

A simplified Version of the
NAKASEKE MAIZE ORDINANCE



1. INTERPRETATION:

An ordinance is a local law or rule that is put forth by a municipal governing body and applies only to a set zone, boundary or district. The purpose of this ordinance is to combat malpractices that compromise the quality of agro-products by specifically outlining proper harvesting and post-harvesting practices as well as addressing offences pertaining to the mishandling and distribution of maize in the Nakaseke district. Some malpractices include: adulteration, spraying with herbicide to fasten premature drying of maize, mixing with chaff, sand and other foreign materials, preservation with non-recommended chemicals that compromise equality making it unsafe for consumption.

The objective of this ordinance is to strengthen production and quality of maize products which will lead to overall better markets, consumption, health and income for farmers and consumers.

2. Proper Agronomic Practices

Land Preparation



- Prepare land early..
- Plant maize at the start of the rainy season.
- Maize seeds should be planted after ploughing.

Plant Spacing

Method	Plants /hole	Seeds /hectare	Spacing
By Hand	2 plants / hole	20-25 kg seeds / hectare	75 x 50 cm 75 x 60 cm
By Machine	1 plant / hole	16 - 25 kg seeds / hectare	75 x 30 cm

1. Thinning Maize Plants



Thinning means the removal of some maize plants to make room for the growth of others. Maize plants shall be thinned so as to leave one to two plants depending on stand, at about ten centimeters in height.

2. Weeding of Maize Plants



Weeding shall be carried out in not more than 4 weeks after planting.

1. Spraying



Government recommended herbicides can be used to control maize.

1. Fertilizers.



Use only recommended fertilizers and manure

Use of farm yard manure is recommended because it gives the highest yields, does not destroy soil structure and is good for the environmental protection.

1. Pest and Disease Control:



- Use recommended insecticides to control pests.
- Use proper sanitary measures like Mulching, manuring, crop rotation, closed season and early planting and ring fencing with live plant to control pests affecting maize plants.
- Report outbreak of pest or disease to local government authority.

1. Harvesting and post-harvest handling:

Good Practices



Harvest maize when it is well dried.



Dry maize on tarpaulin, carpet or concrete floor



Store maize in silos, cribs and pit bags or any other storage facility

Bad Practices



Do not cut maize stalks before cob turn downwards



Do not dry maize directly on the bare ground



Do not add stones, dust, droppings, rubbish or any kind of contaminant to the maize

Good Practices



Dry maize on the cob or stalks

Bad Practices



Do not use herbicides to dry maize or speed up the drying of maize.



Dried maize should have a moisture content of 13.5%

1. Local Council requirements

- All Millers and dealers of maize and agro-inputs shall register with the district council and their License must be displayed in a prominent place.
- A trading license should not be issued to a person who mills maize but has not registered with the Council
- Dealers and millers of maize should maintain hygiene standards.
- Dealers of maize shall have appropriate moisture meters
- Dealers of agro-inputs shall use stickers to label items sold to farmers to ensure ease of tracking.

- Transport maize and maize products in a leak and dust proof means.
- A person who grows or deals in maize in the district shall not willfully contaminate the maize produce with stones, dust, droppings or rubbish or any kind of contaminant
- All contaminated maize grain shall be impounded and destroyed.
- A person who contravenes any of the above commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points(2*20000) or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.
- A person who will be convicted in respect of contravening the local council requirements, his or her license shall be revoked by the court.

Use of recommended weighing equipment:

Any weighing or measuring equipment used in relation to the measurement or weighing of maize shall conform to the standards determined by the Uganda Bureau of Standards (UNBS)



1. Storage of maize;

- Maize for sale shall be stored in appropriate stores that meet the recommended standards in relation to ventilation, fumigation, and moisture.
- Dealers in maize shall use the recommended fumigants in their stores and maize mills.



Enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance.

The Council shall, in collaboration with the other lower local governments and administrations, ensure that the provisions of this Ordinance are enforced and adhered to.



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