

New sunflower seed in market to rescue farmers-RC

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

MORE than 40,000 sunflower farmers in Singida and Dodoma Regions are likely to raise their revenue collections and equally increase employment opportunities in their midst as a result of a new sunflower hybrid seeds sourced to them.

The remark was made in Dodoma recently by Singida Regional Commissioner (RC), Dr Rehema Nchimbi, while launching the agricultural exhibition show in the City.

She said it was high time that the Central Zone grabbed the opportunity brought to them especially because the seeds have proved to be of high yield and matures within a short period of time.

"For the Central Zone Agricultural corridor, we have decided to prioritise sunflower as our strategic crop, thus we direct every household to at least embark on production of two acres of the crop, using hybrid seeds, which through field trials have proved to have good performance in our regions," the RC further said.

"I now direct all of my District Executive Directors (DEDs) to establish the total number of farmers and volumes of seeds required for planting for them in the next farming season, so that this quantity can be communi-

cated to the seeds' companies as they prepare their consignments and distribution plans.

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She urged farmers to start shifting from traditional farm-

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ing to the modern one by purchasing the new seeds for the upcoming season, as they also seek to expand their farms.

Improving hybrid seeds access and availability is one the systemic change areas targeted by the Agricultural Market Development Trust-AMDT through its co-facilitators across 15 regions in the country, with FaidaMaLi implementing the sunflower

projects in Singida and Dodoma regions.

FaidaMaLi, a local non-profit organization, is one of the co-facilitators implementing the AMDT Sunflower Projects in Singida Region within four districts of Mkalama, Iramba, Ikungi and Singida Rural as well as districts in Dodoma, which include Chemba, Kondoa, Chamwino, Kongwa and Mpwapwa.

Elaborating further on the sunflower intervention in pilot phase, the FaidaMali Chief Executive Officer, Tom Silayo said from January 2018 to January 2021, the project is geared to reach 32,000 smallholder farmers and SMEs (women, men and youth) in Singida and 10,000 beneficiaries in Dodoma Regions respectively, supporting variety of "bundled-services" to farmers.

AMDT employs market system development (MSD) approaches, where they engage the private sector/ Service Providers to work with on the ground for optimum service provision and ensure sustainability of the programme.

Such service providers include soil testing, profitable market linkages, crop-insurance, ICT and information extension, financial services in close collaboration with the respective Local Government Authorities (LGAs).



TARIME District Commissioner during the Mugena W (Mugini Jacob)

Envoy co-op

From DAILY NEWS Reporter in Mbeya

PRODUCTION of Irish potato Tanzania will rise steeply if the government will lay more emphasis on encouraging public-private partnership, the Dutch Ambassador to Tanzania, Mr Jeroen Van heul, said recently.

The envoy, who is on tour Mbeya Region was received by the Regional Commissioner (RC), M Albert Chalamila, where he told him in his office that the government should encourage public-private partnership in the agricultural sector for the good of farmers.