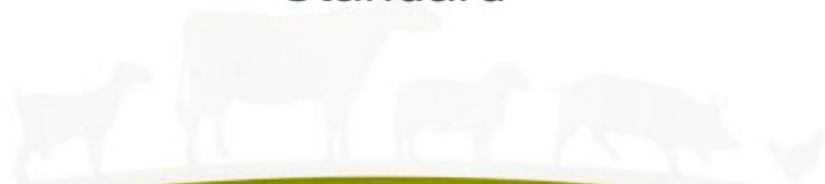




Livestock Production

Introducing the
**East African Organic Products
Standard**



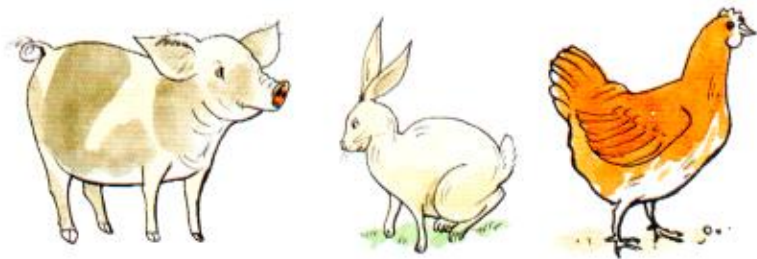
1 Selecting the right number and type of animals

Select the right numbers of suitable animal breeds for the various purposes (meat, milk and eggs).

Which ones?



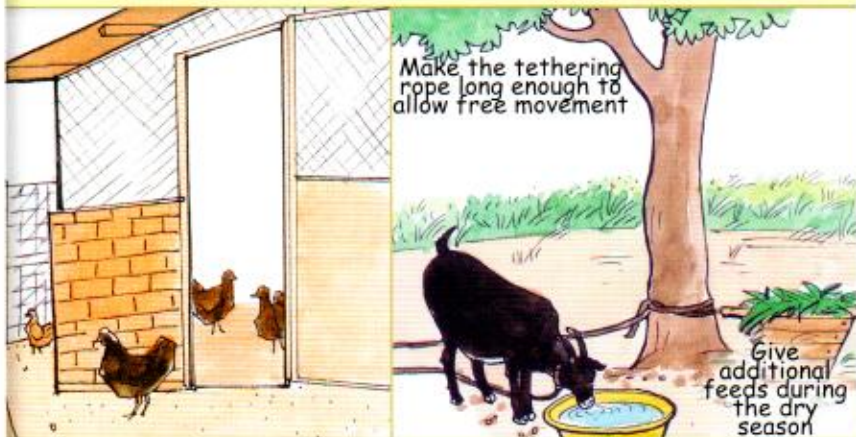
- Survive under the local climatic conditions
- Feed on locally available feeds
- Produce enough products to match the market demand
- Do not easily get affected by common parasites and diseases
- Produce young ones well without problems
- Match the amount of feeds, space for housing, and ability to treat them against infections.



2 Handling animals in a friendly way

Provide good living conditions to prevent abnormal behaviour, injuries and diseases.

How?



- Regularly clean the animal houses
- Provide sufficient lying and resting space in animal houses
- Allow access to enough fresh air, enough water and feeds
- Protect from direct sunlight, excessive noise, heat, rain, mud and wind.

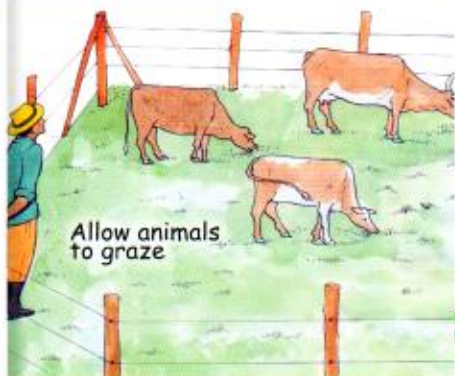


- Do not cut off animal parts, except for castration, ringing and dehorning (only of young animals)
- Do not mistreat animals by beating or tying them in one place for a long time.
- Artificial insemination may be used

3 Give the right type and amount of feeds

Giving the right type and amount of feeds; as much as possible organic and natural feeds.

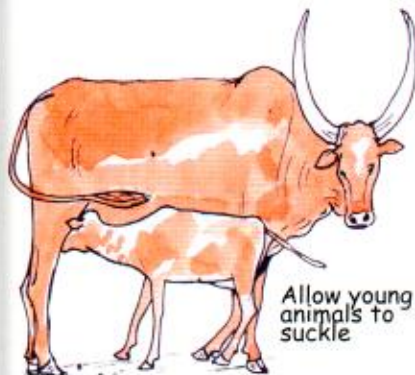
How?



Grow at least 60 % of feed required on the farm



- Only use plant-based products, by-products from the food industry (e.g. molasses), and bacteria, fungi and enzymes as feed preservatives
- Feed animals on vitamins, trace elements and supplements from natural sources.
- Do not use artificial substances, like hormones, for promoting growth or increasing the amount of animal products.

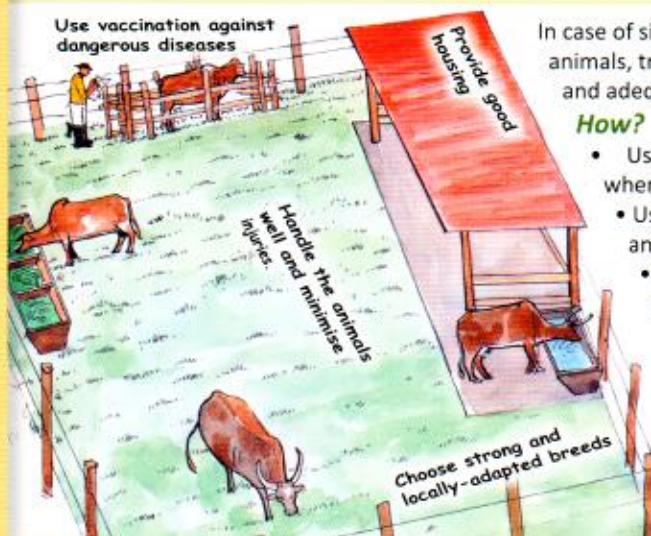


- Raise young ones of mammals on maternal milk or natural whole milk from their own species.
- Do not stop the young ones from suckling at an early age.

4 Managing parasites and diseases in time and in a proper way

As a first option, prevent the introduction and multiplication of animal parasites and diseases.

How?



In case of sick animals, treat them promptly and adequately.

How?

- Use natural treatments when proven effective
- Use chemical drugs, antibiotics and pesticide
- Use hormonal treatments and other drugs under veterinary supervision.
- Isolate sick animals

5 Handling animals for slaughter

During transport and slaughter, handle animals calmly and gently and minimise physical and mental strain or stress to the animal.

How?



- Do not keep the animals hungry or thirsty
- Do not keep animals under very hot or cold conditions
- Do not mix animals of different sexes, age groups and health conditions

In this brochure you can see some of the requirements of the East African Organic Products Standard. This standard was adopted by the East African Community in April 2007 as EAS 456:2007. It thereby became an official standard for Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. More information about organic farming and the practical application of these requirements can be obtained from:



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Other brochures in the series

- Beekeeping
- Crop production
- Processing of organic products