



## **Situation Overview**

- The weather condition was cold and dry.
- Most of the farm activities had stopped due to failure of long rains.
- Pastures declined in quality and quantity over the month indicating the onset of the long dry season.
- Livestock health and body condition was fair to good.
- Signs of water scarcity were evident in most parts of the District.
- The distances to and from water sources slightly increased from 3.6km to 3.8km (average).
- Main water sources were natural rivers, traditional river wells, springs, boreholes, water pans and dams.
- Nutritional status for the under fives slightly worsened over the month (12%), compared to last month (11.9%).
- No major human disease outbreaks reported in the District.

## **Rural economy indicators (general overview-cont)**

- Livestock prices generally decreased over the month.
- These prices were higher compared to the same period last year.
- Milk and its products decreased in supply and the price increased to Ksh.30/litre.
- All food prices increased over the month.
- Casual labour was the main source of income in many households.

## **Human welfare indicators (general overview-cont)**

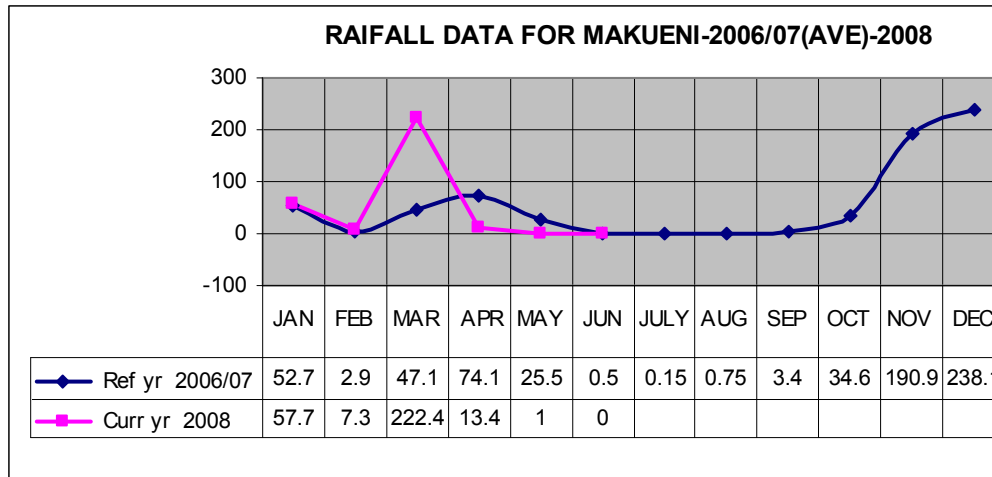
- No disease outbreaks reported.

## **Recommendations from the DSG to KFSSG**

- There is a great need to put all primary schools under regular school feeding programme.
- Food-for-work programme should be introduced to the hardly hit Divisions like M/andei, Kibwezi, Makindu, Nguu, Kee, Kathonzweni, Kalawa, Wote and parts of Mbitini and Matiliku Divisions.
- Conserve the available pastures/fodder crops to use during the long dry season.

## **1. Environmental indicators**

### **1.1 Rainfall**



Courtesy of Makindu meteorological weather station

- No rainfall recorded in the district in the month of June.
- This phenomenon has adversely affected the pastures and other fodder crops in the District.
- This was a normal situation since the long dry season starts early June in the District.

### 1.2 Forage cover (pasture & browse)

- Pastures were deteriorating in quality and quantity indicating the onset of the long dry spell.
- Vegetation cover was ranging between 25-30% all over the District.

### 1.3 Access to water

#### 1.3.1 Water sources

- Signs of water scarcity were evident in most parts of the larger District.
- Main water sources were natural rivers, traditional river wells, springs, boreholes, water pans and dams.
- The distances to and from water sources slightly increased by 0.2 Kms i.e., from 3.6 Km to 3.8 Km.

#### 1.3.2 Implications on food security

- Increased distances to water points are likely to impact negatively on food security since more time is being spent looking for water.

