

# TETHERED GOATS, LESS WORK



Wambui finds out...

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT, KENYA

**DFID** Department for International Development



Early one morning.



Off you go, I'll find you later  
when I come home from school.

Later that day when Wambui gets home from school...

Wambui, this is the third time your goats have got into my shamba and eaten my sukuma wiki. Just look at the damage they've done. You've got to control them in future.



In the evening.

It is no use, I am too busy to look after the goats. They will have to wait until you come home from school so that you can take them out to graze.



Mother, if we wait till I come home from school so that I can take the goats out to graze, how will I have time to help you around the house and do my homework?



Two weeks later. It's late in the evening.

Mother, I am getting very tired of taking the goats out to graze as soon as I get in from school. I am not finishing my homework until very late.



Have you noticed how thin the goats are looking? I do not think that they are getting enough to eat.



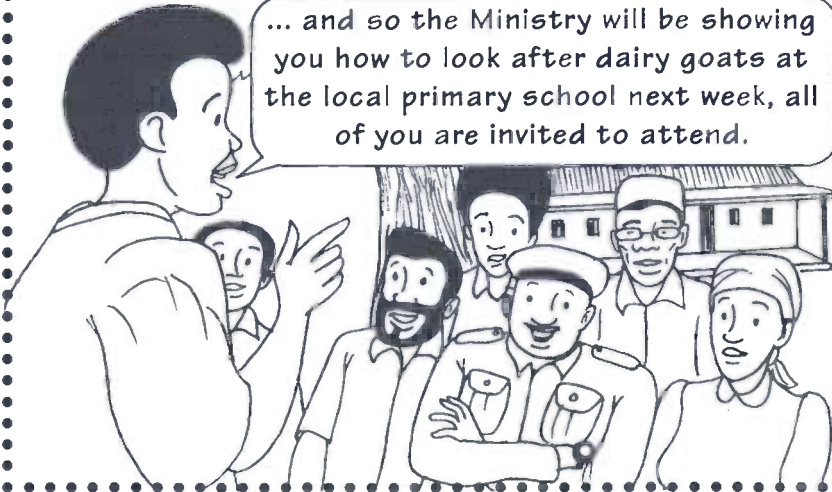
Good evening listeners, now it's time for our regular play about the lives of farming families in Kenya.

I would like to introduce you to Mrs. Kinoti from the Ministry of Agriculture who is going to tell you about a dairy goat project which will be starting in this area.



Towards the end of the talk by Mrs. Kinoti.

... and so the Ministry will be showing you how to look after dairy goats at the local primary school next week, all of you are invited to attend.



As the crowd leaves the meeting.

Those dairy goats look like they need very special care. We must go along next week to learn.





At the local primary school.

I know that many of you will not have enough money to build a goat house like this or have enough time to look after the goats while they are grazing ...

... so instead you can tether them so that they can graze by themselves but not stray into other people's crops.



Remember that a goat should always be tethered by the neck and not by the leg. Tethering a goat by the leg can hurt the animal so that it will not be able to walk. Make sure your tethering rope is 6 to 7 feet long.



Make sure that you tether your goat in a place that has plenty of grass to eat but where it cannot cause damage to crops or be hit by cars.



Make sure that you give it water during the day.

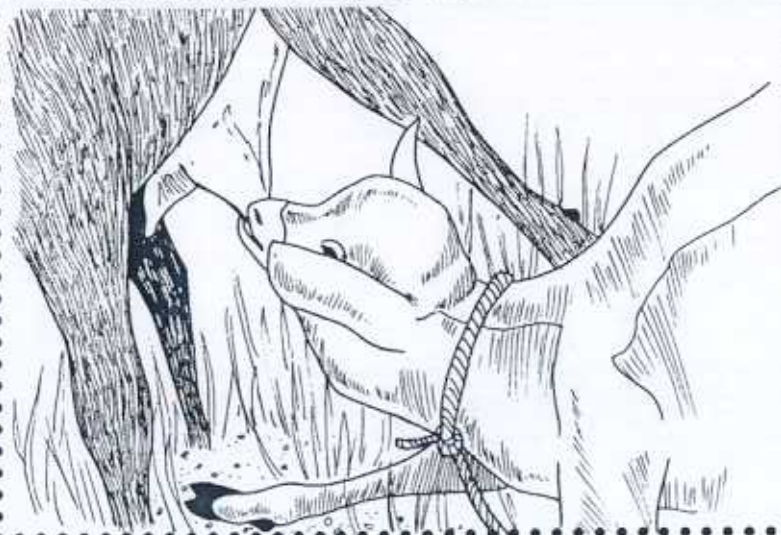




Your goat will produce more milk if you allow it to graze all day and not just for part of the day.  
So take it out for grazing first thing in the morning and bring it home in the evening.



