

# Series 5, Episode 12

Robert & Joy's farm, Jinja, UGANDA



*This leaflet contains information on: getting bigger banana bunches, layers, soil testing, feeding a cow and solar light*

*For more information, SMS 'BANANAS' to 30606*

## Get A Good Banana Harvest

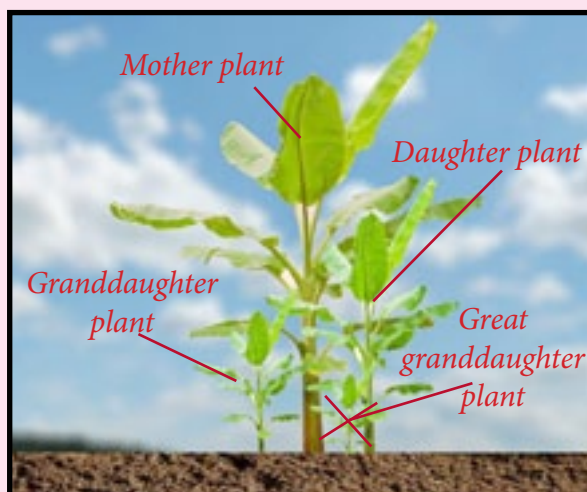
1. Plant clean and healthy suckers:
  - Use tissue culture or disease free suckers.
2. Stop banana pests and diseases:
  - **Weevils** eat the stems so the trees fall. Dig up and burn infected trees to stop weevils moving to other trees.
  - **Nematodes** attack the roots - to stop nematodes by using Nematicide powder like **Meticode** or **Nemacur** at planting, dig up infected stems and do not intercrop bananas with maize, cowpeas or sorghum.
  - **Black Sigatoka disease** turns leaves yellow, trees give small bunches. Use resistant varieties and pick off infected leaves.
3. Keep only 4 trees on each stool:
  - Have a mother, daughter, grand daughter and a great granddaughter tree to get bigger bunches.
4. Add Manure:
  - Put 1 wheel barrow of manure twice a year per tree during the rains.
5. Rotate your banana field after 8 years:
  - For a bad field, rotate after 5 years.



*Black Sigatoka Disease*



*Weevils*



## To Plant A New Banana Plot

1. Choose a place bananas have not been grown before.
2. Dig a hole two feet cubed, take out the top soil.
3. Mix 1 debe of manure with the top soil.
4. Mix a handful of **DAP** fertiliser with the soil.
5. Mix two matchboxes of **Meticode** with the soil to stop nematodes.
6. Mix well.
7. Fill the hole back with the soil-manure mixture.
8. Plant a healthy, clean sucker.
9. Water 3 - 4 times a week.

# Layer Chickens

For more information, SMS 'CHICKENS' to 30606

Layer chickens need a good house with air flow. When birds do not have fresh air, they crowd at the door, and peck each other. Build your house:

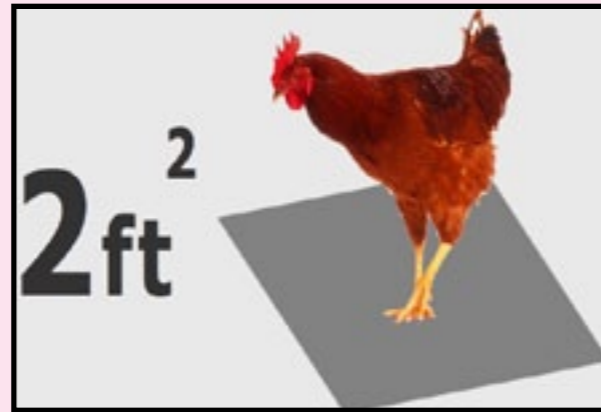
1. Not more than 30 feet wide.
2. With 4 feet wire mesh to let in fresh air.
3. With enough space. Each layer needs 2 square feet of space - so if you have 1500 layers, the house should be 30 feet by 100 feet.
4. With laying boxes which are:
  - One foot cubed
  - In a dark part of the house
  - Off the ground, so that eggs are dry and clean
  - Enough for all layers - 5 layers can share one nest. If you have 50 layers, you need 10 nests.



