# Lightning Strikes Kill 22 Cattle Amid Severe Storms- Tanzania <https://mediawireexpress.co.tz/lightning-strikes-kill-22-cattle-amid-severe-storms/> 10 December 2024 Lightning Strikes Kill 22 Cattle Amid Severe Storms- Tanzania By Joseph Isangura

**Intense thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and strong winds have brought tragedy to Songambele Azimio Village in Rukwa Region, where 22 cattle belonging to a single farmer were killed by a lightning strike.**

The incident occurred on Monday, December 9, 2024, during heavy rains that swept through the area. Gabriel Masinga, the District Administrative Secretary for Sumbawanga, confirmed the loss, stating that the livestock were owned by Fale Keleja, a resident of the village.

### A Night of Destruction

The storm brought fierce lightning, heavy downpours, and powerful winds that disrupted daily activities in the rural community. Speaking about the incident, Masinga explained, “The storm was accompanied by severe lightning and very strong winds. Unfortunately, all the cattle killed belonged to one individual.”

While the storm caused significant economic loss for the affected farmer, Masinga noted that no human injuries or fatalities were reported, which he attributed to the community’s quick response in seeking shelter.

### A Call for Vigilance

As the rainy season continues, local authorities are urging residents to prioritize safety. Masinga appealed to farmers and herders to take extra precautions to protect themselves and their animals. “We advise everyone to remain alert during this period and to take necessary safety measures to avoid such tragedies,” he emphasized.

### Broader Implications

The loss of livestock in rural communities such as Songambele Azimio highlights the challenges faced by farmers dependent on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods. For Keleja, the death of 22 cattle represents a significant financial blow that will require community support and possible intervention from local government agencies.

### Building Resilience

As part of the response, local leaders are exploring ways to raise awareness among villagers about severe weather risks and measures they can take, such as constructing lightning-resistant shelters for animals and staying indoors during storms.

Authorities across the region are keeping a close eye on weather developments and urging citizens to follow weather updates and warnings during the peak rainy season.