

Bamwine rejects OWC cows

BUIKWE

By Jackie Nambogga

The Buikwe resident district commissioner, Fred Bamwine, has rejected some of the heifers distributed through Operation Wealth Creation (OWC).

He instructed those who delivered the animals not to offload them, until he arrived at the district headquarters.

He began by inspecting the two trucks, before observing that some of the animals did not have in-calves, while others had given birth before, something which contravened the procurement agreement.

The supplier insisted that the heifers were young, but Bamwine instructed the district veterinary officer, Dr Gerald Mwanje, to examine the animals.

Bamwine said the animals were procured from Ntuusi, in Sembabule and that Mwanje had bought each at sh2.5m.

After examination, Mwanje reported that some were one month pregnant, but Bamwine rubbished his findings, saying it was difficult to tell a pregnant cow at one month.

Bamwine faulted both the supplier and Mwanje for contravening the guidelines.

He acknowledged receipt of the animals and instructed Mwanje to return them and replace them with those that meet the standards.

Bamwine said the Government



Bamwine instructing the officials to return the animals. Photo by Jackie Nambogga

Buikwe RDC Fred Bamwine said the Government would be branded liars if the beneficiaries did not receive in-calf heifers

would be branded liars, especially after assuring the beneficiaries that they had received in-calf heifers.

“Our beneficiaries would take a year without their animals giving

birth, this would give us a bad reputation,” Bamwine said.

He explained that it was rare for farmers to sell off their cows, which had given birth.

Mwanje assured Bamwine saying in case the youth realised after two months that their heifers were not pregnant, they can conduct artificial insemination.

The RDC distributed the remaining animals to the youth and appealed to whoever benefited to take good care of them.

The youth hailed Bamwine for the checks and balances he made while following up on the government projects, saying the practice was not common among its officials.