



KENYA FORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
KITUI REGIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE  
**OPEN DAY REPORT HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011**



**By: Damaris Munyao and Pauline Bala**  
**June 2011**

## 1.0 Introduction

The Kitui Regional Research Centre hosted its open day on 15th June 2011. The objective was to underscore the importance of forest research in improving the livelihoods of the community members in the drylands. The main focus was therefore the role of research in realizing improved forest products and services from dryland tree species.

Other stakeholders were also invited to exhibit

Mobilization for the event was undertaken through:

- Letters to stakeholders such as District departmental heads, NGOs and schools and churches
- Personal visits where invitation slips/leaflets were provided
- Posters in strategic areas
- Banners across main Kitui road

## 2.0 Registration

Participants were registered as they were taken through an introduction overview of KEFRI and they were entertained with music.





### 3.0 Participants

The event was attended by 140 adult participants and about 60 children from schools making a total of 200 attendants.



Children attending the open day

### 4.0 Other Displays

The event followed a free flow format in order to afford flexibility in terms of time for participants. The main stations included:

1. **Dryland Tree seed** - This station, manned by a seed expert, exhibited the seeds of various dry land tree species. Information obtained in this station included aspects of seed storage and pretreatment. Seed sales were also offered.



2. ***Melia volkensii* Propagation** -. Information on the propagation, management and products of *Melia* was explained and displayed in this station.



3. **Bamboo Propagation** – Participants were explained that Bamboo is an important fast growing woody grass. Establishment of bamboo was explained on site (an experimental/multiplication site within the centre). Some bamboo products were also exhibited.





4. *Osyris Lanceolata* – This species was included due to the continued public interest. Research efforts in enhancing propagation of the tree were discussed.



5. **Cottage industries** – Products obtained from dry land tree species like gums, indigenous fruit trees such as Jams juice wine and candy were displayed. This station also covered dye products from *Terminalia brownii* and other tree species. Aloe processing for soap and other products was also displayed. In order to underscore the fact that forestry research creates employment, this station was exhibited mostly by farmer groups and individual engaged in providing such products and services for their livelihood.





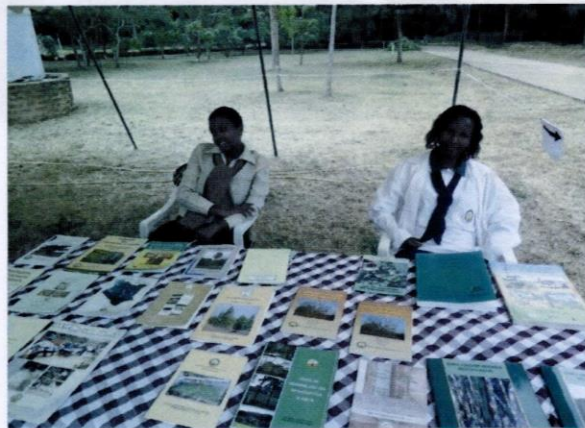
6. **Centre Facilities** – this station explained the facilities the centre has for hire services offered.



7. **Dissemination of research information** – this station explained the various activities undertaken by the dissemination arm of the centre in disseminating research findings to stakeholders.



8. **KEFRI publications** - These were also displayed



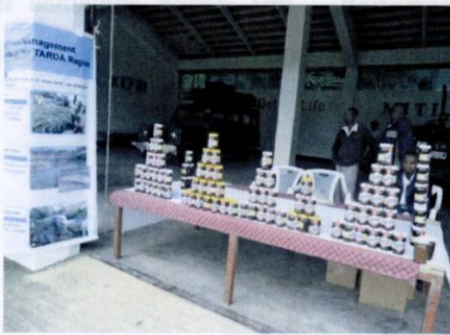
9. **Collaborators** – Several collaborators participated in the open Day. These included KCB Bank, Ministry of Energy, TARDA, Chuluni Mango processing group, multipurpose seed based absorber project and SEUCO University.



**Kitui Energy Centre**



**Chuluni Mango processing Group**



**TARDA – Kitui**



**SEUCO University**



**Multipurpose seed based absorber project**



**KCB bank**



10. **Interaction** - An open day is a day where the centre staff interact with the community. In this particular station, the participants shared their tree planting experiences and challenges. The participants also interacted with centre scientists including the Centre Director who explained the different research and development activities of the centre. They were also entertained with refreshments.



