N-BiG harvesting equipment model

Restoring the encroached savanna rangelands in Namibia.

With sound environmental restoration, the Namibia Biomass Industry Group (N-BiG) initiated a mechanized harvesting equipment model which can be utilized by farmers who are affected by bush encroachment. The N-BiG harvesting equipment lease model is aimed at improving farmers access to mechanized harvesting equipment through leasing. The model provides farmers with an opportunity to lease mechanized equipments from N-BiG for a period of time hence reduces the burden of huge investments, costly maintenances and operating of such equipments. By leasing the N-BiG mechanized equipments farmers are provided with an opportunity to control bush encroachment through bush thinning, depending on the farmer's choice. With well-trained operators, protected plants are left unattended, while the encroacher bush densities are minimized, while practicing minimum soil disturbance by avoiding working in wet soils and other sensitive surfaces.

Requirements to lease N-BiG Harvesting equipment.

- A farmer must have a valid harvesting permit (prerequisite) from the Directorate of Forestry.
- The farmer must have a befitting accommodation for the equipment operator.

N-BiG Harvesting equipment model package.

- The package consists of an excavator (Wacker Neuson) coupled with a hydraulic shear suitable for selective bush thinning.
- N-BiG will provide technical advice to the farmer on sustainable bush control and value addition as well as available markets.

N-BiG Harvesting equipment model package costs

- It costs N$454.25 per machine hour inclusive of VAT (a minimum of 100 machine hour is recommended).
- The price includes a well-trained equipment Operator and all consumables of the equipment.
- Transport cost to the harvesting site is also excluded.

N-BiG Harvesting equipment model achievements

From the lessons learned during our pilot trials, we can achieve bush thinning of 3.5 Ha/day and up to 2-2.5Ha/day depending on the available bush density.

Contacts us today at: e.andreas@n-big.org or call us at : +264 61 242 949