



THE TREE

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"The tree" n'orupapura rw'amakuru orukuhandikwa aba TIST uganda itaagi rya The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program.

OKUKORA KWAITU

TIST n'ekigombe ekyehaireyo kwimutsya omu'indo gw'abahingi aba hansi kirikubonyeramu amaani gokurwanisa okucwekyerezi bwa kw'ebibira, okwenjuna obworo nekyanda kitaro kyabuniyo.

EBIGYENDERERWA BYAITU

Omukunywanisa entunguka yentuura n'okurundana orwoya orurungi orurikuru ga omumiti. TIST nehweza abahingi abarikurenga 25,000, eby'okwerinda sirimu, endiisa enungi yab'omumaka nokucendeza enkoresa y'enku n'amakara.

PREFACE

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EBIRY'OMUNDA

Okareberera obusiri bw'emiti
Obujurizi kuruga owa mwitabangoma
ahabw'okuhinga emiti y'ebijuma.
Emiti y'enzaarwa eboneire.
Omugasho gwa TIST.

JUNE 2012 NEWSLETTER.

EDITORS MESSAGE;

CARBON CREDIT SALE.

At the end of last year 2011 validators from VCI experienced men in carbon trade visited Uganda TIST farmers, many groves were validated. The farmers can now through CAAC sell carbon from their trees and share profits. Farmers will pocket 70% of the profit while CAAC takes 30%.

Next validation team will do the work in September and October this year. Farmers, clean your groves.

Ara.

OBUTUMWA BWA EDITA

OKUGUZA ORWOYA.

Omubiro byahamuhuru gwomwaka oguhweire 2011, abahangu omubyokuguza omwoya VCI bakataayaayira abahingi bemiti aba TIST ya Uganda bashwijuma ebibira kandi baikiriza ngu ebibira ebibashwijumire bitandikye okuguza omwoya. Bakama babyo omubiro byomumaisho babagane amagoba obwo abahingi nibahabwa shillingi 70= ahari buri shillingi 100=. Okushwijuma okundi nikwija kubaho omukwezi kwamwenda nokweikumi omwaka ogu 2012. Mushemeze ebibira/ amahamba gaanyu.

Ara.

MANAGING TREE NURSERIES

It is now time to be starting nurseries. The first thing to do therefore is to choose a suitable place for the tree nursery. The place should have a slight slope so water runs off. The place should be out of floods but near a water source like a river or water tap. It is useful if the nursery is close to where the trees will be planted.

Once the site has been chosen, the seedbed needs to be prepared. First, the nursery bed should be surrounded with dried maize stalks or branches as a fence to prevent animals from getting in. After that the fertile seedbed soil should be prepared. There are many ways to make good seed soil. One way is to use 3 parts of topsoil from forest areas, 2 parts of sand and 1 part of manure or plant compost. This will ensure that the soil is rich with nutrients to help the seeds grow.

The agreed best practice was:

- 1) You should time when you plant the seed according to how long it will take it to be strong and the right size to transplant into the prepared hole in the field
- 2) It is best practice to put the seed in some sort of bag or tube filled with the fertile soil

mixture so the bag constrains the plant vertically

- 3) Seedlings should be checked at least every week and probably more often than that.
- 4) When you check the seedlings and look at the roots, you can either clip off the small roots that are coming out or you can just move the seedling in the nursery.

As well as working in your nurseries, don't forget that conservation farming holes should also be dug before the rains come. In a seminar, the agreed upon best practice was to have the conservation farming holes finished a month before the rainy season begins. Working on both the nurseries and the conservation farming holes will mean that you have new trees and better crops.

Molly Kyanziba, Igorora Tree Planting.

Conservation Farming – It really DOES make a difference!

When we talk to the small groups who are using conservation farming best practices, we hear that they know they will always get some harvest even in the very worst years when rainfall is not steady or not much. In the years that their neighbors get some food at harvest, these small groups get

many times more maize and other crops!

Using traditional farming methods, you cannot be sure that you will get any harvest and if you are lucky to get some harvest, it might be very small. Small groups who use conservation farming are seeing a huge difference in their crop yields.

So how does it work? By digging the holes for the crops and filling the holes half full with good soil and manure or compost, it means that the seeds get many more nutrients than they would if they were planted in normal soil. The extra nutrients help the seeds to grow into stronger plants with greater yields. The holes protect the seeds and you can weed around the holes without hurting the germinating plants.

The holes are very important. There is a small seedbed in the hole. When the rains come instead of washing the good soil and the seeds away, the water goes into the holes and helps the seeds grow more.

