

IFA

Magonjwa yanavyoua mifugo wilayani Meatu

Na Happy Severine, MEATU

WAFUGAJI wa Wilaya ya Meatu mkoani Simiyu wanaopakana na Pori la Akiba la Maswa na Hifadhi ya Taifa Serengeti wameeleza tatizo kubwa ambalo linatesa mifugo yao hasa ng'ombe kushambuliwa na magonjwa mengi ya ajabu. Wamesema magonjwa hayo yamesababisha ng'ombe wao kufa wengi, huku wakibainisha kuwa unawaathiri zaidi kwa kuvimba mwili mzima, kupasuka kwato, kuvimba mapafu na kutoa udenda.

Walieleza hayo kwa Mkuu wa Mkoa huo, David Kafulila, wakati wa kikao na wafugaji hao.

Walisema magonjwa hayo

amesababisha ng'ombe wao wengi kupungua kutokana na kufa, huku wakidai ugonjwa wa kuvimba mwili na kupasuka kwako ndio umekuwa tatizo kubwa. Walieleza kuwa licha ya kuwapo kwa tatizo la malipo, lakini changamoto ya magonjwa hayo ndiyo kubwa zaidi, hivyo wameiomba serikali kuwasaidia upatikanaji wa chanjo ya haraka ili kinusuru mifugo yao.

"Nilikuwa na ng'ombe 80, lakini nimebaki na 37 tu, wengine wote wamekufa kutokana na magonjwa hayo, tunaomba sisi wafugaji hasa tunaopakana na hifadhi serikali itusaidie," alisema Shoka Felesi.

Naye Hunge Hunge, alisema kuwa mbali na magonjwa, changamoto nyingine ni ukosefu

wa majosho pamoja na malambo ya kunyweshea mifugo yao.

"Tunayo shida kubwa ya ukosefu wa majosho, ndiyo maana mifugo yetu inapata magonjwa mara kwa mara, lakini hata chanjo hatupati kwa muda mrefu," alisema Hunge.

Ofisa Mifugo wa Halmashauri hiyo, Hussen Nyenye, alikiri kuwapo kwa magonjwa hayo, ambayo alieleza yanasababishwa na mwingiliano uliopo kati ya mifugo na wanyamapori kutoka hifadhini.

"Tatizo ni wafugaji wetu wengi kupeleka mifugo yao kwenye hifadhi, ndiyo maana wanapata magonjwa mbalimbali, lakini tumekuwa tukitoa chanjo ila wanaojitokeza wachache, kwa mwaka huu hatujatoa chanjo,"

alisema Nyenye.

Kutokana na hali hiyo, Kafulila alimtaka mkurugenzi wa halmashauri kumpatia taarifa ya hadhari inayotokana na magonjwa hayo kujua ukubwa wa tatizo ili kuomba msaada kutoka wizarani.

"Waziri wa Mifugo anatoka Mkoa wa Simiyu, leo nitamweleza tatizo hili ili kuona wanaweza kutusaidia vipi kwa haraka kutatua shida hii, lakini nipate taarifa ya ukubwa wa tatizo hili," alisema Kafulila.

Katika kikao hicho wafugaji waliomba serikali kuanzisha mkakati wa upandaji wa nyasi za kisasa, ili kukabiliana na changamoto ya malisho pamoja na kupatiwa elimu ya ufugaji wa kisasa.

Govt planning to empower women seaweed farmers in Kilwa District

By Guardian Reporter, Lindi

THE Government is planning to empower women groups engaged in seaweed farming in the country to enhance their economic wellbeing from its production.

The remarks were made by the Deputy Livestock and Fisheries Minister, Abdallah Ulega during his recent visit at the Mwani Mariculture processing plant where he met with and talked to women seaweed farmers in Kilwa District, Lindi Region.

Ulega said in FY 2021/22 the government has set aside special budget to enable women seaweed farming groups to

strengthen their activities, adding that their groups will be among the first to get the funds.

He added that the money will enable the groups get various equipment for their activities, including ropes and seaweed drying machines.

In regard to market challenges and the seaweed price, Ulega directed experts from his ministry and the Kilwa District Executive Director to supply farmers with quality seaweed seeds that would produce harvest to compete in the market.

Earlier, Kilwa Masoko Cooperative deputy chairman, Bakari Bakari said the main

challenge they face was the shortage of working tools for seaweed farmers, markets and low prices.

"All these women grow seaweed but when they harvest they are forced to keep the seaweed in their homes from two to three months before they sell, this create hardships to them, so we need your assistance to get alternative markets," he said.

For his part, Mwani Mariculture seaweed buyer and processor, Roger Morre said they were also ready to work together with farmers to get quality seeds that would improve the seaweed crop.