

**ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENT**

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**Ordinance 11**                      *Local Governments (Nakaseke) (District)  
(Maize) Ordinance*                      **2015**

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (NAKASEKE DISTRICT) (MAIZE)  
ORDINANCE, 2015.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

*Section.*

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. Interpretation.

PART II—PROPER AGRONOMIC PRACTICES FOR MAIZE FARMING

2. Proper agronomics practices to be observed in maize industry.
3. Thinning of maize plants.
4. Weeding of maize plants.
5. Fertilisers.
6. Pests and diseases.
7. Harvesting and postharvest handling.

PART III—DEALING IN MAIZE AND OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS

8. Millers of maize to register with Council.
9. Provisions of dealers in maize.
10. Provisions on agro-inputs dealers.
11. Provisions on transportation of maize grain and products.
12. Offences and penalties.

*Section.*

PART IV—GENERAL

13. District maize marketing committee.
14. Obstruction of persons discharging functions under this Ordinance.
15. Contamination of maize produce.
16. Use of recommended weighing equipment.
17. Storage of maize.
18. Enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance.

**The Local Governments (Nakaseke District) (Maize)  
Ordinance, 2015.**

*(Made under section 38 of the Local Governments Act, Cap. 243)*

**An Ordinance to develop and regulate the maize industry in  
Nakaseke District and for related matters.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of Nakaseke District as follows:

PART I—PRELIMINARY

**1. Interpretation.**

In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Council” means the Nakaseke local government district council;

“district” means Nakaseke district;

“thin” or “thinning” means the removal of some maize plants, or parts of maize plants, to make room for the growth of others;

PART II—PROPER AGRONOMIC PRACTICES FOR MAIZE FARMING

**2. Proper agronomic practices to be observed in maize industry.**

(1) Every person intending to grow maize in the district shall observe proper agronomic practices.

(2) In subsection (1), proper agronomic practices include—

(a) the early preparation of the land for the planting season including the early ploughing of the land so as to create a fairly rough seed-bed;

(b) planting the maize, preferably at the start of the rainy season.

(3) The planting of maize may be done by hand, animal plough or machine.

(4) Where—

(a) an animal plough is used to plant the maize, the maize seeds shall be planted after the plough;

(b) planting of maize seeds is done by hand, the following spacing shall be observed, that is to say, seventy five centimetres (75cm) by fifty centimetres (50cm) or seventy five centimetres (75cm) by sixty centimetres (60cm) leaving two (2) plants per hole at a seed rate of twenty to twenty five kilograms per hectare;

(c) planting of maize seeds is done by machine, the following spacing shall be observed, that is to say, seventy five centimetres (75cm) by thirty centimetres (30cm) or sixty centimetres (60cm) leaving one (1) plant per hole at a seed rate of fourteen to sixteen kilograms to twenty five kilograms per hectare.

### **3. Thinning of maize plants.**

Maize plants shall be thinned so as to leave one to two plants, depending on stand, at about ten centimetres height.

### **4. Weeding of maize plants.**

(1) Weeding of maize plants to control weeds shall be carried out in not more than four weeks after planting and where necessary.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), herbicides may be used to control weeds.

(3) Where herbicides are used, the person using the herbicides shall ensure that only recommended herbicides are used.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1), the recommended herbicides shall be those recommended by the central Government from time to time.

**5. Fertilizers.**

(1) A person who grows maize shall use the recommended fertilizers and manure.

(2) Where a person uses manure, it is recommended that the person uses farm yard manure since it gives highest yields and does not destroy the soil structure or pollute the environment.

(3) The Council shall, from time to time issue guidelines on the use of fertilizers in the district and those guidelines shall not conflict with national guidelines on the use of fertilizers.

**6. Pests and diseases.**

(1) A person shall—

- (a) use the recommended insecticides to control any pests affecting his or her crops;
- (b) use the proper sanitary measures like roguing, manuring, crop rotation, closed season and early planting to control diseases affecting his or her crop.

(2) The Council shall, from time to time, issue guidelines setting out the recommended insecticides for the control of pests and diseases affecting maize.

(3) A person who contravenes subsection (1), commits an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(4) Where an outbreak of pests or diseases occurs in a person's maize crop, the person shall report the outbreak to the local government where the outbreak occurs.

(5) A person who contravenes subsection (4), commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(6) Where an outbreak of pests or diseases is reported under subsection (6), the Council and the relevant local government shall ensure that farmers are informed immediately, in the most convenient way, of the outbreak.

(7) In addition to informing farmers under subsection (7), the Council and the relevant local government shall ensure that the appropriate control measures are taken to control the outbreak.

## **7. Harvesting and postharvest handling.**

(1) Maize for grain purposes shall be left to dry on the cob or stalks in the garden until such a time when the cob turns downwards.

(2) For avoidance of doubt, maize stalks shall not be cut down before cobs turn downwards.

(3) Where maize is dry, the cobs shall be removed and the maize stored.

(4) Maize shall be harvested by hand by removing the cobs from the stalks and dried before storing in silos, cribs or any other appropriate storage facility.

(5) Maize may also be harvested using any other method including using combine harvesters.

(6) Maize shall not be dried directly on the ground and a person who dries maize directly on the ground commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(7) The recommended manner of drying maize shall include the use of a tarpaulin, carpet or concrete floor.

(8) A person shall not use herbicides to dry maize or speed up the drying of maize, and a person who uses herbicides to dry maize commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(9) Maize shall be considered dry when it has a moisture content of 13.3 to 14 percent or such other moisture content recommended from time by the Council or central Government.

