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KNOW MORE ABOUT FORAGES



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INTRODUCTION:

The Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) is working in partnership with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI); the Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT; the National Livestock Resources Research Institute (NaLIRRI); Barenbrug South Africa and Advantage Crops Limited on a **project to improve forage seed systems in Kenya and Uganda**. The project aims to provide access by smallholder producers to high-quality seed of improved forage varieties. It is also working with many groups of dairy farmers and women and men producing, selling, and using forage seed and forages.

Action research methods are being used with forage seed sector stakeholders to trial forage seed production and promote business models under realistic situations. An example being used is to support different forage seed sellers to discover new business tactics and expand their range of forage seed species they offer to customers. Different approaches to promote the use of high-quality forage seed are being tested in partnership with seed traders and other partners. These include farmer field schools (FFS), field days and radio messages. Some of the forage species being tested include Brachiaria splits (*Urochloa* hybrids); Desmodium (*Desmodium intortum*, *D. uncinatum*), Vetch (*Vicia villosa*), Sweet Lupin (*Lupinus angustifolius*), Rhodes grass (*Chloris gayana*), Forage oats (*Avena sativa*), Forage maize (*Zea Mays*), Forage sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*).

The project has developed forage information leaflets in English and translated them into Luganda and Runyakitara. These have been distributed to many farmers during farmer field days. The project has developed a range of messages on forage types, forage establishment, management and harvesting, and use of forages. These have been used to train farmers during farmer field schools and have been aired on radio in local languages in project areas. This comic pamphlet is aimed to further promote the use of improved forages amongst dairy farmers in Kenya and Uganda.

THE HAMWE RANCH.

12:00 pm

Thank you so much for the water .

Do you think I can see your husband now?

Sure you can.

You know. Sometimes he gets so caught up in his work that he forgets to eat anything.

Would you be a dear and give this to him ?

It would be my pleasure.

Keep walking until you see an avocado tree.

Trust me. You can't miss it.

I will keep that in mind.

Thanks Sammie

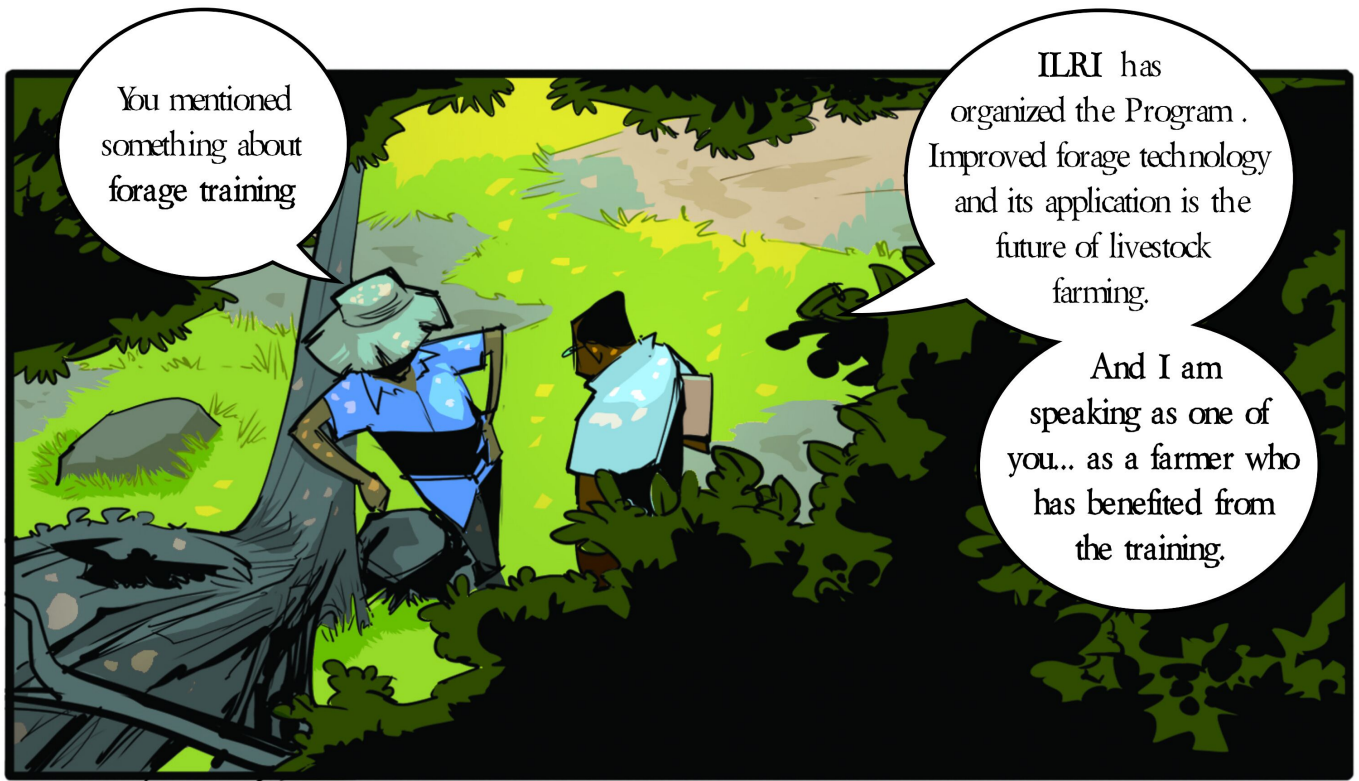


We spoke earlier on the Pho..

