

Series 5, Episode 19

Moseti's farm, Kisii, KENYA



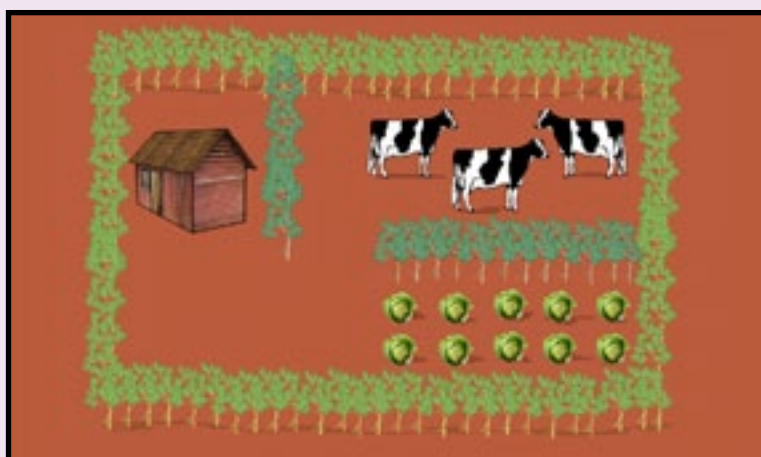
This leaflet contains information on: soil testing, soil conservation, Tuta absoluta, records and solar lights

Protect Your Soil

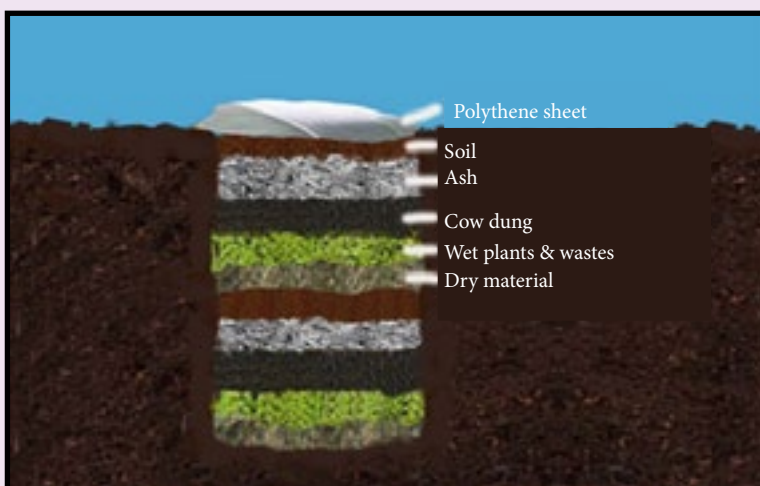
When soil is washed away, your farm will give poor yields. Protect your soil from wind and water to make your shamba strong:

- Rotate your crops.
- Only till the places you will plant the seeds. This is called minimum tillage.
- Plant fodder trees around your shamba, on terraces and around the compound. Use the leaves to feed cows.
- Prepare the land before rain starts.
- Put manure on your shamba to make the soil healthy. Manure adds organic matter which helps the soil to stick together.

For more information SMS 'SOIL EROSION' to 30606



Grow fodder trees on terraces, around the outside of the shamba and around the compound



Make good compost by layering different waste

To Make Good Compost:

- Collect all waste from the cowshed, poultry house and farm.
- Dig a pit 1 foot deep for each layer and 4 - 5 feet wide in the shade.
- Layer the materials (see picture at left).
- Cover with polythene to stop water from getting in.
- Leave it to rot.
- Turn it every month.
- It is ready for use after 4 - 6 months.
- Take compost from one side as you add to the other end to let it rot well.

For more information SMS 'COMPOST' to 30606

Stop Tuta Absoluta

Tuta absoluta is a moth which kills your whole tomato crop. The moth lays eggs on your crop, and caterpillars eat the whole plant.

Signs Of Tuta Absoluta

The signs are:

- Moths in the tomato field
- Brown patches on the leaves
- Holes in tomato fruit
- Burns on the crop

For more information SMS 'TOMATOES' to 30606



Tuta absoluta burns the whole crop

To Stop Tuta Absoluta

1. Use **Pegasus**: Mix 25ml in 20 litres of water and spray for ¼ acre. Repeat the spray after 7 days.
2. Follow with a spray of **Match** mixed with **Dynamec**: Mix 25ml of Match and 25ml of Dynamec in 20 litres of water for ¼ acre.
3. Repeat the spray again after 7 days, and then change the chemical. This will stop the pest from being resistant.



Spray with Pegasus to stop Tuta absoluta

Solar Lights

Using kerosene gives you a bad cough and makes your eyes sore. It is also expensive.

For example:

You use Ksh 120 every week on buying kerosene.

Ksh 120 per week x 52 weeks = Ksh 6,240 in a year for kerosene.

Save money using solar home lighting system from d.Light. It uses light from the sun which is free, and lights for 8 - 15 hours when charged. It has a solar panel, a battery, two light switches, two bulbs, plus a portable lamp.

You can use it to charge your phone and your neighbours can pay you to charge their phones.



Hang the solar bulbs in your house to see well

For more information SMS 'SOLAR' to 30606

Keep Good Records

Keeping good records of all activities in your farm helps you:

- Manage your money well
- Know if you are making a profit or a loss
- Track progress in the farm
- Easily get a loan from banks, women and youth funds

Some good records are:

1.

Purchase Book			
Date	Description	Receipt	Amount
27/2/2015	Vaccination costs	1348	Ksh 2,000

Use a **purchase book** to keep records of what you buy.

This will allow you to keep a record of what you have spent, and help you to see where you are spending your money.

Never buy anything on credit.

2. Track what you sell using a **sales book**.

This will help you to track market prices and your income for the month.

Never sell anything on credit.

Sales Book			
Date	Description	Receipt	Amount
12/5/2015	2 litres of milk	2546	Ksh 80

3.

Money In			Money Out		
Date	Description	Amount	Date	Description	Amount
2/5/2015	2 litres of milk	Ksh 80	6/5/2015	Vaccination costs	Ksh 2000

Track income and expenses in the farm using a **cash book**.

If **purchases** are more than **income** = a **loss**

If **income** is more than **purchases** = a **profit**

E.g.

Your purchases are Ksh 2000 and your income is Ksh 1500 (2000 - 1500) = you make a **loss** of Ksh 500

Your **income** is Ksh 2000 and your **purchases** is Ksh 1500 (2000 - 1500) = a **profit** of Ksh 500

For more information SMS 'RECORDS' to 30606

Test Your Soil For A Better Harvest

To know which fertiliser to use, do a soil test.

To collect a good sample:

1. Dig a hole 1 foot deep using a panga.
2. Take a slice from the side of the hole using a panga.
3. Put the soil into a bag.
4. Take soil from 20 other different points in a zigzag pattern.
5. Mix the soil well.
6. Take a sample and put in a sample bag.
7. Label the bag with your name, address and the crops you want to grow.
8. Send the sample to SoilCares.

SoilCares has mobile lab which can come to your village and do a soil test.

For soil testing, speak to SoilCares:

+254 728 970 136



Take a slice from the sides of the hole using a panga or a soil auger



Add the soil to a labelled bag and either post or give to a Soil Cares representative

Produced by Mediae



Watch us on Citizen TV on:
Saturday 1.30pm (English)
Sunday 1.30pm (Kiswahili)

For another leaflet
or more information,
SMS 30606



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