

AACAA field visit – ILRI Nairobi campus tour 29 October 2014, 1000 hours

Welcome to the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) Nairobi Campus. Today, the guided tours of the campus will allow you to interact with ILRI scientists and get a feel of the ongoing research. You will be walking around the ILRI Nairobi campus to visit the different tour stations organized in three hub sites: Labs, Info Centre and the *Brachiaria* grasses experimental plots.

During this tour, you will be allowed into the laboratories where ILRI scientists are working on new vaccines and diagnostics to fight the diseases still affecting livestock in developing countries. Witness how the biorepository stores more than 150,000 vital biological samples in only four square metres!

Meet national researchers from all over East and Central Africa hosted in the labs to undertake cutting-edge research in biosciences. Learn how the Biosciences eastern and central Africa (BecA)–ILRI Hub is contributing to the growing community of African scientists who have the capacity to tackle food security issues on the continent by providing training and mentorship as well as access to modern technology platforms.

You will also meet researchers involved in the Integrated Sciences Department of ILRI who work at the interface between livestock production systems and the human stakeholders involved. Discover how to insure dryland pastoralist herders against droughts. Learn about ILRI's FEAST tool to help farmers choose the most appropriate animal feed. Find out how ILRI stores and shares all the data it collects and how these can be mapped to help decision-making on livestock issues in Kenya.

See for yourself the much talked about *Brachiaria* grasses which transformed livestock production in Latin America and find out why scientists see this grass as the crop that could revolutionize the livestock industry in sub-Saharan Africa.

Because of security issues on our work site, the tours are guided by ushers. Find your group usher and follow him or her throughout the tour. After the tour which will keep you occupied all morning, you will join the rest of the group at the poolside for lunch before departing for your next stop in the field visits.

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