

# Livestock farming: The trick lies in proper nutrition

By Joshua Kato in The Hague

The quality of feeds you give your livestock determines their growth rate and final product, Vision Group 2018 Best Farmers have been advised.

The advice was given on Monday during a learning tour of De Heus Group, a livestock feeds processing plant whose product is also sold in Uganda.

Koudijs, one of the sponsors of the Best Farmers competition, in 1998 became a part of the de Heus Group. Royal de Heus is the largest independent and family-owned feed company in the Netherlands. The plant, which is over 100km from The Hague, produces feeds for poultry, pigs, turkey, fish, cattle and horses.

The other sponsors are KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, the Embassy of The Kingdom of the Netherlands and dfcu Bank

“Even if you have the best breed, but do not feed it well, it will not give you positive results,” Johan Verhoek, the export manager for Africa at Koudijs, told the farmers. In Uganda, Koudijs is represented by Kaffika Feeds and Chickways Farm Supply.

The farmers’ group comprised of



Livestock are as good as the quality of their feeds

Isaac Malinga, Julius Bigabwa, Tom Anyii, Justine Didi Omeke, Patrick Bakumpe Makanga, Robert Ociti, Rachael Amol, Timothy Jokkene, Margaret Mbaga, Celia Kansime and Jacob Kazindula. They are accompanied by Vision Group chief executive officer Robert Kabushenga.

The group also had a tour of the feeds testing laboratory at Leeuwenhoeckweg and, later, the feeds processing factory at Ravenstein to see the process through which good

feeds are determined. Before retiring to their hotels, the farmers visited a dairy farm, south of the Hague, whose owners use Koudijs products.

Josephat Byaruhanga, the agriculture policy officer at the Netherlands embassy in Uganda, who is the chief tour guide, advised the farmers to ensure quality for quality produce.

“I am amazed by the detail these people put into producing feeds,” Malinga said.

According to Johan Verhoek, one of the export managers at De Heus, Koudijs was founded at the beginning of the 20th century in the Dutch town of Barneveld, under the name, ‘NV Koudijs’ Voederfabrieken BK’. It specialised in poultry feeds and, as demand rose, in 1927 the production of animal feeds was incorporated at Rotterdam. In 1948, Koudijs moved its activities to the city of Den Bosch. With the acquisition of the compound, feeds manufacturer, Wouda Voeders, in 1966, the company expanded under the name of Koudijs-Wouda. In 2014, Koudijs moved its activities to Ravenstein city. Although Koudijs-Wouda was acquired by Meneba in 1974, Koudijs operated four factories by 1994 and produced more than 750,000 tonnes of animal feeds. Koudijs-Wouda also had an important export


department under the name of Koudijs Feed, with activities in the Middle East and eastern Europe.

Johan says in 1998, Koudijs-Wouda was acquired by De Heus. With this, Koudijs became one of the leading feeds companies in the Netherlands and expanded her activities on the international market. To date, Koudijs is the export department of De Heus Animal Nutrition.

Koudijs Animal Nutrition is a leading producer and exporter of a complete programme of feed, concentrates and premixes worldwide.

Through knowledge exchange with local farmers, Koudijs Animal Nutrition develops customised concentrates and premixes to improve the results of our livestock farmers. Overall, Koudijs has over 50 branches across the world.

## WHO ARE DE HEUS?

 **The Institute of Internal Auditors Uganda**

THREE DAY COURSE ON CERTIFIED ISO 31000 RISK MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL ON 10<sup>TH</sup> TO 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018 AT SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO.

## Treason: Kabaziguruka