## How to look after your crop

- Keep it weed free
- Apply fertilizer (TSP) 1 bag per acre per year in the long rains
- After every cut apply manure in a furrow and cover with soil

Cut the desmodium and napier when the

How to use your crop

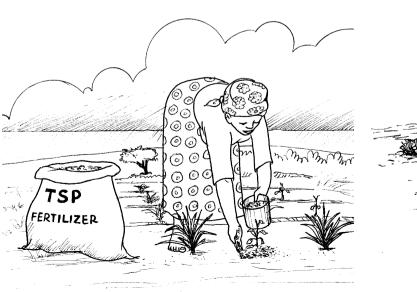
## How to prepare the feed

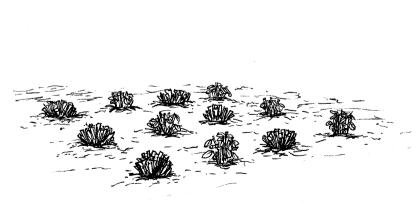
Chop the mixture to avoid wastage

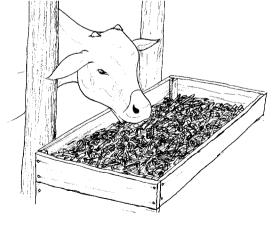


Leave stumps of 4" above the ground level for both crops

Feed to the animal







Compiled by: D.M. Mwangi, G.N. Gichungu, Ben Mungai For more information contact The Ministry of Agriculture / KARI Leaflet supported and funded by DFID through The Small Holder Dairy Project Produced by Development Communcation and Mediae Trust

# FEED DESMODIUM FOR MORE MILK AND MONEY

#### Dairy cows fed on Napier and Desmodium produce more milk



When Desmodium and Napier are grown together, the overall yield is increased



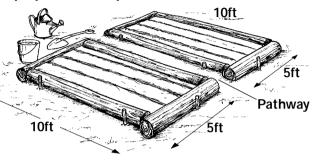
Desmodium can be grown from seeds or cuttings. It is cheaper to grow from cuttings.



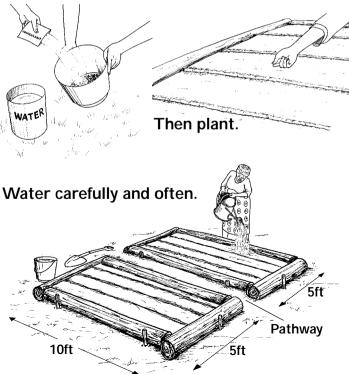
Grows best in coffee areas

## How to grow desmodium from seed

Prepare a good seed bed 10ft x 10ft and raised 6 ins high. Make shallow furrows 1 in deep spaced 1ft apart



Mix seeds with "innoculant" which will help seed start growing. Read instructions on "innoculant" package.



## How to grow desmodium from cuttings

- Prepare a small plot in your farm as a nursery say 5ft x 10ft
- Bring desmodium vines 2 ft long, with soil still attached to the new roots



· Plant desmodium vines with a spacing of 1ft x1ft and water often.

of soil from another desmodium plot and plant.

## How to plant desmodium cuttings in the field

- Make small holes between the newly planted napier canes (or grass splits)
- Add 2-3 x 2kg tins of farm yard manure
- Take your cuttings from either your seedbed or the small plot
- Plant your cuttings as you would sweet potato vines

