

NARRATIVE REPORT

FOR

NJERU QUAIL FARM

FROM

JANUARY TO MAY 2015

Submitted to

Quails for Africa - Netherlands

Compiled by:

NANTABA JESCA FAITH
Njeru Quail Farm, Buikwe, Uganda
Tel: +256 779 359402/757 981573
E-mail: jescafaith2011@gmail.com

1.0 Introduction

This five months report covers the activities performed, successes/developments, challenges, recommendations/possibilities and activities to be implemented in the coming three months.

1.1 Activities performed/efforts

(a) Mobilize granny groups in Buikwe and Luweero district

Two granny groups in the names of Hope Granny Group and Ebenezer Granny group have been mobilized in Buikwe and Luweero respectively. Each group contains 5 female grannies meaning that in this period 10 grannies have been mobilized.

(b) Sensitize granny groups on quail rearing

Two sensitization meetings have been conducted in Wabiyinja and Kikasa village. In Wabiyinja we met specifically 5 grannies but in Kikasa we used a strategy of using local leaders in the names of Pastor Ruth who gave us a plat form to share with the entire congregation and then later selections were made and grannies were sensitized about quail rearing.



Jesca sensitizing Ebenezer Granny group in Luweero district

(c) Carry out feedback meetings to ascertain what the grannies can afford in terms of constructing cages/project.

One feedback meeting has been conducted in Wabiyinja and grannies responded to construct a group cage and the foundation supports them with wire mesh.



Jesca with Hope granny group in Wabiyinja during a feedback meeting

(d) Training of granny groups on basics of rearing quails

Hope Granny Group has been trained on basics of rearing quails. With use of a designed training manual which is in place, grannies were taken through the session of quail rearing and management with the intention of acquiring knowledge and skills.



Jesca conducting a training with Hope Granny Group in Wabiynja

(e) Construct cages and follow ups

So far Hope granny group has constructed their cage with six apartments. This was done through community participation whereby each granny contributed financially and others in kind.



Granny Lovinsa in front of the constructed cage

(f) Purchase cage materials and transport to site/granny group

7 metres of wire mesh was purchased and the leader of Hope granny group received it on behalf of the group.



Granny Lovisa in front of group cage with wire mesh received from the project

(g) Carryout monthly hatching and brooding of chicks

In the month of January, 3 hatchings were made, February, March & April, there were no hatching and in May it was done twice. Since January up to May, over 881 eggs were hatched and over 238 chicks were brooded. Refer to the inventory for more details. On the inventory the 240 eggs which were hatched in the month of May are still in the incu and waiting for chicks.



Chicks in the brooder

(h) Produce quail eggs/meat in response to demand

Production of quail eggs has been done. In the month of January the farm had 60 females and they were picking 60 eggs daily. In the month of February, March and April, there was reduction in production of quail eggs due to sickness & diseases like New castle, infectious coryza which affected the birds. Right now the farm has stabilized and has 76 females and on daily basis we pick 60 eggs.

(i) Market quail eggs/birds in supermarkets, towns, churches, schools and shops all round

A lot of initiatives has been done like participating in monthly farmers day at Flavours which has been done thrice from the month of March, April and May in Jinja town whereby quail eggs have been sold and making business connections with buyers. Posters/stickers have been designed and pinned in public places like central market in Jinja town, Tata Owen Supermarket, churches, around Njeru market and people are responding slowly. More connections have been made with TASO Jinja, individual buyers, Soroti and Mbale town.



Jesca with other farmers during farmer's day at Flavours in Jinja town

1.1 Successes/developments

- Group cage construction by Hope Granny group in Wabiyinja
- Mobilized two granny groups as it was planned that is in Buikwe and Luweero district
- Quail egg production has been stabilized compared to the months of February, March and April.
- Participating in monthly farmer's day at Flavours has opened up business opportunities for the project.
- Increased publicity of the project in Jinja town due to posters which were picked up.
- Reduced death rate of chicks compared to the month of January to now.

1.2 Challenges

- In the month of February & March the farm lost over 18 mature birds and 158 chicks due to sicknesses and diseases.
- In the month of May we lost over 120 eggs due to load shedding of electricity.
- Inconsistence in marketing due to limited days i.e. done 2 days in a week.
- Price fluctuation, most especially prices of feeds which tends to change every time and again.

1.3 Recommendations/possibilities

- There is need to acquire a standby generator to support when there is power failure to avoid losses.
- On the issue of marketing, there is need to use variety of strategies like use of posters, fliers, influencers e.g. friendly customers to market the project

1.4 Activities to be implemented in the forth coming three months

- Carryout a feedback meeting with Luweero grannies
- Train Ebenezer granny group in Luweero on basics of rearing quails
- Ensure that cages are constructed in Luweero
- Purchase cage materials and transport to site/granny group
- Distribution of birds to Luweero and Wabiyinja granny groups
- Carry out monthly hatching and brooding of chicks to pass-on the blessing to other circles/farm like Soroti.
- Produce quail eggs/meat in response to demand
- Participate in farmer's agriculture show/Market days at flavours
- Network with other quail farmers to create a plat form for the project
- Market quail eggs/birds in supermarkets, towns, churches, schools and shops all round
- Record discussion of challenges/success at community and customer level
- Carry out home visits/follow-ups of the project at household level and different circles/farms