



Newsletter

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AFA Strategic Plan 2023-2027

Paving the Way for a Sustainable Agricultural Future

The Authority is proud to unveil its Strategic Plan for 2023-2027, a comprehensive blueprint that sets the stage for sustainable agriculture, enhanced food security, and economic growth. Rooted in the mandates of the Agriculture and Food Authority Act No. 13 of 2013, this plan outlines our vision, goals, and the transformative initiatives that will guide us over the next five years.

Aligned with national priorities like MTP IV and the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), as well as global frameworks, the plan focuses on four key results areas: Improving production and productivity, advancing value addition and marketing systems for scheduled crops.

This ensures compliance with agricultural regulations, and enhancing organizational effectiveness.

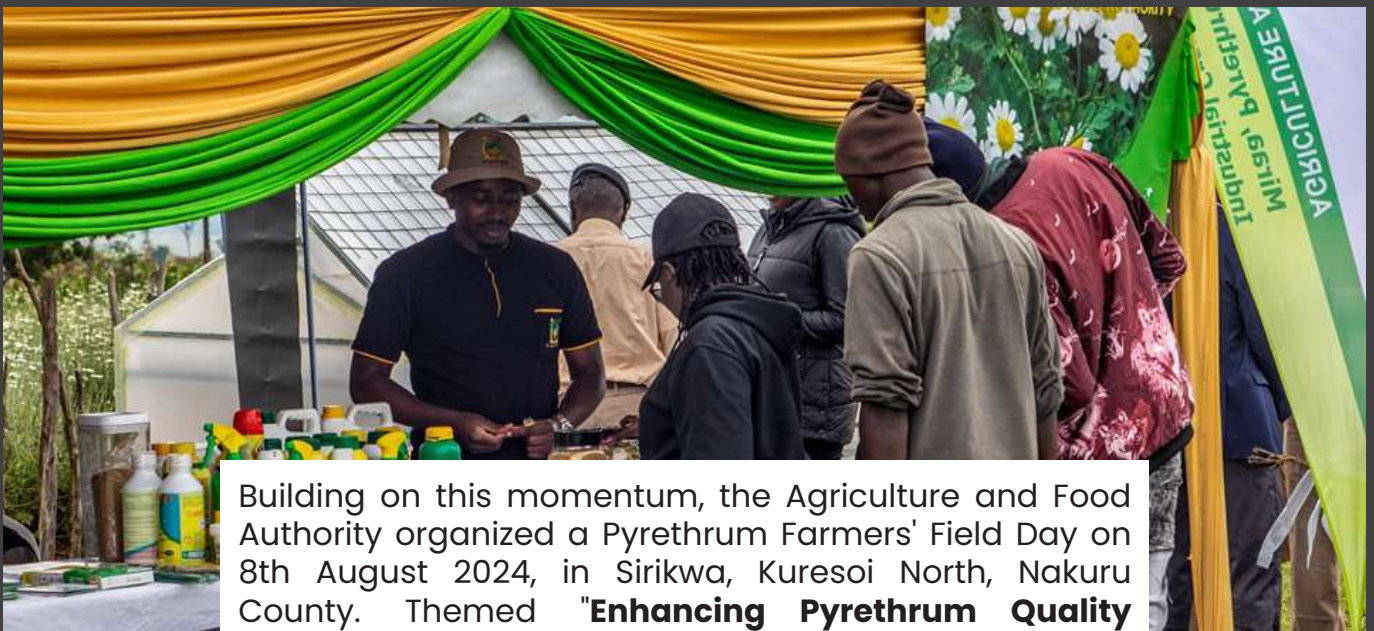
Key challenges such as declining soil fertility, post-harvest losses, and limited market access are addressed through targeted strategies, including sustainable farming practices, farmer education, and technology adoption. Additionally, AFA aims to transform scheduled crops into commercially viable enterprises, ensuring food security, nutrition, and improved livelihoods.

The authority invites all stakeholders to join us on this journey as we work together to build a thriving, sustainable agricultural sector that ensures prosperity for generations to come.