## 2. Rural economy indicators

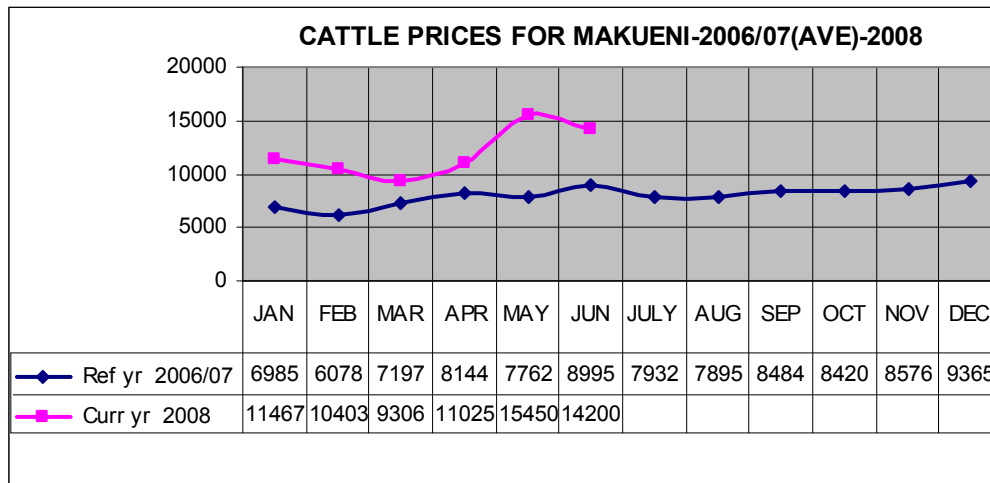
### 2.1 Livestock body condition

- Livestock body conditions were fair to good in all parts of the District.
- This is a normal occurrence at this time of the year.

### 2.2 Livestock health

- Newcastle disease in poultry has been persistent in most parts of the District.

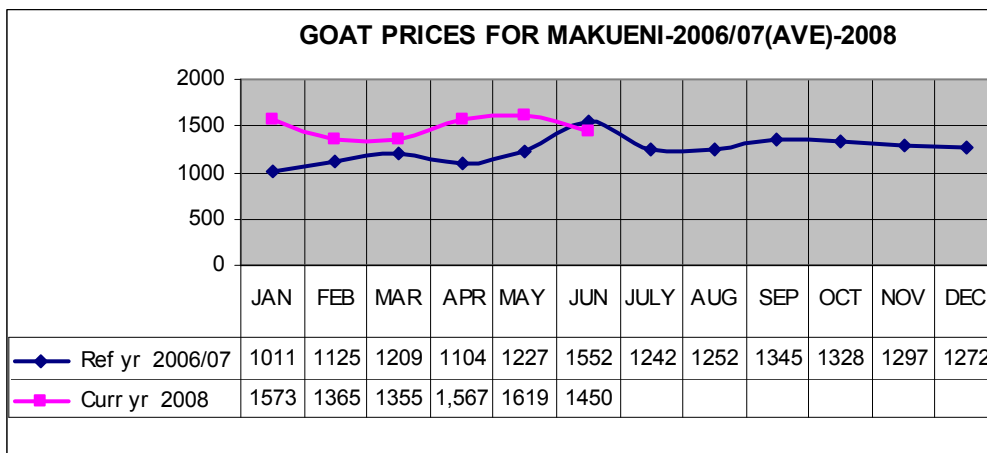
**2.3 Livestock prices**  
**2.3.1 Cattle prices**



\*N=360

- This scenario is as a result of increasing food insecurity in the District.
- Cattle prices decreased compared to last month and they were higher than the same period last year.
- This is a normal trend at this time of the year.

