EDITOR’S MESSAGE

As you continue planting various species of trees, carry out this advice – space your trees at a distance not less than 2metres or 6feet from one tree to another (minimum) care for your trees by weeding or slashing the bush in the grove.

Fence round the grove to keep away animals and people from carrying out destruction of your trees.

Ara Beanyanga
OUR LONELY ENVIRONMENT

What shall be left for the coming generation? Plants are perishing at the hands of mankind uncontrolled. What shall be left?

After creation God put man in charge of all that he created. The so called caretaker is instead busy destroying what was put before him.

Mr. Caretaker, why reap, cutting down trees indiscriminately causing bare land? Your smoke in the air causes pollution. Weather destruction is all the work of mankind. What shall be left for the coming generation?

Mankind please make up your mind and put something in place. Plant more trees than those you cut. If you can only do that you can, preserve the environment for the coming generation. Provide places for better garbage disposal.

Mankind be responsible for the environment. Preserve the environment mankind.

Agaba Denis

QUALITIES OF A GOOD GROUP FOR TIST PROGRAM

When we talk of the qualities of a good group for TIST program, we are referring to things a good group should have so as to qualify it to be called a good or even the best one. These include among others the following.

- It should be having all the members who have signed the registration form.
- Every member should have a minimum of 100 trees and ready to plant more.
- A group should have a number of six to twelve members.
- It should be registered with TIST.
- A group should have one thousand trees and ready to plant more every year.
- Members should be those ones who will not cut down the trees until a period of 20 years.
- A group should have a rotational chairman who should mobilize meetings for the group members.
- A good group should be that one whose members are ready to clean their groves.
- Members of this group should all sign a quantification form.

- A good group should make sure that their groves are quantified every year.
- It should be made up of men and women.
- Members should have trees planted on their own land and not Government land.
- A group that has a grove to be quantified should be less than one year.
- Members should be at least from three nearby families and NOT only one family.

All these and many more make up a TIST group to be referred to as the best.

We encourage the already registered groups and those ones who have just registered to make sure that they have the qualities mentioned above.

More information can be got from TIST trainers in your areas.

Caleb Kavabuki

THE TIST FARMERS IN BUSHENYI

TIST farmers in Bushenyi have got their tree incentives. They are all very happy and they are giving the vote of thanks to Mr. Aris Buunyonga, Rev. Enoch Tumwebaze and all quantifiers.

The farmers whose trees were not counted are asking quantifiers to go to their groves and count them. They promised quantifiers that tree planting will be done intensively especially fruit trees and others like pinna patula graveda just to mention but a few.

The tree values were shown as bellow

- Trees give shade
- Trees give income
- Trees give shade and other uses

TIST UGANDA IS A PARENT

When TIST came in Uganda, many of us got peace. The dry season ceased and there is little good sunshine that does not affecting people.

There is enough yields in the gardens, and enough shade, food for animals.

Enough food supply for people hence reducing food shortage. As there is enough clean air to fill the atmosphere, there is rain formation from the clouds people have come to know each other in planting seasons.

This is how TIST has brought to us togetherness.
GOOD THINGS TIST HAS DONE FOR US

Let me, first of all, thank the initiators of TIST program in Uganda more so those who extend it in Bushenyi District like Mr. Ara Bamyanga and Rev. Enock Tumwebaze and again, thank them for having started a TIST Newsletter called THE TREE.

These are some of the activities done by TIST:

Since the introduction of TIST which ensures in planting more trees, prolonged dry seasons have started to go away. Cutting of young trees has declined due to money paid by TIST to farmers and trees remain the property of the farmers.

TIST taught us that even with small pieces of land one can plant trees alongside the boundaries, like fruit trees and even in the middle of banana plantations one can plant fruit trees so that you can access TIST money.

TIST also advised us to plant trees in farmland which can act as shade for animal.

In another development, TIST has taught us modern farming methods to preserve soil nutrients known as Conservation Farming.

This method has helped us understand that one can maximize production on a small piece of land.

Conservation Farming is described as digging a deep pit and put in compost manure or farm yard manure, especially goat droppings, then after sometime you plant in crops for quick yield.

Before TIST bring incentives for trees, the family would be busy eating food harvested from this method and selling the surplus.

WEEDING

Now that the rains are enough, you should have transplanted the seedlings into the grove.

If you have not yet transplanted your seedlings do so as quickly as you can.

Your seedlings need much water when planted so as to fight the dry season.

You all know the importance of trees.

You need to care for your seedlings so that they survive and produce strong, big and good looking trees.

The activity ahead of this month is weeding, keep the area where you have planted trees as clean as possible. Pull up all the weeds surrounding your seedlings.

Reasons for weeding:

1. Young and newly planted seedlings need water, soil nutrients and light to grow strong.

If weeds compete with your seedlings, they will take all the water, nutrients and cover the seedlings from light.

This will result into failure of seedlings and trees will not grow strong.

2. If the area is not weeded, pests will attack your seedlings and cause damage to them.

The fewer the weeds the less chances for snakes, insects and diseases to attack the seedlings.

Here are some of the weeding advantages:

Trees grow faster because weeds don’t take nutrients and water from the soil.

Trees become stronger and taller in a short time.

Trees get enough sunlight.

Trees are free from diseases.

Trees are protected from wild fire.

Clean groves indicate seriousness of SG maintaining the groves, many other SG members from other groups will be attracted to visit you.

Clean groves enable quantifiers to count many trees in a short time and do it accurately.

Animals do not destroy your trees.

Follow the instructions and improve the quality of your grove.

Ara Bamyanga

PROTECTING THE INDIGINOUS TREES

What are indigenous trees? The indigenous trees are these:

Albezi

Acacia

Croton

Prunus

Fagara

Makhania

Stinking wood

Palm trees

And many more that have not been mentioned above.

These trees are getting scarce because of introduction of exotic cows and the population pressure, cities and towns.

How can we protect these trees?

Plant trees with the purpose as shown below:

Plant trees for medicine, plant trees for fruits, plant trees for shade, plant trees for timber and not forgetting to plant leguminous trees.

Trees are a beauty to the environment.

Where can we plant these trees?

Plant on top of bare hills or mountains

Plant trees along side the road
Plant trees near along boundaries.
Take much care on seed selection.
Inform the LCs.
Inform the religious leaders
Inform the neighbours around you and not forgetting the entire community.

Tracking groves is necessary

Quantifiers at work in Kabale hills

Andrew meeting TIST farmers in Mootoma

Andrew looking at different crops.

Pruning and Fruiting make groves nice

Quantifiers and Trainers after a meeting