Pyrethrum Farming: A Flourishing Sector

In 2023, the area under pyrethrum cultivation expanded to 9,362 acres, marking a remarkable growth of 134.5% compared to 2022. Counties such as Nakuru, West Pokot, Bomet, Nyandarua, Elgeyo Marakwet, and Kericho led in acreage, driven by favorable climatic conditions, the availability of planting material, and the strong support from both growers and county governments. The revival of pyrethrum farming has been fueled by Public-Private Partnerships, where County Governments have purchased and distributed planting material, and processors have contracted growers and provided them with the necessary resources. The Authority's efforts in building the capacity of County Extension officers have further bolstered service delivery to growers, ensuring continued growth in the sector.

This consistent increase in acreage over the past three years, with 6,544 acres in 2023 being actively productive, is a testament to the concerted efforts from national and county governments, processors, and NGOs. These efforts are pivotal in the ongoing revival of the pyrethrum sub-sector.



Building on this momentum, the Agriculture and Food Authority organized a Pyrethrum Farmers' Field Day on 8th August 2024, in Sirikwa, Kuresoi North, Nakuru County. Themed **"Enhancing Pyrethrum Quality Through Adoption of Climate-Smart Technologies for Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security & Economic Growth,"** the event highlighted the critical role of modern technologies in advancing the sector. Farmers were introduced to Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and various innovations, with the Directorate donating 16 state-of-the-art solar pyrethrum dryers to Nakuru County. These dryers, fabricated by the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), are set to reduce post-harvest losses, boost production, and ultimately, increase farmers' incomes. This initiative aligns with the Agriculture Pillar of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which prioritizes food and nutrition security by minimizing post-harvest losses and supporting key value chains like pyrethrum.

Enhancing Quality Standards in the Horticultural Exports

The Authority recently participated in a forum with key stakeholders from the horticulture industry to address challenges in the export of consolidated horticultural produce. The discussions focused on the need to enhance adherence to quality standards to maintain existing markets and expand Kenya's share in the global market.



AFA emphasized its commitment to resolving these challenges by ensuring a supportive regulatory and business environment that will enable the horticultural sector to thrive and remain competitive internationally.

Edible Oil Promotion Project Takes Center Stage In Kenya

The Authority, through its Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate, recently hosted a consultative meeting with key stakeholders, including the Council of Governors, the State Department for Agriculture, and various edible oil processors. The meeting aimed to sensitize participants on the Edible Oil Promotion Project, a critical component of the broader Edible Oil Crops initiative in Kenya. This initiative, which is aligned with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), is focused on reducing the country's dependence on imported edible oils by encouraging the local cultivation and processing of crops such as sunflower, sesame, and soybean. By enhancing domestic production, the project aims to create jobs, stimulate agro-industrial growth, and improve rural livelihoods. Additionally, by supporting smallholder farmers and agro-processing enterprises, the initiative is expected to significantly boost the agricultural sector's contribution to the economy, thereby fostering sustainable development in rural areas.

Enhancing Miwa Bora: New Disease Diagnostics Feature

We're thrilled to announce a significant upgrade to the Miwa Bora app. The Authority recently conducted field visits across several western counties, capturing images of sugarcane pests and diseases. This data is crucial for refining Miwa Bora's upcoming AI-powered disease diagnostics feature, which will help farmers better identify and manage threats to their crops. This initiative underscores our commitment to providing cutting-edge tools that support sustainable growth in Kenya's sugar industry. Stay tuned for great feature!



Smut Disease



Ringspot Disease

Kisumu Regional ASK Show 2024



The Sugar Directorate Receive a trophy from the Principal Secretary, State Department For Agriculture Dr. Paul Ronoh during the Kisumu Regional Show

The Kisumu Regional ASK Show, took place on July 24th to 29th, 2024, at Mamboleo Showground, The Theme was "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth." Over 150 exhibitors showcased innovations aligned with the National Government's agenda. The AFA-Sugar Directorate highlighted sustainable practices, including the Single Eye Bud technology and green energy. The Directorate's stand earned top spots in three competition categories, emphasizing its commitment to innovation. Key technologies featured included carbonized briquettes and bio-ethanol cook stoves, promoting eco-friendly alternatives. Discussions centered on improving sugarcane variety adoption and integrating by-products like molasses into pricing.