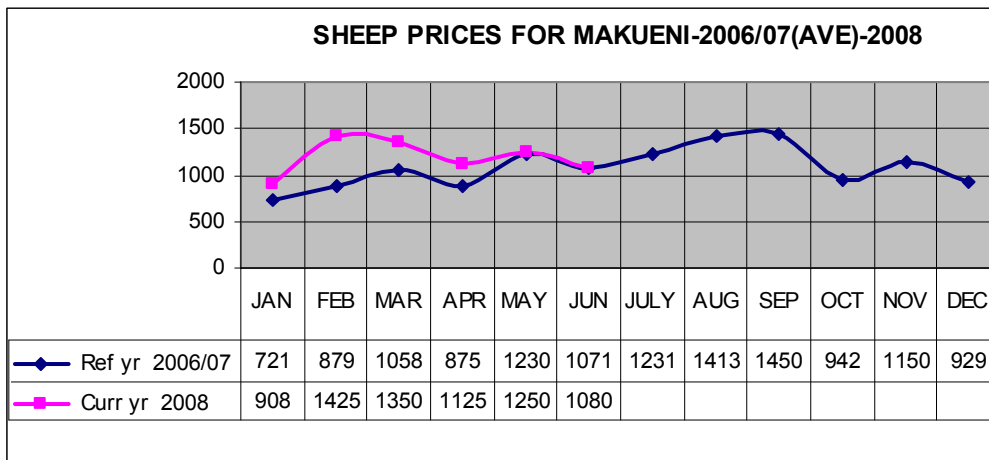
**2.3.2 Goats prices**



\*N=360

- Prices of goats decreased compared to last month and this was way below the same period last year.
- This is a normal occurrence and is attributed to increasing food insecurity in the District.

### 2.3.3 Sheep prices

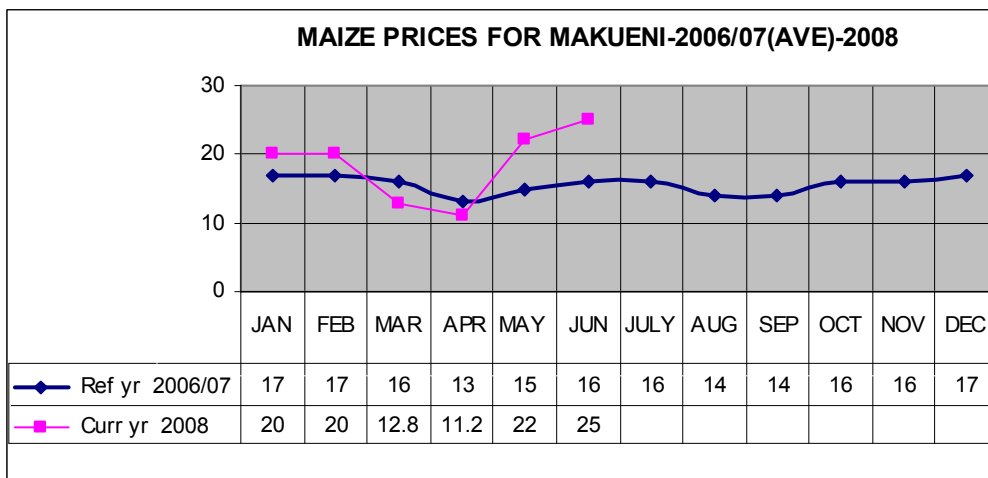


\*N=360

- Sheep prices decreased compared to last month, and the prices were slightly higher than the same period last year.
- This is a normal price fluctuation since food insecurity is evident.