Please. Call me Arthur.

And Yes. I remember your phone call.





You mentioned something about forage training

ILRI has organized the Program . Improved forage technology and its application is the future of livestock farming.

And I am speaking as one of you... as a farmer who has benefited from the training.



Okay So what's the catch ?

These sort of things are never free.

Worry not my friend. ILRI has you covered.

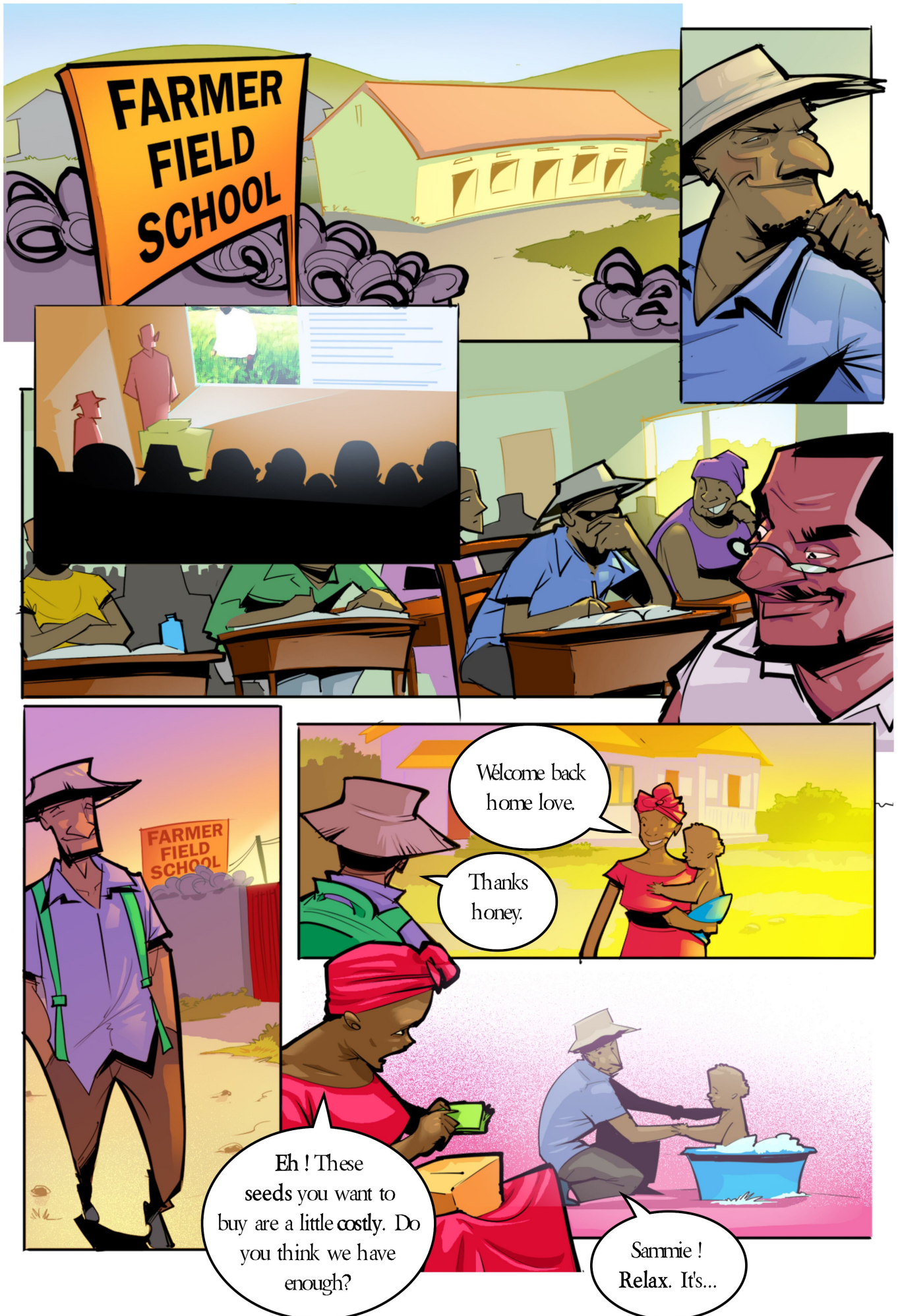
The drought gets worse every year I will do anything to improve the state of my farm

Count me in .

