Common carrot market offing

Uganda has approved plans by Kenya to set up a regional carrot export market that will meet the East African Community's demands.

Other countries of the bloc such as Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda and South Sudan have approved the decision that also seeks to boost agriculture in the region.

Nakuru County Executive for Agriculture, Dr Immaculate Njuthe, said Kenya was committed to rescuing farmers from poor markets by helping them harvest quality produce.

"The reason we invited stakeholders concerned with carrot farming is in order to enlighten each other and cooperate in producing high quality products," Dr Njuthe said during a meeting of farmers and stakeholders in Njoro.

An expert from the Agriculture Food Authority, Zakayo Magara of Uganda, who also spoke at the forum, said the county has the potential to feed the region's carrot demand. "Farmers willing to export their produce should have valid licences and be registered as exporters or else, their produce will be impounded at border points," Magara observed.

By Tom Brian Angurini

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