

YEP Tanzania

Rombo program

February 2022 – Updates

Visiting date: 31th January to 04th February 2022

This report contains the following visiting reports

1. Potato farmers group – Harvesting result and looking forward
2. Wood group

Details

1. Potato farmers group – Harvesting result and looking forward



As we know, human beings rejoice when they achieve positive results in the plans they have set. This is confirmed after the young potato farmers who run the potato business in the slope of Mount Kilimanjaro in Naremulu Village

YEP Tanzania with a focus on youth development in helping them grow their economy to achieve development, has been helping these 41 young people who have joined together to run a potato farming business. In collaboration with Rombo District Council which has provided these young people with two plots of one hectare each to use the farms to produce potatoes

Specialized training on how to care for potato plants and even how best to select seed, management, and use of pesticides has enabled this group of young people to achieve a good harvest this potato harvest season.

The harvest these youngsters have achieved this season has surprised many. These young men were able to harvest more than any other farmer in their farmland.

Factors that enabled the harvest to be plentiful include

1. The commitment of these young people to fully manage their farms
2. Specialized training on how to run a good and productive potato crop
3. Close supervision conducted by an agricultural officer from Rombo District Council
4. Effective use of agricultural inputs (fertilizers and pesticides)

5. Close monitoring from Rombo Program management

6. Access to quality and fertile areas provided by Forestry Officer from Tanzania Forestry Agency - Rombo District Council



Potato farmers group – Harvesting results



Picture taken during the harvesting

The result

Total yield of potatoes harvested = 42 bags (100,000-kilogram per bag)

Explanation on mentioned quantities

1. Total of grade one potatoes sold = 33 bags
selling price per each bag = 65,000 (x 33)

Total sells = 2,145,000 (money is in the group bank account)

2. Total quality bags kept for seed for the next planting season = 5 bags (cost per each bag if they decide to sell) = 80,000 (x 5)

The value of potatoes kept for seeds = 400,000 which can be planted in two and half plots

3. Total grade three potatoes harvested (very small in size) not yet sold = 4 bags

Expected selling price = 30,000 each bag = 120,000 TZS

Based on the numbers mentioned above we can see that the total harvest value for this season is (2,145,000+400,000+120,000) = 2,665,000 which is above as it was planned (the plan was to have total sales of 1.8 M)



According to the group agreement is to spend all the money to develop the group farming business. And all members of the group have unanimously decided to develop the business as they have realized that doing this agricultural business in a better way can move them from one place to another in the whole issue of economic growth.

The total amount of money that the group has, can afford to cover three plots expenses. And since the Forest Officer has promised to give them three more plots thus making the group to own a total of Five plots for five years. The group with its own money may be able to cover all the needs of the three plots. In this regard the group

is requesting YEP / SF to support them to meet the needs of the two plots so that for the next agricultural season which will start in mid-March the group can cultivate five plots

GROUP AGRICULTURAL PLANS FOR THE NEXT SEASON ARE AS FOLLOWS – Start mid-March to end-June 2022`

Phase one – preparing and Cultivating fields/plots – planting (Figures mentioned here are based only for two plots as per group request to YEP/SF

S/N	Month	activity	result
1	Mid-March	Preparing and Cultivating fields/plots (5plots)	41 group members has divided themselves in five groups so that each group within the group can do the labor work in each plot
2	Start April	Sowing seeds – planting – buying seeds for the new two and half plots (5 bags)800,000 each	
		Germination fertilizer DAP 50 kgs – for 2.5 plots	
		Herbicides to destroy weeds 1 liter	

Phase two – maintaining plants

S/N	Month	activity
1	Mid-April to end-June	weeding
		Baridi dawa (for plants cold control)
		Grower fertilizer
		Booster fertilizer 1
		Booster fertilizer 2 OMEX
		Dawa insects - IMIDA
		Dawa – bomba

Phase three – harvesting

S/N	Month	activity
-----	-------	----------

	Start- July to Mid-July	Potato harvesting labour
		Large bags 120
		Big bags for keeping seeds for next session 18
		Seeds transport to village/ home
		Transporting potato to main road for selling
		Unexpected

Asante