Great ! You're not going to regret this decision. Mark my words...



...You're about to become the best version of yourself.





...a good investment.



Trust the process...



...trust the training I had.



The results will speak for themselves.

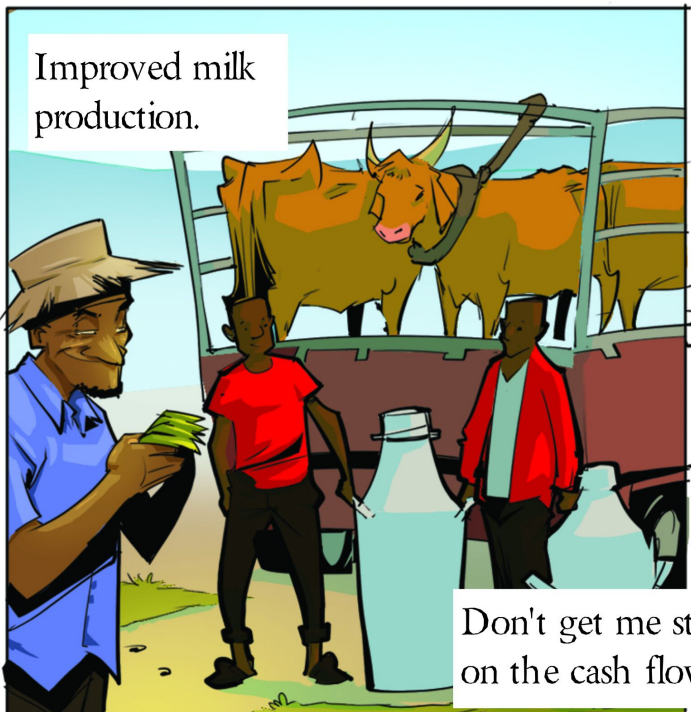
The seasonal drought we
have endured on the ranch
will be a thing of the past...



...for there will be a
bountiful of nutritious feed.



Healthier cattle.

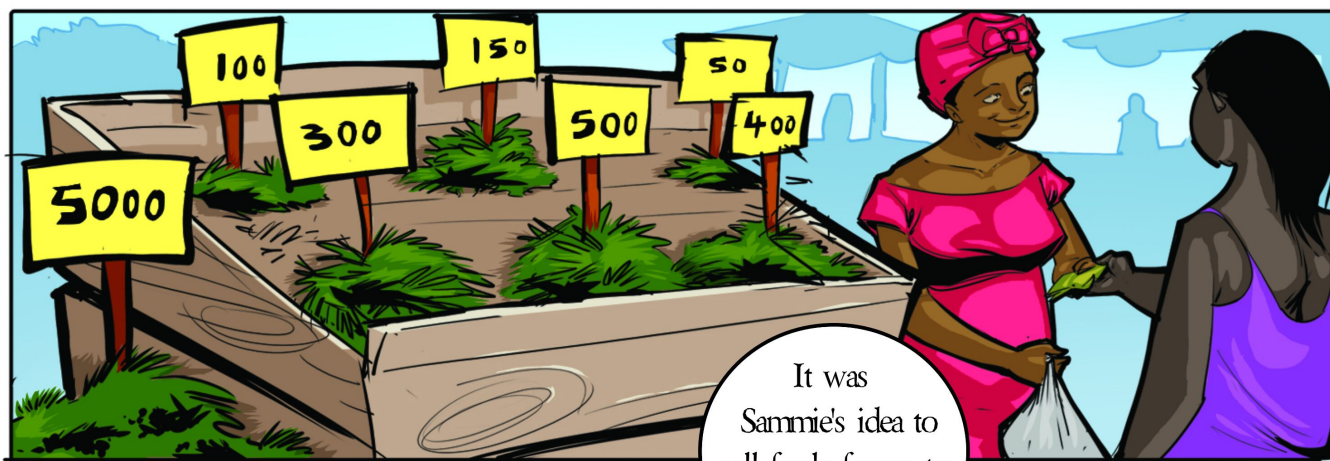


Improved milk
production.

Don't get me started
on the cash flow.



Our family will soar to
greater heights.



It was Sammie's idea to sell fresh forage to other farmers.



I am proud of you Arthur.



You have done well for yourself my friend.



