

World Jersey Cattle Bureau Africa Report 2022 Sept 2022

Vice president for Africa Dai Harvey (Zambia) With kind assistance from in Country Reps.

Dairying continues to be important for millions of people's livelihoods especially in more favorable climate areas across Eastern and Southern Africa. Milk continues to offer part of the solution in a very cost-effective way to reducing childhood malnutrition, which is the scourge of the continent with rates as high as 45 % of childhood stunting in certain countries. This under nourishment often results in lower cognitive capacity with lower lifetime outcomes, which is extremely disheartening.

The Dairy belt from Rwanda, Uganda in the West spreading to Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia is the main focus of dairy numbers in terms of farmers involved in the industry, with Ethiopia having well over 10 million exotic-cross cattle out of a total population of 65 million cattle. It is these countries as well as the Southern African countries where there are well structured dairy systems of different sizes and where there is substantial country based local dairy production. Imported dairy products, mainly in the form of milk powder, continues to make up a large proportion of dairy consumption (approx. 50% in Malawi).

2022 has been a significant challenge for dairy producers worldwide and on the African continent no less so. The effects of the global pandemic plus the distributive effect of the war in Ukraine and the continued increase in number of people that need to be fed have all combined to create a hugely challenging year for all primary producers. As an indication of the varied financial challenges affecting dairy producers in East Africa, the table below shows a quick snapshot of the varying effects, with the proviso that within each country there are significant regional differences, depending on markets.

Table 1 :- Milk to Feed Price Ratio three of Largest Milk Producers

Milk: Feed Price Ratio	June 2021	June 2022	Change	% Increase
Kenya Av KSH per KG Dairy meal	34.9	49.2	14.3	41%
Kenya Av KSH per KG Milk Formal	38	50.5	12.5	33%
ET Av Bir per KG Dairy meal	23	35	12	52%
ET Av Bir per KG Milk	32	56	24	75%
TZ Av TSH per KG Dairy meal	600	671	71	12%
TZ Av TSH per KG Milk	850	975	125	15%
Milk: Feed Price Ratio	June 2021	June 2022	Change	% Increase
Milk: Feed Price ratio Ethiopia	1.39	1.60	0.21	15%
Milk: Feed Price ratio Kenya	1.09	1.03	-0.06	-6%
Milk: Feed Price ratio Tanzania	1.42	1.45	0.04	3%
Milk: Feed Price ratio UK	1.14	1.26	0.12	10%

Notes: -The milk to feed price ratio (MFPR) shows the value of milk compared with the cost of purchased feed.

MFPR shows how much feed can be bought for the value of a litre of milk and gives an indication of input costs in relation to income.

Feed costs in most dairies are approx. 60-70 % of costs

The higher the ratio the more incentive to feed concentrates and increase production.

Across the continent there continues to be interest in the Jersey breed as offering a sustainable solution to producing milk with less environmental impact, while not losing the financial viability of the farmer. The Africa Jersey Forum <https://africanjerseyforum.com/> was launched in 2019 in Rwanda, it held a virtual conference this year with 1,000 participants from all over Africa. This is an excellent platform for the promotion of the breed, within the continent.

East and Southern Africa

South Africa

South Africa continues to be a very important source of pure bred and cross bred genetics into the rest of the continent. Jerseys have been exported last year all the way to Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Rwanda. Disappointingly orders for Ethiopia could not be fulfilled due to Vet restrictions.

Jersey SA continues to thrive and hold a busy calendar of events such as

- 3 March 2022- Southern Cape Championships – Swellendam
- 23-25 August – Jersey SA National Championships
- February – Milagro Jerseys Production Sale
- 24 Aug – Jersey SA Genetic sale

As well as having three BLUP analysis for the year in February, May and September. Jersey SA, in cooperation with SA Studbook, will be running a genomic test program with 900 animals in 2022. 50% of the costs are being subsidised by the project, 25% by Jersey SA and the last 25% will be from the account of the breeders. Jersey SA is currently busy identifying the animals, of which hair samples need to be obtained. The animals identified will be divided as follow:

- 300 Cows from the SAINET breed analysis
- 200 Heifers from the SANIET breed analysis
- 100 Bulls identified by Jersey SA
- 300 Bulls mothers identified by Jersey SA

The links with the rest of Africa are very important as South Africa has the largest reservoir of pure bred and registered Jerseys on the continent. The Society is very supportive of the AJF and promotion of the breed, showing great leadership, with the most numerous members of the WJCB.

Rwanda

The Jersey breed has been actively promoted in Rwanda for over 20 years, with approx. 50 % of the 300,000 AI being to Jersey sires. The Jersey and its crosses do well in the smallholder dominated dairy industry, with the smaller frame and high fertility particularly valued. There continues to be active promotion of the breed within Rwanda and the small brown cow is seen as a transformational asset.