The combination of the holes and the manure means that the water is held near the seeds for longer so when the sun comes out again it does not take all the water away as fast. When you harvest your crops this year, do

not burn the Stover on the field but leave it on the field so that there is a covering over the field. The Stover will rot down returning many good nutrients to the soil preparing and enriching it for crops next year. When should you start digging the conservation farming holes? As early as possible!

Once the rains start it is too late and some of the benefit has gone.

If you had conservation farming holes this year, cover them up do not leave them open for next year. The more years you do conservation farming in your fields (and even better if you can rotate the crops you put into that field) the better the soil will become and the more harvest you will get.

You can see the soil in your field getting richer as it turns from a reedy brown color to a dark brown / black color. The change in color shows that it has many more nutrients than before. Conservation farming really is that important!

Karamuzi Perry, Kyeitembe M U VI.

THE TESTIMONY FROM MWITABANGOMA ABOUT FRUIT TREES.

I am encouraged to plant more fruit trees as I have seen the

importance of them. Look at my jack fruit trees, they are good and the first harvest gave an additional income to my family.

I will always give this testimony to my community because I have planted jackfruits on my hills which were non productive are now producing the best quality of jackfruits. These trees help in holding soil firmly hence preventing soil erosion during the rainy season. They are growing well and very fast.

In a training meeting which was held in Kanungu, we were told on the benefits of fruit trees which as well act as medicinal plants and I decided to start with jackfruit trees. They are sweet, nutritious for our bodies and when sold they yield good income. This has helped me raise my standard of living.

Fellow TIST members, I request you to plant fruit trees like jackfruits, mangoes, Avocadoes, oranges for the benefit of our families.

Samuel Mwiabangona, Karabutungye Kanungu.

INDIGENOUS TREES ARE GOOD.

Oh! What good news? Planting indigenous trees is very useful to my land. This season the rains are heavy and the

atmosphere is always intense. I would have experienced the landslides and heavy soil erosion, but the planting of stick wood, Markhmia and Ebbizia has protected my farm from all dangers.

The tree growth is good. They are quick to grow. They cover the land and they shed off their leaves. These leaves decompose and form organic manure which improves on their fast growth. We were trained that the indigenous trees are medicinal so I accept it by the experience I got as I began establishing the nursery bed of Stinkwood, the stinking bad smell scares away Ants and mosquitoes which used to disturb me. Findings show, local people often prefer indigenous species for a variety of uses such as furniture, housing material, and medicine to mention just a few. It becomes apparent that indigenous species are valued. Some farmers are quite insistent that they prefer local trees and the proof comes when they tell you that they are mostly planting indigenous trees.

Am targeting to plant more than 100 trees this season and got many more for my group members for them to plant and increase the number of stink wood in our group.

Indigenous trees are really good looking. I encourage everyone

to plant them and also fruit trees which are nutritious and good for our bodies and we can be able to get some money from fruits sold. We shall continue to use indigenous species as long as they are available because these species:

- tend to be of higher quality;
- are known and respected by the users;
- are generally a common property resource;
- can be obtained without maintenance or cash payment;
- provide products that cannot be duplicated with fast growing species.

Indigenous trees are good, let's all plant them

**Ndyabawe Carl peters,
Ababarisa Group Kabale.**

THE TIST VALUES

To begin, we want to remind you about the TIST Values.

They are the foundation and heart of the TIST Program.

Without them, the program and the work that all of us do will not thrive.

This will help all the TIST participants have a better understanding of: Who we are, How we do things *that other people can see*; What we do and What we Create. This is how we can contribute to the well-being of our families and our communities and to sustainability the TIST program;

Who We Are

- 1) We are honest.
- 2) We are accurate.
- 3) We are transparent
- 4) We are servants to each other.
- 5) We are mutually accountable to each other.

How We Do Things that other people can see

- 1) We are volunteers.
- 2) We do the work ourselves in small groups
- 3) We develop and use best practices
- 4) We use our head and hands.

What We Do

- 1) We plant a variety of trees for the long-term.
- 2) We find ways to improve our health.
- 3) We practice Conservation Farming.
- 4) We do other projects and businesses.
- 5) We sell carbon credits.

What We Create.

This is different from what we do. When we have these values and as we live and do business the way on

Projects, we create something that was not there before.

These include;

- 1) We create Team Work—by doing things this way, we end up working like a team.
- 2) We create Capacity—we create organization, strength, and a system that is strong.
- 3) We create Enjoyment—we see results, we accomplish big things that we enjoy

4) We create Big Results—Big results in planting trees. Big results in Conservation farming and from other projects and business that we do.

5) We create Low Administrative costs, yet we achieve big results. If there are things that are confusing or that you do not understand about the TIST Values, please ask questions so we can serve you better.

By Sarah Nankunda