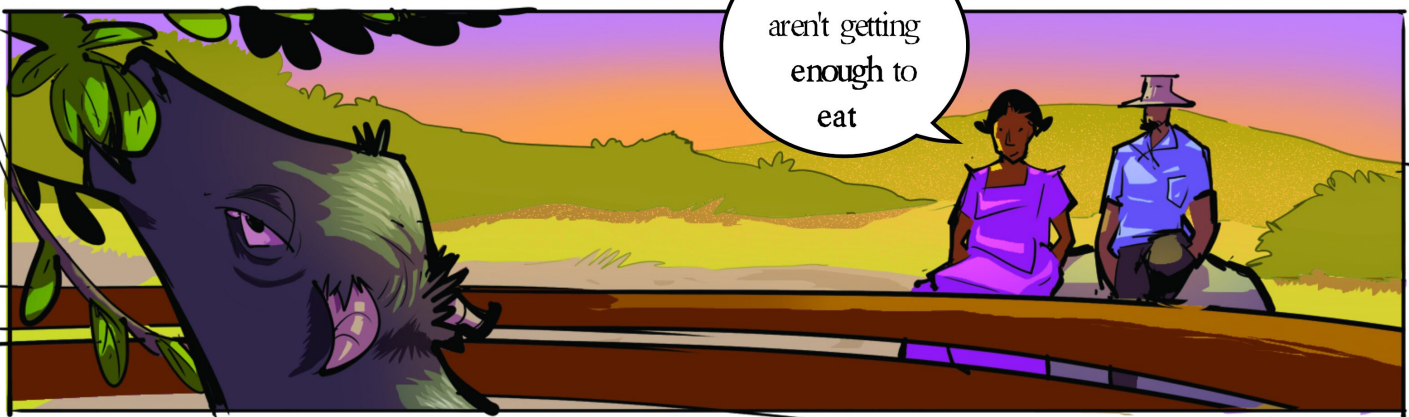
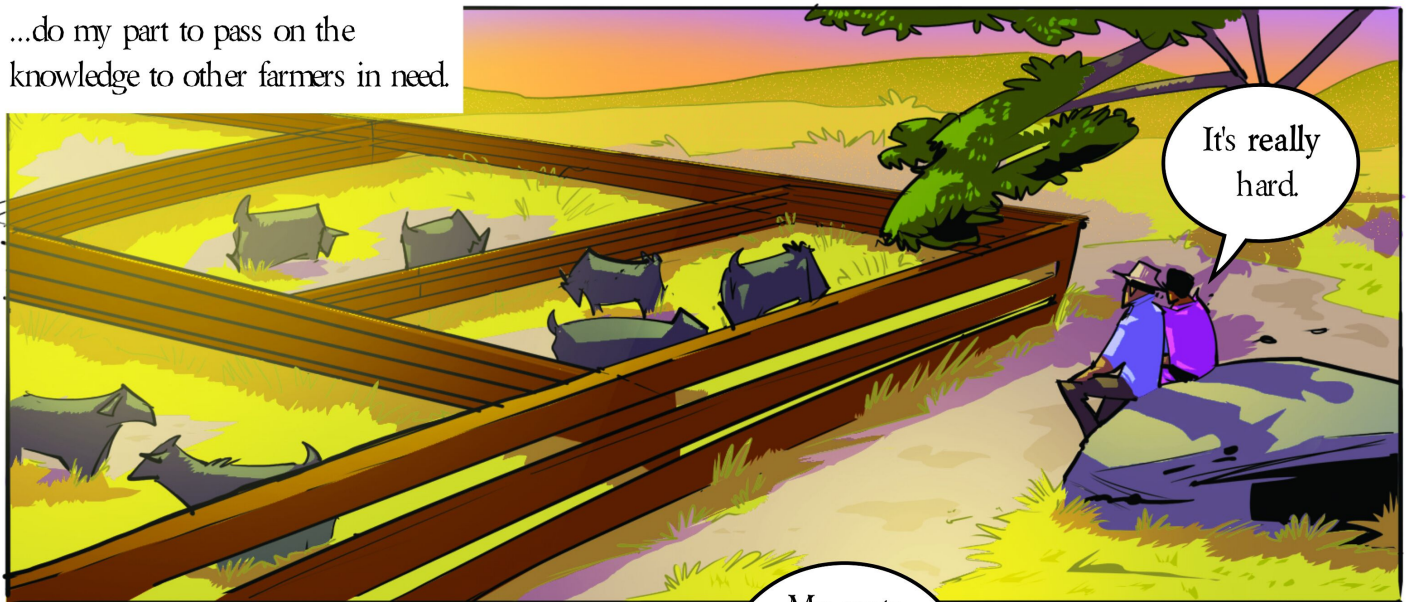
I would like to thank ILRI, ABC, NALIRRI and the KIT for the generous support you have shown us.

I am in a better position in life and as a rancher because you took a chance on me.



Be rest assured that I will...

...do my part to pass on the knowledge to other farmers in need.



THE END.

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