

Integrated farming project in Gambella Regional state

Location of project:

The project is conveniently located in the Gambella Regional State in the outskirts of the second largest town in the Gambella regional state adjacent to a major river which is critical for irrigation purposes. The farm is located within less than 2 Km distance from the town). This makes it a preferable location among other things for security and lodging purposes. Literally, the farm itself can be stated as part of the town itself.

Land Size and lease agreement:

The company has acquired 2,000 ha of land for the proposed investment. Though when measured later with GPS it was found to be 1500 ha. Additional 500 will be acquired to compensate the loss at a newer by location. The lease price for the land acquisition of integrated investment was originally 30 Birr per hectare per year (for 50 years lease time). Now, that price has been increased to 111 /ha/yr for rain feed farming and 158/ha/yr for irrigation.

The project site is bordered by the main road from one side and by a river (the second biggest river in Gambella) from the other side. This river is going to be used for irrigation purposes. The project site area is chosen because of its irrigation suitability, soil fertility, easy access and availability of infrastructure and other fundamental utilities such as supply to electric power, water, telephone lines, transportation, market access and labor.

Soil Fertility and product grown

The soil type is called loam soil (sandy loam) and is very suitable to grow all low land crops such as vegetables, fruits, corps and other plant.

- 1) **Crop production of:** cotton, Soybean, corn(maize), sesame, rice, Meg bean (masho), etc
- 2) **Fruits such as:** Mango, Papaya, Orange, Lemon, etc
- 3) **Vegetables:** Tomatoes, onions, berbere (peppers), egg plant, cabbage, etc.
- 4) **Animal Husbandry:** Suitable for cattle breeding /fattening, goat breeding

5) Bee Keeping (honey production) - and others more.

Owner Profile

The owner of the proposed commercial crops farming is a successful member of the Diaspora community who resided in the US for 18 years. The owner, after graduating from the University of Colorado, has over a decade of working experiences in the IT industry and has many years of management experience with different firms in the USA. As the Government is calling its citizens living abroad to take part in the Ongoing economic activities; he came back to his home country to involve in investment.

The owner of the project completed High school in Gambella and has a good understanding of the culture, language and community in Gambella.

Following land acquisition in Gambella for this farming investment, he is now committed to managing and developing this farming investment closely.

Farm work in progress

About 500 ha of land have been cleared so far and the first trial production of cotton plant has been done in the last season. The trial period has proved a good yield and the outcome is excellent. And this season we are working on cotton production of up to 150 ha.

Additional information:

The farm is in many ways one of the top farms in the region mainly because

- 1) The soil is very fertile for many types of crops, fruits, vegetables, etc.
- 2) The farm is irrigable as it is on adjacent to a river.
- 3) It is bordered by road from one side and a river on the other side.
- 4) The farm is located within 2 kilometers from a town (good for security and lodging purposes).

For Further Info Contact:

Gambella Cotton Farm
Tel: +251 936696442
tewahedo@hotmail.com