



Seated, L-R: The Best Farmers Competition western region winner, Joan Kantu; Vision Group CEO Don Wanyama; the Netherlands Ambassador to Uganda, Frederieke Quispel; Prime Minister emeritus Dr Ruhakana Rugunda and wife Jocelyn; the chief retail banking officer at dfcu Bank, Annette Kiconco; the country manager KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Lukla Otema and the country manager Koudijs Nutrition BV, Stevens Guido. Standing are other Best Farmers 2025 winners during the awards ceremony at Vision Group offices on December 10, 2025

NETHERLANDS: 2025 BEST FARMERS TO TRAVEL ON MAY 30

By Joshua Kato

The long wait is over because it has been confirmed that winners of the 2025 Best Farmers Competition will travel to the Netherlands on May 30 and return on June 6 this year. This was confirmed by the sponsors and preparations for the trip are in high gear.

The Best Farmers' Competition is organised by Vision Group with sponsorship from the Embassy of the Netherlands, dfcu Bank, KLM Airlines and Koudijs Nutrition BV. Ten winners share sh150m plus a fully paid study tour of the Netherlands. Since the competition started in 2014, this will be the seventh cohort that is travelling to the Netherlands.

Andrew Byaruhanga, the policy officer – trade, investment and economic diplomacy at the Embassy of the Netherlands – says preparations by the hosts in the Netherlands are already underway.

"The farmers here have already identified the things that they want to see in the Netherlands," he says.

KLM Airlines, the official

carrier of the winners, has also confirmed space and tickets have already been issued. The farmers will stay in the Netherlands for one week.

The travelling farmers include five who practice dairy on a large scale, five major in poultry, one in green houses and horticulture, while others grow coffee.

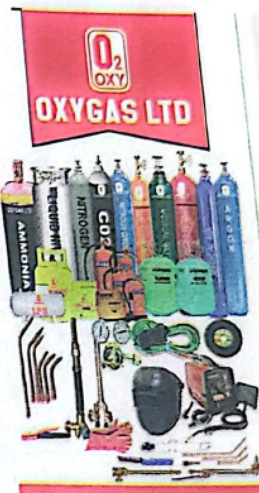
FARMERS TO BE TRAINED

Before the trip, the travelling farmers will receive training in business plan presentations to prepare them for the many opportunities that they will find in the Netherlands. The training will be facilitated by ASIGMA and New Vision Foundation.

"This training enables the farmers make good pitches before potential clients and partners in the Netherlands," Byaruhanga says.

The Netherlands is a highly modernised agriculture country. It ranks as the second highest exporter of agriculture products after the US.

Previous winners who have travelled to the Netherlands have used the experience to improve their farms commercially.



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