

7 feared dead as herdsmen, farmers clash in Nasarawa

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

SEVEN persons are feared dead in two different clashes between cattle rearers and farmers in two different communities in Nasarawa State between last week and Saturday.

Many have also been reported wounded in clashes which have happened after governments of Nasarawa and Benue said they had resolved the feud between farmers and herdsmen in Kadarko, one of the affected communities. Kadarko is a border community between Nasarawa and Benue, and has been at the centre of clashes between herdsmen and farmers in both states.

Six persons were said to have been killed there between Thursday and Saturday while one was said to have been killed earlier in Doma, another border community. Trouble started in the two different locations when herdsmen were alleged to have driven their cattle into farms for grazing, leading to disagreement between farmers and herdsmen which resulted in violent confrontation.

Witnesses said firearms and other dangerous weapons were used in the clashes. State police commissioner, Emmanuel Obiakor, confirmed the fight between herdsmen and farmers in Kadarko, saying he just finished briefing the

governor, Umaru Tanko Al-Makura on the development. He said a team of armed policemen and soldiers had been deployed to the area.

“They have recovered the corpses too. There is no problem there for now. We have been able to bring everything under control”, he said, although he declined confirming the number of persons killed, and those wounded or extent of damage. While the Doma clash was brought under control on the first day, the Kadarko clash lasted for three days, resulting in the killing of four persons on Thursday and two on Saturday.