## 3. Crop prices

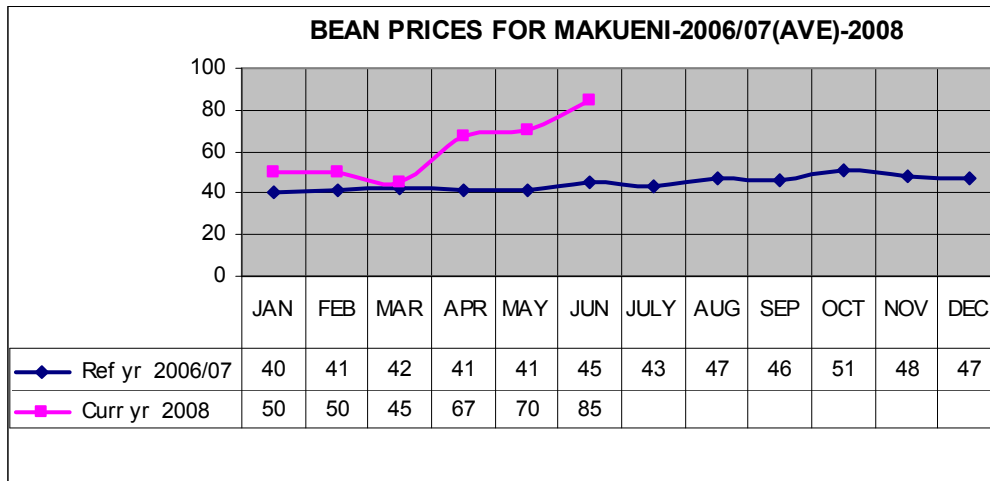
### 3.1 Maize prices



\*N=360

- Maize price exhibited a sharp increase over the month and this was way above the same period last year.
- This is an abnormal occurrence but the phenomenon can be attributed to low supply in the market.
- The price is projected to increase further in the coming months if there is no change in the trend of supply of the commodity.

### 3.2 Beans prices

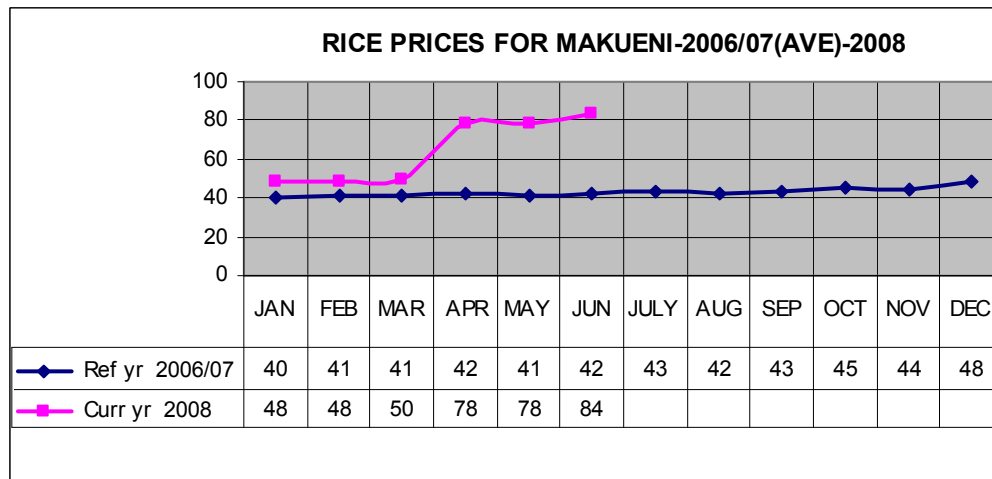


\* N=360

- Bean price increased compared to that of last month.
- This was way above the same period last year as a result of the current scarcity.
- This is an abnormal occurrence at this time of the year.