Ethiopia

The Ethiopian Jersey herd has received additional support this year. Through association with the Africa Jersey Forum there is significantly more promotion about the breed in country. Approximately 10% of the country's 10 million dairy animals are bred to AI. Jersey, with less than 15% of inseminations, is the second breed to HF. Thus Jersey promotion is very important. The rich milk produced by Jerseys and

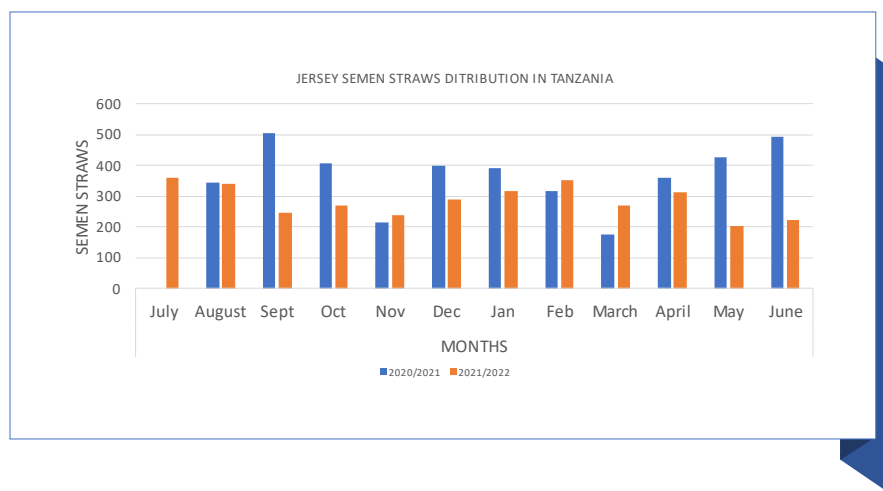
their crosses is highly valued in a country where cosmetic butter production is important. There is now a point of contact for the promotion of Jerseys in Ethiopia and active participation in the Africa Jersey Forum. WCJB also has membership with the country.

Table 2 show results from Ethiopia’s Livestock Development Institute and Regional Bull studs.

Table 2. Semen straws produced (reference year July 2021 to June 2022)				
Breed of bull	No. of straws produced		Total semen straws produced	% from total produced
	LDI	Reg AICs		
HF	784,320	223,255	1,007,575	78.65
Jersey	145,234	45,914	191,148	14.92
HF*Boran	35,215		35,215	2.75
Boran	39,771		39,771	3.10
Fogera	7,350		7,350	0.57
Total semen straws produced	1,011,890	269,169	1,281,059	100.00

Tanzania

The Jersey breed and its crosses are the third most popular breed in the country, behind the Holstein-Friesian and Ayrshire. Jerseys are renowned for their heat tolerance and tend to be found on the humid coastal areas of Tanga; recently a number have been imported from South Africa to the Southern Highlands where they have settled in well. The breed is not currently actively promoted but this may change. The country has participated in the AJF and has WJCB membership.



Kenya

The Kenyan Dairy industry is dominated by Holstein-Friesians and also has the second largest number of Ayrshires in the world. Jerseys are a distant third in breed numbers. There is a strong demand for breeding stock but a significant deficit, resulting in strong prices. The society is active and there are national shows with a strong Jersey presence. Within the 1.8 million smallholder dairy farmers a recent survey estimated cows at 71% HF , 26 % Ayrshires and only 3% Jerseys . There is a good supply of locally produced and imported Jersey genetics and there are some larger scale trials being undertaken, combined with more focus on optimizing production in line with the feed resources available. There is every prospect that Jerseys could receive a boost. There is support for AJF and WJCB from Kenya.

Malawi

93 % of Malawi’s fresh milk is produced by the approx. 12,000 small holder farmers surrounding Blantyre. Typically, they own 1 to 2 Jersey cross cows and supply into milk bulking groups where, for the most part, it is bulked and transported to Lilongwe for processing. Jerseys and Jersey crosses are the backbone of the industry and approx. 30 % of the animals are bred to AI. Malawi is leading the region in , based on the Jersey breed and crosses, as the milk price is the lowest in the region. AJF is well sported from Malawi and new members of WJCB have recently joined. Every year on World Milk Day there is a herd competition and cup awarded.

Zambia

Zambia has a number of Jersey cattle-based dairy farmers, with an estimated 10 % of the national herd. Jersey crossbreds are more popular for their hardiness and longevity over the other crosses and pure breeds. The Champion Dairy Animal of Show at the National Agricultural Show was a Jersey cow that was awarded the Jersey Island cup by the Country’s national President. There are active members of WJCB and AJF within Zambia and this is the next country for a large push to increase the proportion within the dairy population.

Zimbabwe

Jerseys are popular in the drier regions around Matabeleland South, where there are long established herds of pure-bred animals. There are an increasing number of herds in the high potential areas. The Zimbabwe Association of Dairy Farmers is very supportive and holds national herd competitions annually. There is limited promotion of the breed in the country where HF and Scandinavian Reds are popular.

Mozambique

Local production of milk within Mozambique has grown exponentially with the largest producer being based on a grazing system of Jerseys supplying the processing factory which then distributes within the Beira Corridor and nationally. There are several smallholders, again based on Jerseys with the Jersey cross being the animal of choice, supplying milk directly to the consumers. The herd is small but growing.

West Africa

There continues to be significant interest in Jerseys in Nigeria and Senegal. Several shipments of cattle have gone out to the region. Developing links to the sub region will be important as, this has traditionally been an underserved area. In this context, the connections of Jersey France are significant.

Conclusion and Plans for the next year

The next year will be one of consolidation of the WCJB local representation in key countries, linking them to the AJF for packages of promotional information; updating the WCJB web site and links to each country.

The Jersey cattle presence across the continent is widespread, and with the support of the AJF and WJCB there is a real opportunity to increase the breed's contribution.

A quick note of thanks to all the Country Reps for providing the most detailed information we have had for a while, plus the AJF (supported by RJAHS + JOA) for improving access to data on the small brown cow, showing the Jersey is suitable for any farm and any market.