The Authority has released projections on the nation's key food stocks. These projections indicate a promising outlook for maize, wheat, beans, and rice, with surpluses expected across all major staples. This positive forecast reflects the combined efforts of farmers, traders, millers, and governmental agencies to ensure food security and stability in the country. Below is a detailed summary of the projected balance sheets for these critical crops:

Maize Projection



The maize balance sheet shows a projected surplus of approximately 31.07 million 50 kg bags by the end of August 2024. This surplus is based on carryover stocks of 36.6 million bags and anticipated imports of 1.08 million bags over the next three months. Additionally, the long rains crop, particularly from low-altitude and warmer counties such as Bomet, parts of Narok, Nyamira, and Migori, is expected to contribute 24.5 million bags. These stocks are sufficient to meet the country's needs until the next main harvest in August 2024.

Wheat Projection

Wheat stocks are also projected to be in surplus, with an estimated 10.2 million 50 kg bags available by the end of August 2024. This projection includes private sector imports of 8.7 million bags and an early long rains harvest yielding 2.8 million bags. The country continues to rely on routine importation to meet its wheat demand.

Beans Projection

The beans balance sheet projects a surplus of 10.3 million 50 kg bags by the end of July 2024. This forecast considers carryover stocks of 3.4 million bags, estimated imports of 270,000 bags by the private sector, and an anticipated harvest of 9 million bags during June and July.

Rice Projection

Rice stocks are forecasted to reach a surplus of 4.1 million 50 kg bags by the end of August 2024. This includes carry-over stocks of 3.3 million bags, expected imports by the private sector and relief agencies totaling 3.6 million bags, and an anticipated harvest of 1.2 million bags from the long rains season.

These projections underscore the strength of our agricultural sector and its capacity to meet the food demands of the nation. Through continued collaboration and strategic planning, we aim to maintain this positive trajectory and ensure food security for all.

NATIONAL FOOD STOCKS 2024

Summary of Status of national food stocks and consumption estimates

	Farmer's Stocks-50kg Bags	Traders and Millers (50Kg Bags)	NCPB NFR Stocks (50Kg Bags)	Totals (50Kg Bags)	Estimated Balance end of August 2024 (50Kg Bags)	Monthly Human Consumption (50 Kgs Bags)
Maize	29,156,800	6,787,240	697,510	36,641,550	31,074,392	7,095,650
Beans	258,370	3,219,200	-	3,477,570	5,236,002	1,142,280
Wheat	577,818	8,190,680	-	8,768,498	10,263,109	1,788,660
Rice	1,442,380	1,880,340	62,420	3,385,140	4,123,712	1,341,520