### 3.3 Purchase price of other foodstuffs

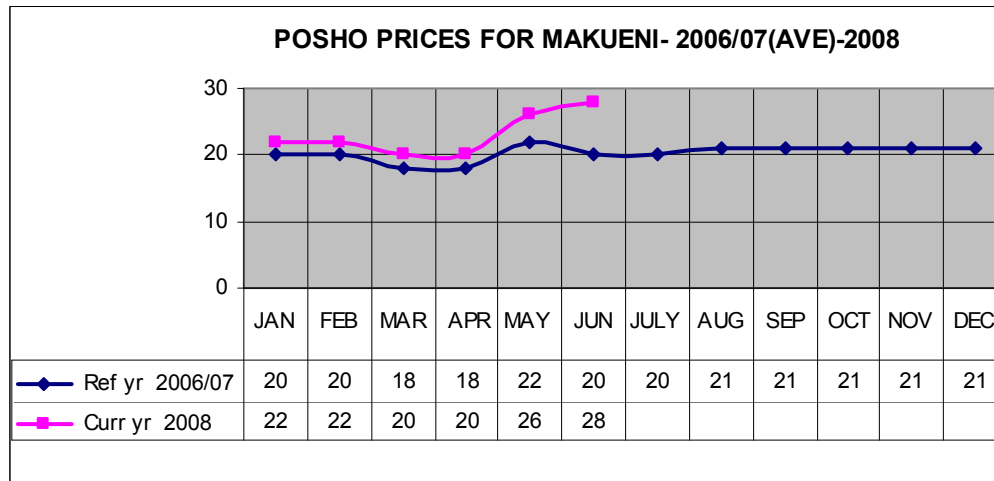
#### 3.3.1 Rice prices



\*N=360

- Prices of rice remained high compared to that of the previous months, and it was way above that of last year.
- This was an abnormal occurrence at this time of the year and can be attributed to the current food price fluctuations in the national /international markets.

### 3.3.2 Posho prices



\* N=360

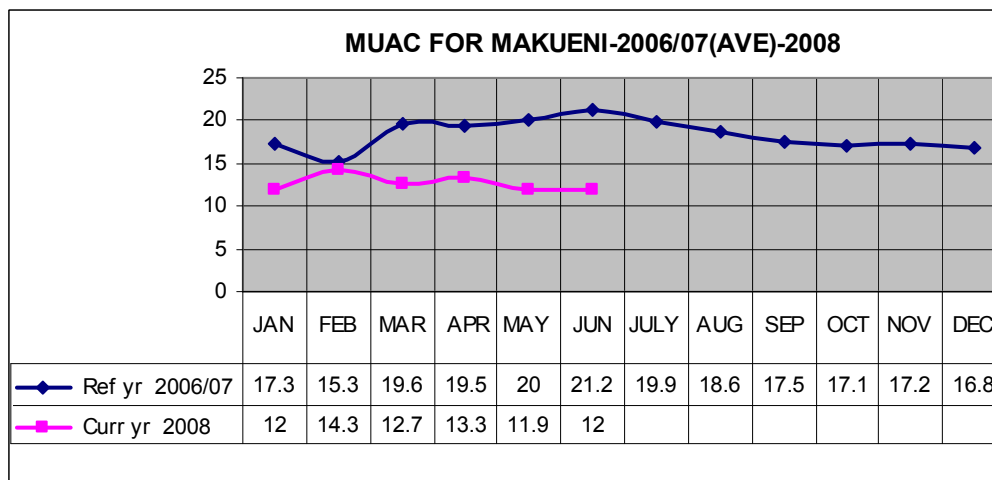
- Prices of Posho increased considerably compared to last month and was a bit higher than the same period last year.
- This is an abnormal occurrence.

## 4. Human welfare indicators

### 4.1 Milk consumption

- Milk and its products decreased in supply and the price increased to Ksh.30/litre.
- This is a normal occurrence at this time of the year.

### 4.2 Nutritional status (MUAC measurements)



\*N =1502

- Nutritional status for the under fives deteriorated compared to that of last month.
- It was also better than the same period last year.
- The status however was poor in the following Divisions; Kee, Kalawa and Kathonzweni Divisions. This can be attributed to the failure of both short rains

and the long rains in the District, scarcity in milk and its products in the worst hit Divisions, and lack of green vegetables and fruits at this time of the year.

**4.3 Livestock migration**

- No livestock migrations reported in the District, but it is expected in the subsequent months.

**5. Other issues**

**5.1 Aflatoxin food poisoning**

- No case reported in the District.

**5.2 Insecurity /conflict /human displacement**

- No major cases reported so far in the District.

**5.3 Interventions in the District (DSG)**

- Field days on aflatoxin awareness were conducted in all the locations of Kibwezi District.
- Introduction of drought tolerant crops is being carried out in both mid and upper zones of the District.
- District wide campaign for FMD and PPR by the Veterinary department.