(10) A person who buys or sells maize which is not dry commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

**PART III—DEALING IN MAIZE AND OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS**

**8. Millers of maize to register with Council.**

(1) Every person who mills maize or who intends to mill maize in the district shall register with the Council.

(2) All dealers of maize shall pay the appropriate fee prescribed by the Council.

(3) All millers of maize in the district shall abide by the guidelines for the milling of maize issued by the Council from time to time including the guidelines on the nature of the store for millers.

(4) Without prejudice to subsection (3), the guidelines shall deal with matters such as fumigation of mills in a manner which does not poison the maize.

(5) The Council shall not issue a trading licence to a person who mills maize but has not registered with the Council.

**9. Provisions on dealers in maize.**

(1) Every person dealing in maize on a commercial scale in the district including the buying or selling of maize shall register with the Council.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), dealers in maize shall include any person who—

- (a) who buys maize on a commercial scale either as a retailer or wholesaler;
- (b) who sells maize on a commercial scale either as a wholesaler or retailer.

(3) All dealers in maize in the district shall apply for and obtain the relevant licence after payment of the fee specified by the Council.

(4) A dealer in maize in the district shall display his or her licence in a prominent and conspicuous place in his or her place of business or premises.

(5) All dealers in maize in the district shall abide by the guidelines for the dealers issued by the Council from time to time including guidelines on the hygiene standards to be maintained.

(6) All dealers in maize shall have the appropriate moisture meters to determine the moisture content of maize before any deal in relation to that maize is conducted.

**10. Provisions on agro-inputs dealers.**

(1) All dealers who wish to deal in agro-inputs in the district shall register with the Council and obtain an appropriate license after payment of a fee determined by the Council.

(2) All dealers in agro-inputs shall abide by the guidelines issued by the Council including guidelines relating to labelling by way of stickers on items sold to farmers for ease of tracking of the sources of products.



**11. Provisions on transportation of maize grain and products.**

All persons transporting maize in the district shall do in accordance with guidelines issued by the Council including transporting maize and maize products in a leak and dust proof manner.

**12. Offences and penalties.**

(1) A person who contravenes any provision of this Part for which a specific penalty is not provided commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(2) A court which convicts a person under subsection (1), shall in addition to the penalty, revoke the licence of the person convicted.

PART IV—GENERAL

**13. District maize marketing committee.**

The Council shall establish a marketing committee comprising the district commercial officer and representatives of millers, traders, farmers, and consumers.

**14. Obstruction of persons discharging functions under this Ordinance.**

A person who hinders, obstructs or otherwise hinders a person discharging functions under this Ordinance commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

**15. Contamination of maize produce.**

(1) 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 other kind of contaminant.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is on conviction liable to a fine not exceeding two currency points or imprisonment not exceeding two months or both.

(3) All contaminated maize grain shall be impounded and destroyed.

**16. Use of recommended weighing equipment.**

(1) 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).

(2) A person who uses weighing or measuring equipment which is not recommended commits an offence and the Council shall refer a person who uses such equipment to the Uganda Bureau of Standards (UNBS) for appropriate action under the law relating to weights and measures.

**17. Storage of maize.**

Maize harvested from gardens and maize for sale shall be stored in appropriate stores that meet the recommended standards specified in guidelines issued by the Council including standards relating to ventilation, fumigation, and moisture.

**18. Enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance.**

(1) 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.

(2) Without limiting the general effect of subsection (1), the enforcement of this Ordinance shall—

- (a) at the village level, be the responsibility of a village compliance team comprising—
  - (i) a lead model farmer identified by the Council in consultation with lower local governments;
  - (ii) the Local Council 1 chairperson; and
  - (iii) the Secretary for Defence.
- (b) at the parish level, be the responsibility of a parish compliance team comprising—

- (i) a lead model farmer identified by the Council in consultation with local governments;
  - (ii) the Local Council 2 chairperson; and
  - (iii) the parish chief.
- (c) at the sub-county level, be the responsibility of the sub-county compliance team comprising—
- (i) the extension officer;
  - (ii) the community development officer;
  - (iii) the sub-county chief;
  - (iv) the secretary for production;
  - (v) the health assistant; and
  - (vi) a representative of dealers in maize.
- (d) at the district level, be the responsibility of the district compliance team comprising—
- (i) the district production officer;
  - (ii) the district commercial officer;
  - (iii) the secretary for production;
  - (iv) the chief administrative officer;
  - (v) the district health inspector;
  - (vi) the district community development officer; and
  - (vii) a representative of dealers in maize.

(3) The role of the village compliance team includes monitoring of adherence to standards, identifying errant actors, reporting errant actors to the parish compliance team and enhancing adherence, and also identifying implementation challenges and making appropriate recommendations.

(4) The role of the parish compliance team includes the monitoring of adherence to standards, identifying errant actors, reporting errant actors to the subcounty compliance team and enhancing adherence, and also identifying implementation challenges and making appropriate recommendations.

(5) The role of the sub-county compliance team includes the overall monitoring of adherence to standards, receiving reports from parish compliance teams and transmitting the reports to the district compliance team, enforce penalties to errant actors, identify implementation challenges and make recommendations.

(6) The role of the district compliance team includes the monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Ordinance, providing technical backstopping support to the lower levels compliance teams, receiving reports from the lower levels, producing quarterly district synthesis reports, developing and issue guidelines on implementation of standards as and when need arises, sensitising stakeholders on compliance to standards.

(7) The Council shall equip the various compliance teams in the district with moisture meters for monitoring purposes.



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*District Chairperson, Nakaseke District.*