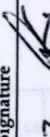

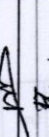
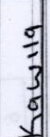
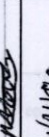


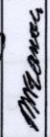
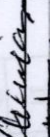


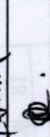








#### 11. Main issues raised by participants

The following were the main issues raised:


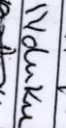
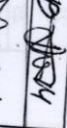


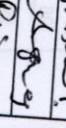
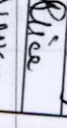
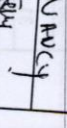
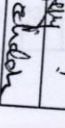


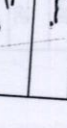

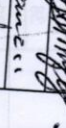
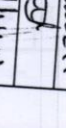
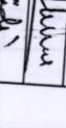
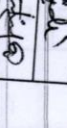

1. What makes ripe *Vitex payos* black and nutritional value
2. Does KEFRI offer training to individuals or groups and what is the cost of training
3. Are there Aloe processing plants in Kenya
4. If some of the Aloe species are poisonous why are they used as medicine
5. Are the chemicals used when making the baobab sweets and which is the preservative used
6. Which tree produces Gum Arabic and is there any local market for the Gums
7. One of the pupils asked how one can identify the poisonous Aloes species
8. How is the Aloe Vera shampoo made
9. The *Vitex payos* demo plot should be well maintained for exhibitions in the next open days.



**KITUI REGIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE**  
**PARTICIPANTS FOR OPEN DAY HELD ON 15TH JUNE 2011**

No.	Name of Officer	Organization	Address	Telephone No.	Mobile Number	Signature
22	GI KYALO MWAMBA	MWAMBA WUA	Box 1145 Kitui		0722296047	
23	PETER KITETA	"	" " "		0727384569	
24	ZIPPORAH ISWA	Ngini	12, Kitui			
25	Rose Via	Ngini	12, Kitui		0700875606	
26	Kawila Muthoka	Ngini	940, Kitui			
27	Monica Muesya	Ngini	1121 Kitui		0723458533	
28	Wayua Kilanzo	Ngini	12 Kitui			
29	Emmanuel M. John	Ngini	434 Kitui		0720404634	
30	Mwikali Mwangi	Ngini	12, Kitui		0711670583	
31	Sam Mwendwa	NEMA	106, Kitui		0722491545	
32	Mary Nyamari	Ikamesa	1137, Kitui		0710653056	
33	Charles Itula	Kakame	162, Kitui			
34	Musyoka Muthaura	Mbusyuni	175, Kitui		0718 383102	
35	Charles Mutau	Mbusyuni	230, Kitui		0720 894554	
36	Mumo Kyai	Mukango Wikipiliye	308, Kitui		0718 103650	
37	Dickson M. Kitwame	Mukango Wikipiliye	308, Kitui		0714753298	
38	Reginah John	Wikipiliye	308, Kitui		0722428721	
39	Rose Kenini	Wikipiliye	308, Kitui		0724927159	
40	Josephine Nukhi	Ministry of Youth	1451, Kitui		0725 574720	
41	GEORGE MUKET	MINISTRY OF TOURISM	1451, Kitui		0711482199	
42	ROBERT MUMAHU	Green Africa Foundation			0736 557294	

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PARTICIPANTS FOR OPEN DAY HELD ON 15TH JUNE 2011**

No.	Name of Officer	Organization	Address	Telephone No.	Mobile Number	Signature
1	Rendo Artem	Green Africa Foundation		0720822521		
2	Mwaka Dominic	Ngini	434, Kitui			
3	Daniel Mutua Ngau	Katua	48, Kitui		071083334	
4	Mary Musoka	Ngini	12, Kitui		0722465412	
5	Museveni Muthoka	Ngini	12, Kitui			
6	Kesoka Muthuri	Ngini	12, Kitui			
7	Agnes Mutei	Katua	440, Kitui		0712503836	
8	Alice Mwendu	Muthuri	996, Kitui		0727446739	
9	Mwacy MUNDU	Ngini	940, Kitui		0727176322	
10	Felistus Kibaze	Ngini	940, Kitui		070245748	
11	Isabel Daudi	Ngini	940, Kitui		0723812971	
12	Mwaga Mwai	Muthuri	12, Kitui		0728557150	
13	Revelyn Zindi	Muthuri	414, Kitui		0713366027	
14	Stephen Mutui	Katua	33, Kitui		0724903028	
15	Kate Kibaki	Muthuri	1018, Kitui		0725722335	
16	Ken M. Francis	Muthuri	1018, Kitui		0701049609	
17	Nicholas Mburu	Katua	440, Kitui		0725154725	
18	Titus Kiumu	Tungutu	1035, Kitui		070244412	
19	Isaac Opendo	Prison (GAR)	122, Kitui		0726544171	
20	Kennedy Musili	Katua Secondary	425, Kitui		0724020571	



