



Factsheet

Piggery in Rwanda

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Rwanda is densely populated rural country where agriculture remains at the centre of strategies to reduce poverty and improve food security and nutrition. Agriculture contributes for 33% to the GDP and about 80% of the population is engaged in agriculture. The industrial piggery sector in Rwanda is in the very first phase of development and organization. Nevertheless it is a growing sector in Rwanda which could offer opportunities.

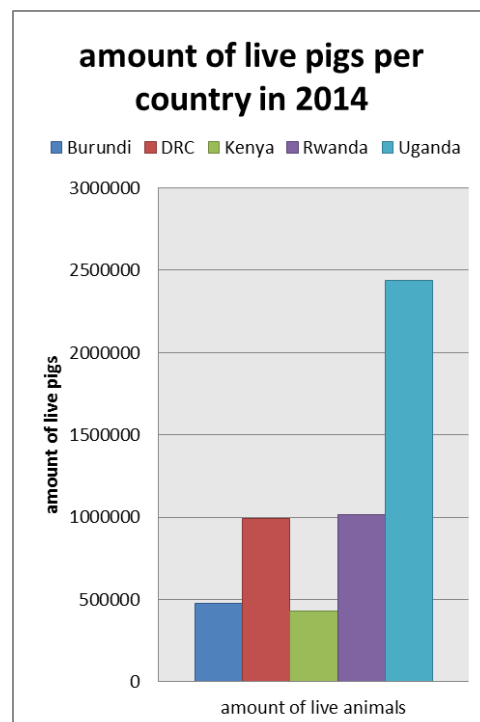
Facts and Figures

The piggery sector contributes for 8,8% to the National GDP (Francis Mbuza D. M., 2016). According to FAO there were 1,015,000 live pigs in Rwanda in 2014. The most common breed for pig production used in Rwanda is Landrace (37,7%) followed by none descript crosses (28,1%), large white (22,9%), Pietrain (7,3%) and Duroc (1,6%). Only 2,3% of keep the local breed.

The average slaughter weight is 78,08 kg which is reached in 9,43 months (Francis Mbuza D. M., 2016). The four main producers of feed in Rwanda are Zamura feeds, Gorilla Feed, PEAL, Prodev and PAFI. Together they account for more than 60% of feed sold on the local markets. The remaining 40% of the market is occupied by imports, home production and ten non specialized units. The most common type of sales is live pigs. Only 8% of the farmers possesses slaughter labs and 8,1% has cold storage facilities for

the carcasses (Francis Mbuza D. M., 2016). Pork butcheries and slaughterhouses are a raising business. The percentage of livestock-owning households rearing pigs is estimated at 31.9% in 2014.

The graph below shows the production quantity of live pigs in 2014 of Rwanda and bordering countries (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations).



The table below shows the production of pork in Rwanda. These numbers are based on a research done by the Centre for Livestock Research and Development and School of Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine (Francis Mbuza, 31 May 2016).

Parameter	Mean
Average litter size (live born) at farrowing	7.2
Average farrowing/sow/year	2.0
Duration from farrowing to weaning (in months)	2.41
Average number of piglets weaned/farrowing	6.5
Average weight of slaughter pigs (in KG)	78.08
Average age at slaughter (in months)	9.43
Average age at first breeding (in months)	11

Strengths and Opportunities

Pork meat production in Rwanda more than doubled in the last 10 years, where it increased from 3,585MT in 2005 to 10,210MT in 2014. With increasing incomes, consumers are moving rapidly to superior goods, such as meat. The Rwandan market is currently satisfied through imports of 38 tonnes of pork per year from neighbouring countries. Rwanda is uniquely positioned to serve the markets of North and South Kivu in Eastern DRC and Burundi. These markets together represent more than 15 million people. Inputs such as readymade feed, inputs for feed production and veterinary products are exempted from VAT. In Rwanda labour is available at competitive costs (USD 1.5–2/day for unskilled labour and approximately USD 300-400 for experienced agronomists). The government of Rwanda has identified modern slaughter houses and meat processing, packaging and export as investment opportunities.

Challenges

Feed remains a big challenge for the livestock sector. It is hard to purchase quality feed for a good price. Most feed is imported from neighbouring countries (USAID, 1 September 2016). The piggery sector is coming up but is challenged by cultural habits. Rwandans are not used to eating pork and a lot of people don't want to eat it. Another obstacle is the low quantity or lack of slaughterhouses which will change with the modern

slaughterhouse that is under construction. The piggery sector is in the first phase of development and characterized by a lack of organization of the market.

Framework Policies

The government of Rwanda has launched different framework policies and strategies to develop agriculture. Relevant initiatives are the Vision 2020 with the aim to become a middle-income country by the year 2020 (recently amended to 2050). The Second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy is focussing on economic growth with agriculture as key sector. The Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture III is a five year program ending in 2018 with the objectives to enhance food security and reduce poverty by expanding private sector. For the period 2018-2023, MinAgri will present PSTA-4 on short term with updated policy and strategy. The new policy aims to contribute to improved food and nutrition security, through increased rural incomes and access to safe and affordable products. The new policy shifts from a government led economic development to a more private sector led economic development.

The Embassy

The Embassy of the Netherlands in Kigali offers active support to Dutch companies already present in Rwanda and to Dutch companies interested in doing business in Rwanda. In addition, the government of the Netherlands has developed several business support instruments, including financing for demonstration projects, feasibility studies and knowledge acquisition. For more information please visit <http://english.rvo.nl/subsidies-programmes>. You can also contact the Embassy by sending an email to kig@minbuza.nl or calling to +250 280280281.

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