



Figure 1: On-farm forage rating session with farmers in Mukono, Uganda photo credit Kevin Maina, ILRI

Challenges

- Feed shortages on farms especially during the dry seasons
- Poor quality and costly commercial feeds for pigs
- there is limited knowledge on propagation and post-harvest management of different forages.
- There is a lack of farmer awareness on existence and importance of improved forages for increased animal production and productivity.

Our approach

- Introduced and tested improved forages under farmer conditions
- Trained farmers on the agronomic, practices forage management and use of forages
- Provided forage seeds for improved forages to farmers
- Strengthen forage seed systems so that farmers can have access to good quality forage seeds

Results, outcomes, achievements

- 15 farmers have setup forage plots for pigs in both Mukono and Masaka districts
- The forage plots serving as multiplication centers for vegetative material (splints) for other farmers
- Leaflets of new improved forages were developed and printed.
- More farmers are aware and willing to plant forages for pigs
- Farmers rated the new forage varieties (Figure 3 and 4)



Figure 3: Participatory farmer forage evaluation exercise with farmers in Mbarara district. Photo credit Molly Allen, NaLIRRI

Testing and promoting improved forages for pigs on smallholder farms in Uganda



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Livestock

UGANDA MORE PORK PROJECT

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Project intervention

Feed and forage development



Figure 2: A forage demonstration plot in Masaka, Uganda. Photo credit: Ronnie, Ahumuza ILRI

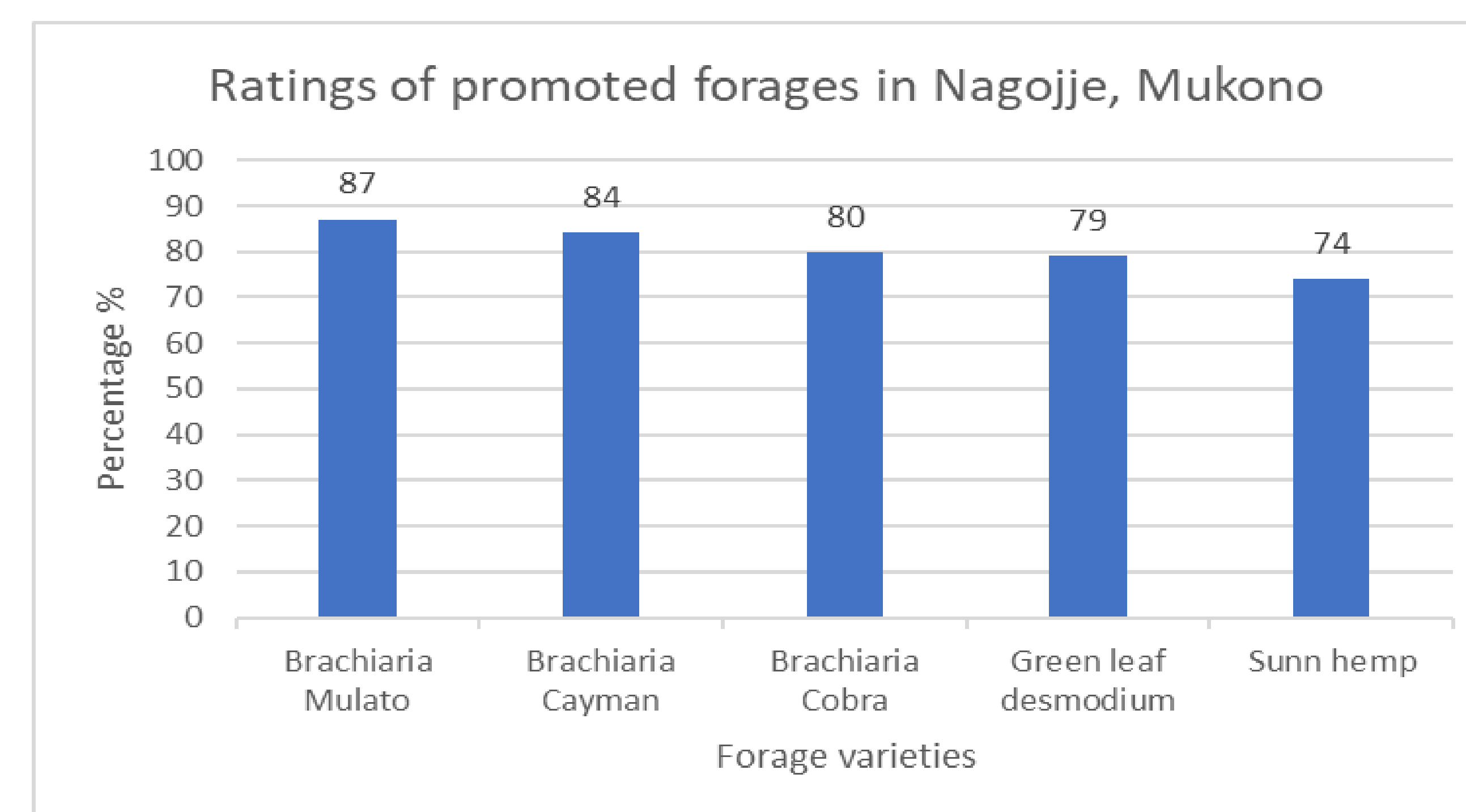


Figure 4: Farmer rating of new introduced varieties in Nagojje, Mukono

Lessons and significance

- Farmers are more aware of improved forages and the need to grow them for pigs
- There is a very high demand for improved forage seeds as a result of promoting forages amongst farmers.
- Most livestock producers access forage planting materials from the informal seeds system by either buying or as gifts.
- Interventions that make forage seed available and affordable to farmers would increase on the uptake of forages for pigs

Partners

- Mukono District local government
- Masaka District local government
- National Livestock Resources Research Institute (NaLIRRI)
- Tropical Royal Institute (KIT)



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