



NaLIRRI Roundup

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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NaLIRRI TO HOST ILRI UGANDA

NaLIRRI is pleased to welcome the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) Uganda Office, which has officially relocated to NaLIRRI's Maruzi Block. This move is designed to strengthen the MoU between NARO and ILRI, fostering closer collaboration in livestock research, capacity development, and training.

As part of this transition, NaLIRRI had the honor of hosting Dr. Siboniso (Boni) Moyo, ILRI's Deputy Director General for Partnerships, who visited to familiarize herself with the new office and to lead a delegation from both the Uganda office and ILRI headquarters. Her visit marked an important step in formalizing this new phase of collaboration.

VACCINE R&D WING GETS A BOOST WITH NEW EQUIPMENT

The long-awaited air handling unit (H-VAC system) arrived last week to support NaLIRRI's vaccine research and development section. In a bid to upgrade the R&D wing to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standards, this system will improve air quality to addressing requirements set by the National Drug Authority (NDA). The R&D facility has been under remodeling for several months, and installation of the new unit is expected to run until the end of September.



NEW ANIMAL NUTRITION AND DAIRY RESEARCH EQUIPMENT ARRIVES

NaLIRRI received new equipment aimed at improving feed quality and supporting alternative protein sources. The new facilities include a drying unit for aeroponic products and another for insects for food and feed, which will help convert underutilized cereals, legumes, and insects into high-protein inputs for livestock.

This builds on earlier arrivals in June-July 2025 of dairy processing equipment to expand research and value addition. With these units, the dairy platform is now better equipped to produce pasteurized milk, yoghurt, cheese, milk powder, ice cream, and dairy-based powders such as whey protein and casein.



DR. JOLLY KABIRIZI VISITS NALIRRI



NaLIRRI was delighted to host Dr. Jolly M.L. Kabirizi, a retired staff member and renowned forage scientist, who visited the institute on 13th September 2025 after nearly eight years away. She toured new research facilities and praised the significant improvements made since her retirement, especially in the dairy unit.

Dr. Kabirizi expressed her heartfelt gratitude to NARO/NaLIRRI for recognizing her contributions by naming a road in her honor. She reflected on her career at NaLIRRI (1975-2018), noting how it enabled her to raise and educate her children, two of whom are now PhD holders and one an engineer with ACCA certification.

She also extended appreciation to Mr. Kiggundu, the Farm Manager, for personally guiding her during the visit.



MEDIA HOUSES SPOTLIGHT NaLIRRI TECHNOLOGIES

This week, the Communications Unit hosted journalists from NBS TV and China Global Television Network (CGTN) for media interviews and features on four of NaLIRRI's flagship technologies: the anti-tick vaccine, Aflasafe, Black Soldier Fly production, and research on stingless bee pests.

The discussions centered on practical information that benefits farmers directly. We look forward to the broadcast of these features, which will greatly enhance NaLIRRI's visibility nationally and internationally.

PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD BANK DIRECTOR'S VISIT

On 19th September, NaLIRRI hosted a preparatory meeting ahead of the World Bank Division Director's visit scheduled for 26th September 2025. The session, chaired by Dr. Dhikusoka Moses, guided staff on aligning the visit with national priorities, with advice from Dr. John Ilukor (World Bank) to highlight job creation, agro-industrialization, and community impact alongside the science. Commissioner Dr. Henry Nkalet Opolor (MAAIF) commended NaLIRRI's progress and called for a clear programme, while teams were encouraged to prepare a colorful exhibition of innovations such as the anti-tick vaccine, pastures, and nutrition technologies. A joint World Bank-MAAIF team will return on 24th September to finalize preparations.



MOLLY ALLEN SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS HER PHD IN PLANT BREEDING

NaLIRRI proudly celebrates Dr. Molly Allen, a pasture scientist who has successfully defended her PhD in Plant Breeding at the University of Ghana - West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). Her doctoral research has delivered critical advances for forage improvement: she assessed the genetic variation of Brachiaria species in Uganda using SNP markers, identified markers linked to nutritional quality traits, and developed and validated NIRS predictive models for rapid phenotyping of forage quality. These achievements promise better feed options, reduced livestock production costs, and improved milk and meat yields. Dr. Allen will officially graduate in December 2025.