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Introduction

Rural household surveys were conducted in Mara and Kagera Basins located within the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB), in East Africa as one of the activities in the project titled Potential impact of Conservation Agriculture (CA) in the LVB

Methodology

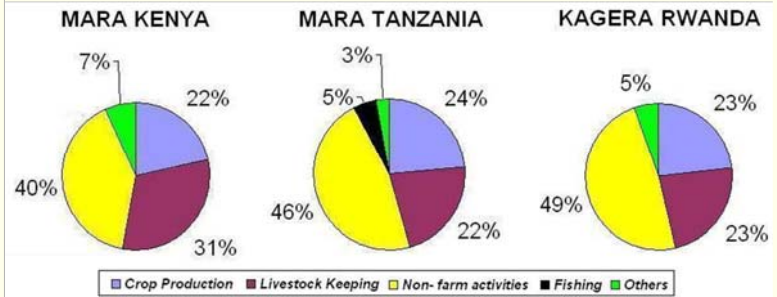
A total of 373 households were interviewed, 248 from the Mara Basin (Kenya & Tanzania) and 125 from Kagera Basin (Rwanda).

Study sites in the LVB

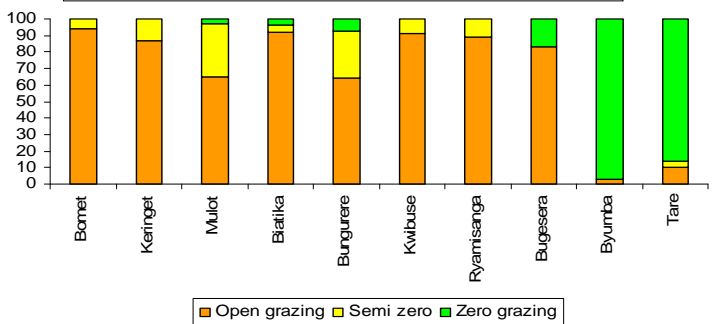


Crop livestock interactions were observed in all study sites

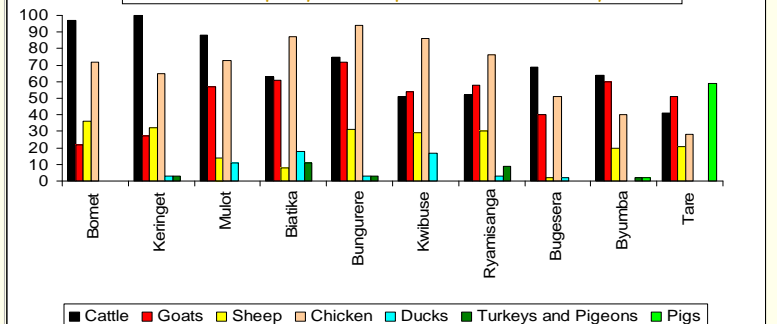
- Livestock sector provides animal draft power, manures (applied by at least a third of the respondents in all sites) and transport (especially donkeys)
- Crop production provide livestock feeds
- Livestock keeping is an important component of the respondents' income portfolio in the LVB (see pie charts below)



Cattle management systems in the study sites



Livestock kept by the respondents in the study sites



Cattle equivalents units (CEU) in the study sites

Village	CEU
Bomet	4.9
Keringet	6.7
Mulot	5.5
Biatika	9.2
Bungurere	4.8
Kwibuse	7.9
Ryamisanga	10.5
Bugesera	2.6
Byumba	1.9
Tare	1.2

Livestock keeping and CA application

- CA requires permanent soil cover (or semi-permanent soil cover); crop residues are used as crop cover on CA. Pictures here indicate maize stalks left as soil cover on CA farms in Njoro, Nakuru
- Crop residues are an important source of livestock feed all over the LVB
- One of the challenges of CA promotion in the LVB is the competing use of crop residues

