

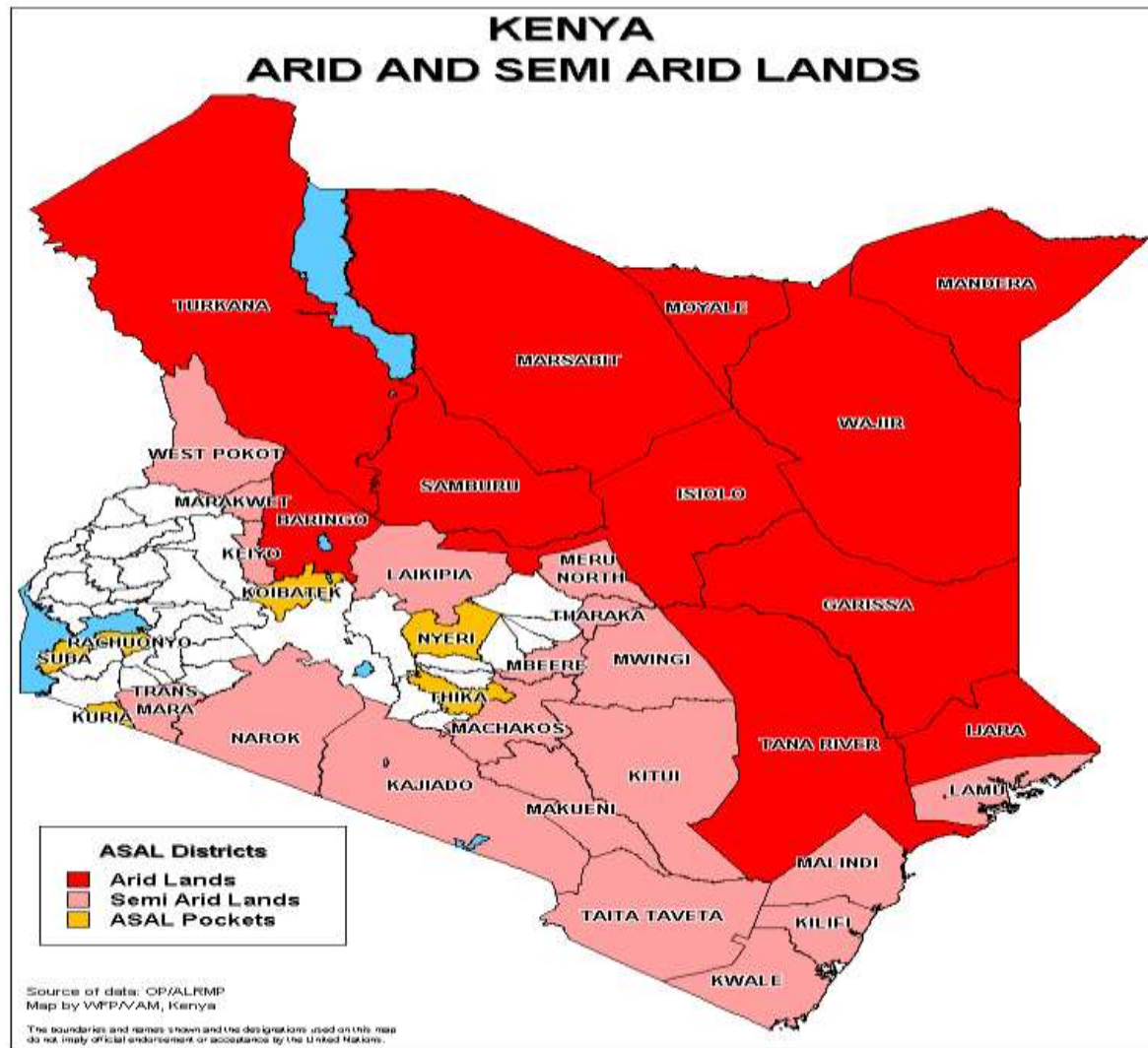


# **AYRSHIRE IN KENYA**

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**Presented at the World Ayrshire Conference at Melbourne, Australia**

# Map of Kenya



# Dairy industry in Kenya

- Dairy cattle introduced to Kenya in 1908
- AI started in Kenya on commercial basis in 1935
- Central AI Station established in 1946
- Local Semen distribution 800,000 annually
- Milk Production is over 5 Billion liters annually
- However only 20% of the milk is processed into Pasteurized milk, yogurts ,butter and cheese
- Per capita milk consumption is estimated at 80 liters per annum in rural areas and 120 litres in urban areas
- Contributes to food security



# Dairy Production Systems

- Extensive Dairy Farming 50 cows and over -25%
- Intensive Dairy Farming) 1- 10 cows- 60%
- Semi intensive Dairy farming 11-49cows-15
- Profitability in any of the systems depends on: size of land ( available pastures and fodder),management practices, breeds and genetic potential of the cows ,level of supplementation with concentrate feeds

# Challenges in the Dairy Sector

A brown cow with a yellow ear tag is the central focus, standing in a lush green field. The background shows a clear blue sky and other cows grazing in the distance. The overall scene is bright and natural.

- Inadequate & poor quality feeds
- Prevalence of tick-borne, notifiable and management diseases
- High cost of farm inputs( AI , concentrate feeds and mineral salts, veterinary drugs and services
- Low producing dairy cattle due to low adoption of breeding technologies (only 35% uptake of A.I. in the national Dairy herd)
- Inadequate extension services.
- Low milk value addition (only 20 % of milk produced is value added to Yogurt, Cheese and butter).

# The Ayrshire Breed in Kenya

- Ayrshire Cattle Breeders Society of Kenya established in 1920
- Objective is to promote the Breed and cater for the welfare of its members
- Estimate indicate there are 1.2 million Ayrshires and their crosses ,however only 7,000 are registered annually
- The breed is to be found in all ecological zones
- Our bull stations have over 41 Ayrshire bulls ,(all recruited locally)however non has reliable progeny test results





- Genomic Information

- Currently there is no genomic testing in Kenya. However our main bull station is collaborating with the Holstein Friesian of USA to test some bulls in the station. We have not done any genomic testing for the Ayrshire.
- This calls for further collaboration with the ayrshire community on the same.























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**THANK YOU**