A laying box for 5 layers should be 1 foot cubed



Do not make your chicken house wider than 30 feet



A layer needs 2 square feet of space

## Stop Diseases

1. Use a foot bath with disinfectant to clean your feet.
2. Wear a dustcoat in the chicken house.
3. Stop other birds and rats getting into the house – use strong walls and wire mesh.
4. Clean and disinfect 2 weeks before new chicks arrive by washing the floors, walls and roof, then spray with a disinfectant. You can fog the house with disinfectant if the birds are already in the house.
5. Always vaccinate your chickens against disease. Use a vaccination programme like this:



Dust hides diseases like Gumboro which kill your birds

Vaccines	Age	Then Every...	Method
Marek's	Day 1	Never	Injection
Newcastle Disease	Day 1	10 - 14 days, 42 days then every 3 months	Eye/nose drops
Gumboro	Day 8	Day 15	Drinkers
Fowl Typhoid	6 - 8 weeks	12 - 14 weeks	Injection
Fowl Pox	8 - 10 weeks	Never	Wing stab
Fowl Cholera	10 weeks	Every 8 weeks	Injection

# Feeding A Dairy Cow

## Fodder

Cut and leave grass for 1 - 2 days before giving it to your cow. This dries the grass so the cows get more dry matter, which gives more milk.

1 cow needs 1 acre of fodder per year.

Good fodder crops are:

1. Napier/elephant grass
2. Mulato grass
3. Rhodes grass
4. Calliandra

## Concentrates

Cows need dry feeds every day to give them the minerals, vitamins, protein and energy to keep them healthy.

To make your own feed:

1. Mix the ingredients using a clean spade on a clean floor.  
To find out how much of each to use, contact Unga or send an SMS with the word 'UNGA' to 30606.
2. Put the feeds in clean sacks.
3. Store them away from the floor and wall using pallets.

To make your own feed using a premix from Unga you will need to make sure your feed has:

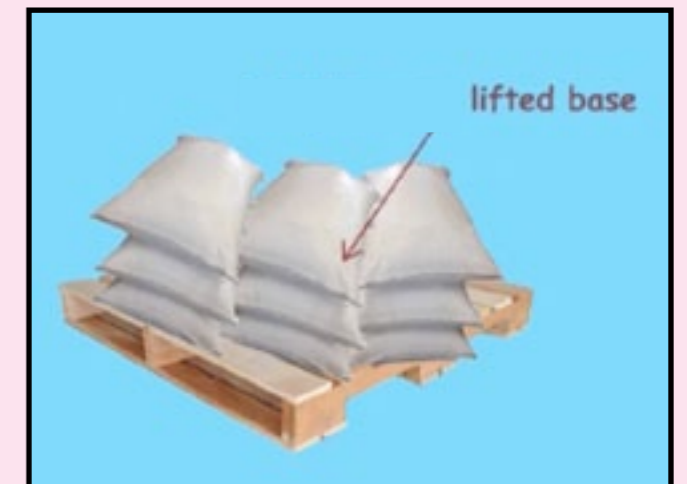
Feed Type	Source
Energy	Bran/Chopped Maize Stalks
Protein	Cotton Seed Cake
Oil	Sunflower Seeds
Minerals	Refined Salt & Crushed Shells
Vitamins	Viminera Premix



Viminera premix gives your cow all the minerals it needs



You can use a box like this to make hay bales



Store your bags of feed away from the walls and floor

For more information, SMS 'COWS' to 30606

# Solar Light

For more information, SMS 'SOLAR' to 30606

A D20 Solar System from d.Light lights 2 - 4 rooms for 8 hours and charges your mobile phone. It has a solar panel, mobile-charging battery pack, two solar lights, two light switches, and a S20 portable lantern.

To install - put the solar panel on the roof, connect the wire to the lighting system in the inside the house and go!

You can get d.Lights from any Total station near you.



Nail the solar panel to your roof

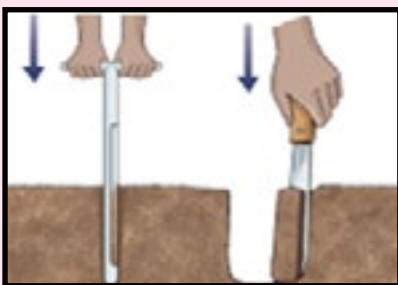


The D20 lighting system

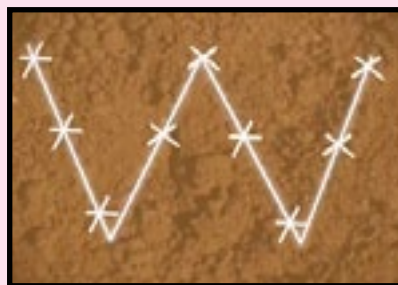
# Soil Testing

For more information, SMS 'SOIL TEST' to 30606

Do a soil test to know the kind of fertiliser to use and which crops to grow. Use the right fertiliser to get a bigger harvest. Test your soil every 2 years. To get a good soil sample:



1. Insert an auger or panga 1 foot in the soil, turn and pull out.



2. Use zigzag method to get 20 samples from across the farm.



3. Mix the soil and put a sample in a bag, label well send to SoilCares.

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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