Make sure that the goat kids are tethered near their mother during the day so that she can feed them.



Try to take your goat to a new tethering spot everyday so that your animal gets new grazing.



Wambui and Mother talk after the radio programme has ended.

Mother, I know that our goats are not like the dairy goats that they talked about on the radio but we could try tethering our goats all the same. At least it will stop them straying.



The next morning, Wambui ties 7ft. tether ropes loosely around the goats necks. She makes sure she carries enough water for all of them.



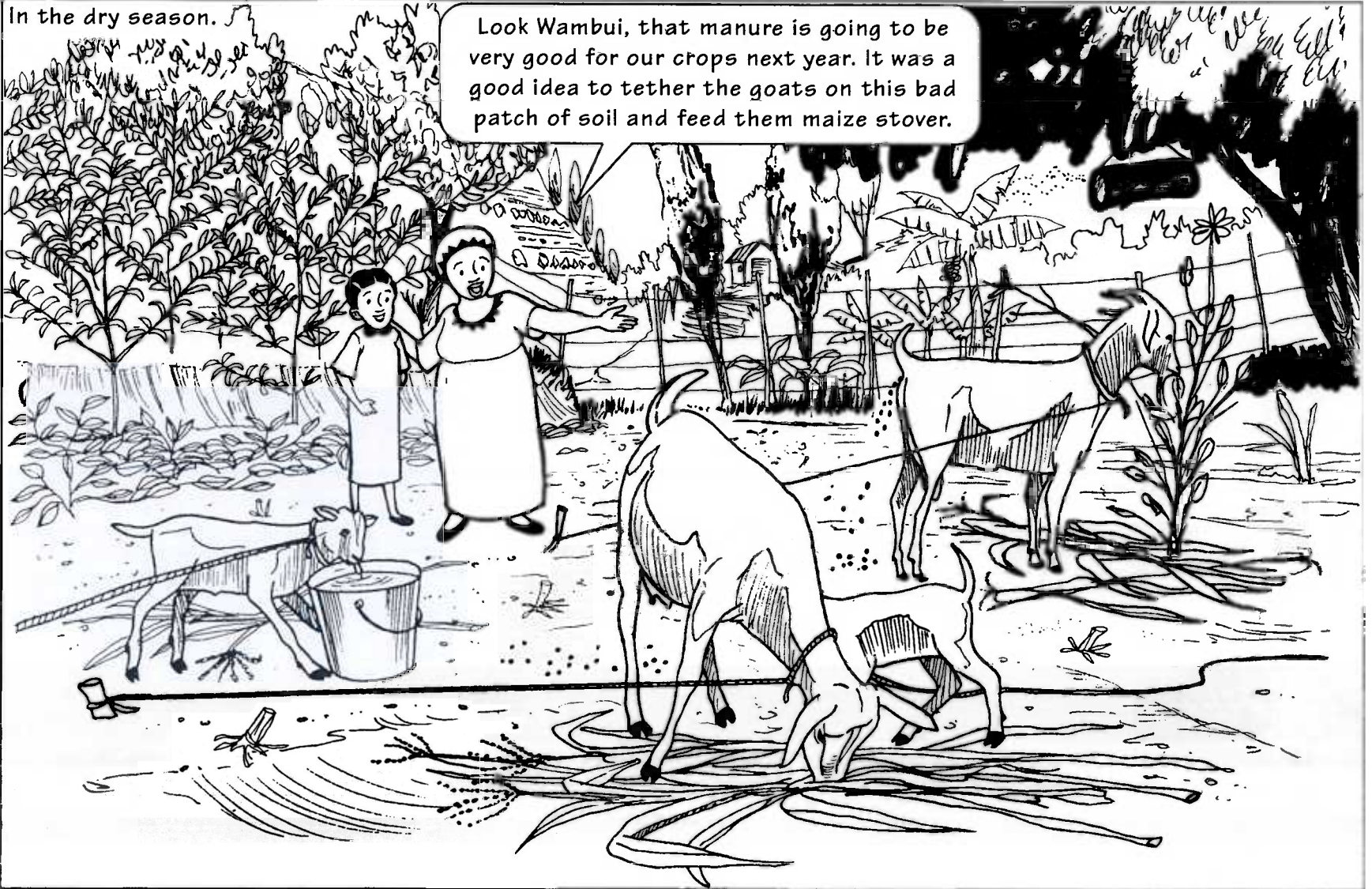


Wambui ties the goats to pegs where they graze on good grass and some bushes between growing crops. The water is within reach.



In the dry season.

Look Wambui, that manure is going to be very good for our crops next year. It was a good idea to tether the goats on this bad patch of soil and feed them maize stover.