Source: AFA and SDA 2024 reports





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Public Participation

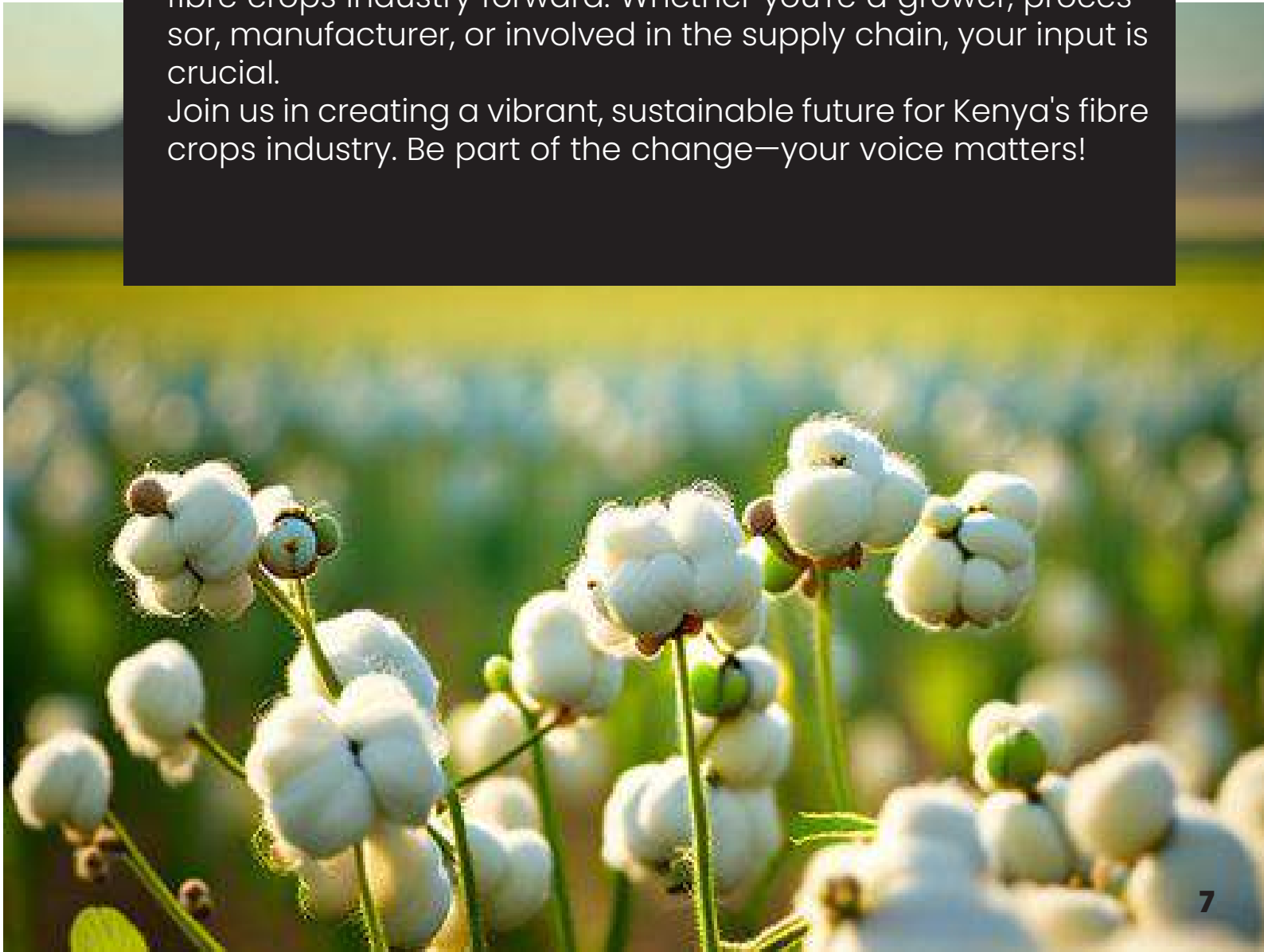
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Fibre Crops Regulations

The Agriculture and Food Authority invites you to participate in the County stakeholders' consultative forums on the draft Crops (Fibre Crops) Regulations, 2024, starting 2nd September 2024.

This is your chance to help shape regulations that will drive the fibre crops industry forward. Whether you're a grower, processor, manufacturer, or involved in the supply chain, your input is crucial.

Join us in creating a vibrant, sustainable future for Kenya's fibre crops industry. Be part of the change—your voice matters!



Check The Schedule Below To Find A Forum Near You

SCHEDULE OF COUNTY STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE FORUMS ON THE DRAFT CROPS (FIBRE CROPS) REGULATIONS, 2024

No.	Venue	Region	Stakeholder Counties	Tentative Dates
1.	Kisumu	Nyanza/Western	Kisumu and Siaya	2 nd September
2.	Homabay		Homabay, Migori & Isebania	4 th September
3.	Busia		Busia, Bungoma & Malaba	6 th September
4.	Kabarnet	Rift Valley	Baringo & Nakuru	29 th October
5.	Eldoret		Elgeyo Markwet & West Pokot	31 st October
6.	Meru	Eastern	Meru, Laikipia & Isiolo	14 th October
7.	Embu		Embu, Kirinyaga, Murang'a & Tharaka Nithi	16 th October
8.	Machakos		Machakos, Kitui & Makueni	18 th October
9.	Mombasa		Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Kwale & Kilifi	19 th September
10.	Mpeketoni	Coast	Lamu & Tana River	17 th September

MOMBASA INTERNATIONAL SHOW 2024

AFA will be participating at this Year's Mombasa International Show, taking place on 4th September to 8th September 2024. We welcome you to come and visit our stand as we showcase the latest innovations in sustainable Agriculture and highlight the benefits of Climate-Smart Practices.



AFA Staff During Last Year's Mombasa International Show

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