manure program by subsidizing about 300 trucks of fortified manure. A committee was constituted that comprised of inter-ministerial staff to handle the logistics of manure provision.

During this piloting phase a total of 273 trucks were supplied to the coffee farmers. About 10,000 farmers benefitted from the program. It was then decided that it was prudent to upscale the program to reach more farmers and also cover other crops.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To supply farmyard manure and soil microorganisms to approximately 50,000 farmers on a subsidy program under a 40/60% model, where farmers contribute approximately 40% of the cost while Murang'a County Government finances the rest 60%.



2. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

2.1 To avail 50, 000 Metric Tons (MT) of fortified/Inoculated manure to 50,000 farmers in the county.

2.2 To pool resources for the program activities.

3. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

The manure supply will involve the following;

- a) Hold meetings with KTDA representatives in the 10 KTDA managed tea factories.

The manure committee will hold meetings with the regional managers and director in charge of regions 1 & 2 and their technical teams that will include the management representatives for the 10 KTDA factories in Murang'a. The aim of this is to lay the modalities of the manure supply.

- b) Pre-qualify manure transporters.

Some transporters with appropriate open body carriers will be prequalified.

- c) Procure soil microorganisms for inoculation (Fortification)

- d) Hold meetings with the banana farming groups' representatives, Sub county administrators and the front line extension officers.

Banana sector is largely informal and as such the agricultural officers will liaise with the sub county administrators to identify the already existing farmer groups and also assist in registering others.

- e) Avail fortified manure to the farmers.

- f) Pool resources to support the manure program with farmers paying to a collection account to be established through a model that will enhance efficiency.

4. MANURE COSTING

After the pilot and in consultation and approval with other county offices and structures it was concluded that it would be fair to set reserve prices for the manure at the following rates based on the market rates;

Price per Ton – Kes 4 000

Manure fortification inoculum per ton - Kes 730

Fortification labour per ton– Kes 270

TOTAL cost per ton = 5, 000



The above rates are approximations based on the pilot and may have slight changes during actual implementation..

The County will engage transporters with considered pricing in the following schedule;

AREA	Price in Kes FOR 1 ton
Lower Gatanga, Upper Gatanga	3,500 and 4, 000
Kandara	4, 000
Makuyu	4, 000
Lower Kigumo	4, 000
Upper Kigumo (Muthithi market towards Kangari)	4, 500
Kiharu	4, 500
Kahuro	4, 500
Kangema	4, 500
Mathioya	4, 500

5. PROPOSED FINANCING

To actualize the program it is proposed a subsidy program where the farmer pays approximately 40% and the government 60%.

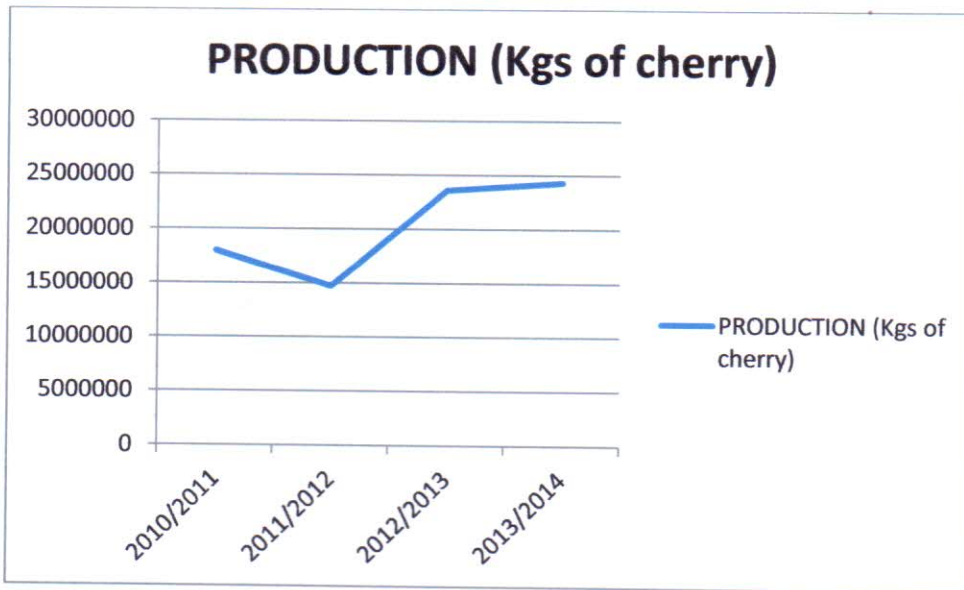
The farmer will pay Kes15 for a 20lt 'Debe' holding approx. 5-8 Kg net boma dry manure of between 6-14% moisture content. This payment will be deposited to manure collection/tea collection account before a farmer collects the manure/input. The county Government will also provide the balance to cater for the total cost of delivery to the collection station.

6. PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

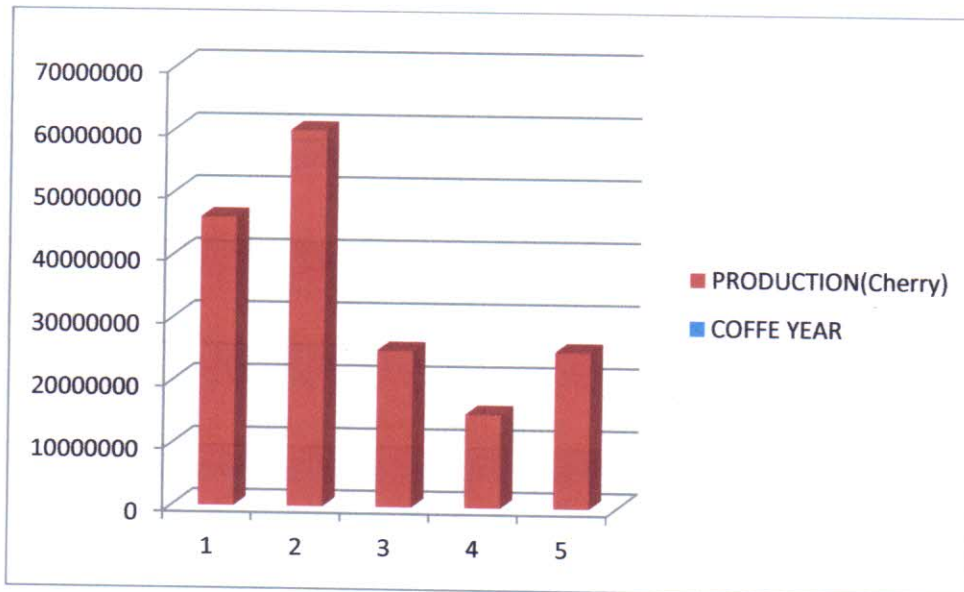
The program was started due to the declining coffee production and the need to enhance tea and banana productivity in the County. Other crops also need to be supported to enhance food and nutrition security.



MURANGA CHERRY PRODUCTION 2010-2014



COFFEE PRODUCTION STATISTICS FROM 1990 TO 2010



KEY

1) 1990, 2) 1995, 3) 2000, 4) 2005, 5) 2010

With the improved coffee nutrition program the coffee production will be increased from the current 25 million Kgs of cherry to around 50 million Kgs of cherry by 2017. The improved nutrition will also enhance quality by ensuring that farmers produce more parchment 1 and 2 instead of the 3rds and lights. More premium grades of parchment 1 and parchment 2 (P1 and P2), (AA & ABs) will be produced. The overall benefit to coffee farmers will be annual returns of approximately Kes2BN at an average price of Kes40 per Kg of cherry in the year 2016/2017 and Kes 4BN by the year 2017/18.

Tea productivity is expected to increase from the current 1.4kgs average per bush to about 2kgs per bush thereby increasing the earnings to the farmers by 42%. This will translate to a value increase of 3.3BN to the tea farmers. i.e from the current 8BN up to 11.3BN annually.

Banana productivity is expected to increase by 30% creating an additional Kes420,000,000 to the banana sector annually.

The program therefore will create an additional 5.4BN in earnings to the Murang'a residents in two years, and therefore if sustained to other years to come will revolutionize the Agricultural sector.

The use of Organic manure and organic inputs will also offer many other advantages over the inorganic fertilizers.

- It is more affordable
- There is less risk of nutrients leaching.
- It releases nutrients slowly to the plant and over a long time.
- Improves soil texture.
- Provides a variety of nutrients.
- Increases soil organic matter.
- Improves soil structure
- Creates a carbon bank
- Feeds soil microbes that are essential for soil fertility
- Ensures mineralization of plant nutrients
- Creates soil buffering ability.

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7. ROLES

a) FARMER

- Register and apply for manure at the cooperative society, a farmers' business group or a tea buying centre.
- Pay for the manure to the manure collection account. Murata SACCO.
- Forward the bank deposit slip to the cooperative society or farmers' business group or a tea buying centre.

b) COOPERATIVE SOCIETY/TEA FACTORY/FARMERS' BUSINESS GROUP

- Register farmers interested in the manure.
- Collect banking slips from member/farmers.
- Forward the banking slips to the coffee directorate.
- Receive the manure and instruct the carrier drivers on the best site for offloading.

c) SELECTED FINANCING INSTITUTIONS

- Give the best financing terms to the beneficiaries.

d) MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Supervise the entire program.
- Offer financial assistance to the farmers may be through a grant, partial grant or subsidy.
- Procure 400 manure measurement containers and distribute them to the farmers.
- Procure mist blower pumps for inoculum incorporation.

Timeframe.

The program is hoped to be sustained for a period of 5 years from the year January 2016 upon which total transformation of the coffee, tea, banana and overall organic productivity can be realized. Other support programs will also be initiated to complement the nutrition program, to the three and other food crops.

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