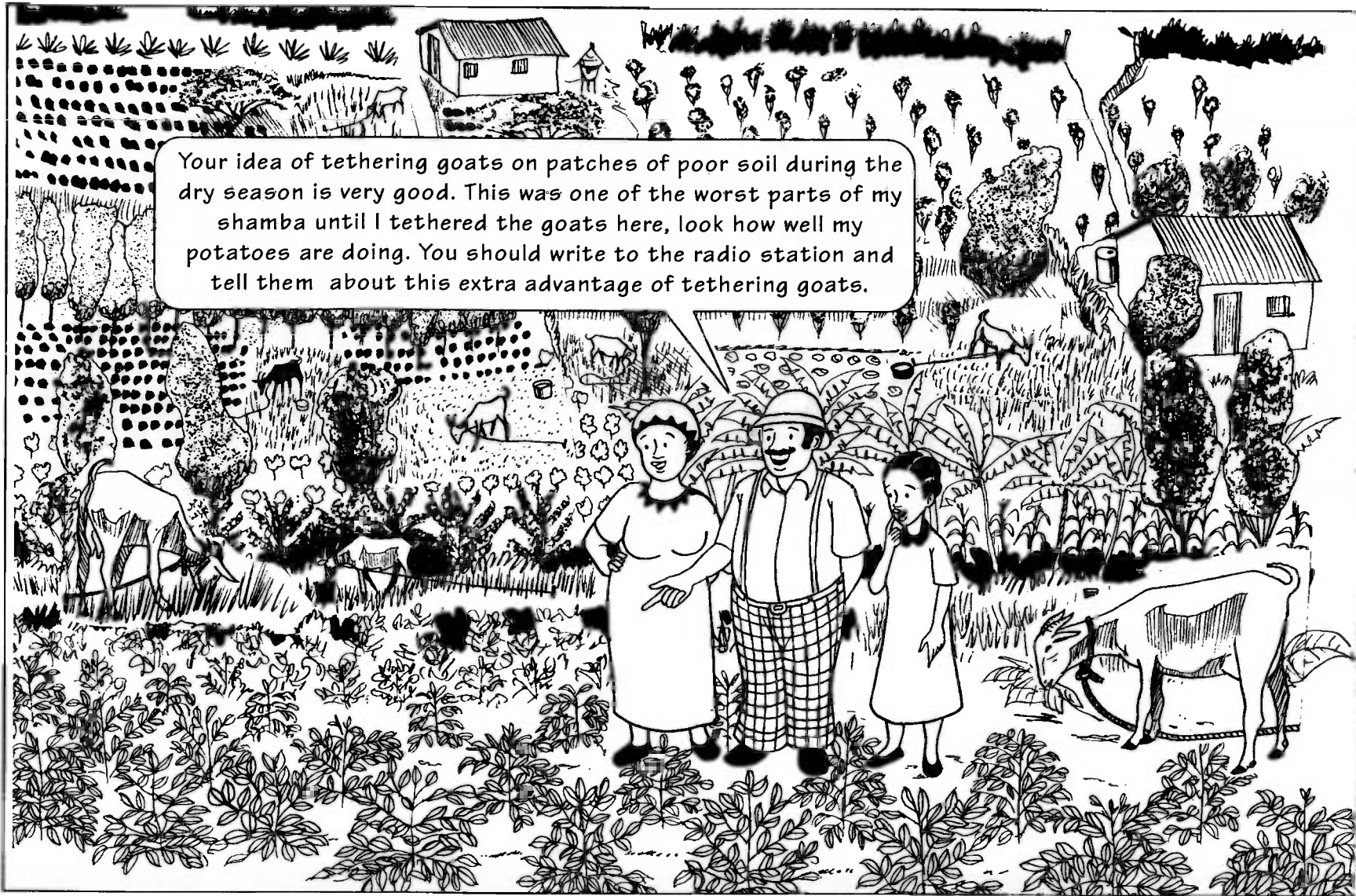
The following rainy season.

Wambui, you have certainly solved the problem of your straying goats. They are also looking very strong and healthy.



Tethering saves so much extra work. It is no wonder the rest of the village has also decided to tether their goats.





Your idea of tethering goats on patches of poor soil during the dry season is very good. This was one of the worst parts of my shamba until I tethered the goats here, look how well my potatoes are doing. You should write to the radio station and tell them about this extra advantage of tethering goats.



# Class Discussion:

Find out from the rest of your class how they look after goats. Then look at the pictures below and discuss the following items:

- (A) Which method of keeping goats is most likely to damage your neighbour's property?
- (B) Which method of keeping goats makes the most work for your family?
- (C) Which method is the most expensive way of keeping goats?
- (D) Which method is cheap and saves time?

1. Goats are free-grazing.



2. Goats are being herded.



3. Goats are being zero-grazed.



4. Goats are being tethered.



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