No.	Name of Officer	Organization	Address	Telephone No.	Mobile Number	Signature
76	Danson Mungai	Katuni Secretariat	Box 425, Kitui			
77	Ngugi Mungai	Mutuni	189, Kitui		0711 825 712	
78	Peter Muthiti	Ngini	434, Kitui		0734 441 957	
79	ANTHONY KIMANI	KUAI ENERGY CENTER	737 - 90200 Kitui		0725 976 204	
80	RUTH K. MALITI	KITUI ENERGY	737 90200 Kitui		0712 597 66	
81	Alice Mwendongwa Muliaka	Kitui A.T.C	16. 90200 Kitui		0712 414 17	
82	CHRISTINE MUKELI	Ngini	940 Kitui			
83	Teresiah Nyamai	Ngini	940, Kitui		0711 926 66	
84	Nreholus Mutia	Ngini	940, Kitui		0722 510 767	
85	Murini Malonza	Ngini	940, Kitui		"	
86	Cherofah Ojoku Eugene	A.T.C	16, Kitui		0736 201 614	
87	PHILIP MUKIGA	PRESS (STAR)	Box 181 Kitui		0720 782 746	
88	Patricia Mbwili	The people daily	Box 100, Kitui		0701 866 103	
89	Boniface Mulu	Mbaitu FM	P.O. Box 183 Kitui		0714 328 541	
90	MURRAY CHIRICA	MEHAMA	183 Kitui		0720 248 572	
91	Paul Mburu	Energy	737 Kitui		0720 248 572	
92	Robert Muriungi	Kuoi-Ngindu Primary	1445, Kitui		0723 551 774	
93	Jedidah Sijombing	Kuoi-Ngindupani	1445 Kitui		0713 845 774	
94	Tone Kituini	Kuoi-Ngindupani	1445 "		0723 223 4024	
95	DUTU KIMENI	WEEKLY CITIZEN	769 Kitui		0716 127 201	
96	ELINO NGIRE	WILKINSON FM	769 Kitui		0720 384 223	
97	MARTIN KAKUHI	PASTOR DEBUVERANEK	Box 494 Kitui		0727 518 553	
98	MUTUA MULUMBA	CO-OP KITUI	1432 Kitui		0725 546 449	
99	JOEL MUKHARA	CO-OP KIMU	1432 Kitui		0724 466 311	
100	Fadhina Abdullahi	KNA	181 Kitui		0726 476 63	
101	Patricia N. Ngali	Mwendongwa Pri.	Box 294 Kitui		0720 277 69	
102	Robert Mutua	Mutuni	Box 490 Kitui			

21

26 pupils



No.	Name of Officer	Organization	Address	Tele
49	<del>Walter</del> Eligabeth	Wairi	Box 44, Kitui	0704151428
50	Linda Mulwa	Maringani	Box 38, Kitui	0721889419
51	John Mutua	Ngaigani	Box 146, Kitui	0724613996
52	John Mwangi	Maringani	Box 30, Kitui	0728816698
53	Martin N. Njiru	Muslim	P.O. Box 398 Kitui	0728344498
54	Coyle Post	SASOL	P.O. Box 85 Kitui	0721353246
55	Muthing Gesta	"	" " " "	0724200248
56	JOSSES K. MUMUKU	TARDA	Box 853 Kitui	0727874048
57	Sammy Mwangi	TARDA	Box 47309 N/A	070113093
58	Felix Mwangi	Private	Box 219 Kitui	0720842323
59	Robert Muthini	TARDA	Box 47309	07205710534
60	Fred Kilian	INTAKA	Box 1035 Kitui	0724383764
61	JOE NDIRA	Pathways Development (P)	Box 493 Kitui	0720170894
62	MURRAY MUIWZI	TARDA	Box 983 Kitui	0722911378
63	MURRAY MUTHI	K. Mwangi	Box 181 Kitui	0721559496
64	MURRAY KENNEDY	Wangari Village	Box 1 Kitui	0729325394
65	Amul K. Mwangi	Starline	Box 883, Kitui	0700878554
66	Samuel Kilisa	Carlos Chemicals	Box 206 Kitui	0729173451
67	Ben Muthi	Energy	Box 16 Kitui	0711815192
68	Rev. Grace Mwangi	ACC Kitui	Box 676 Kitui	0724912220
69	Robert Mwangi	TARDA	Box 47309 N/A	
70	Purity Mui	Culhami	Box 832-90200 Kitui	
71	JANE JAMES	Chumani	Box 433-90200 Kitui	
72	ELIZABETH BARDI	TARDA	Box 43309 Kitui	
73	BERNICE MUNINI	INNOVATION PROJECT	Box 1204, MKS	
74	PAUL K. NDI	(Municipal Council Board)	100 Kitui	
75	Rev. Makau Mwangi	399 Kitui		

Phone No.	Mobile Number	Signature
	0713863474	
	0717534577	
	0715076653	
	0721353338	



No.	Name of Officer	Organization	Address	Telephone No.	Mobile Number	Signature
103	Kevin Ojwang	KCB	683 - 6101		072640143	Kevin
104	Fred Muthinda	KCB	683 - 90200		0722014184	Fred
105	Caroline Mwangi	KCB	683 - 90200 Kitui		0723822976	Caroline
106	Caroline Muli	KCB	683 - 90200 Kitui		0712230632	Caroline
107	Kirindya Munira	Natibani	1020 Kitui		0721645858	Kirindya
108	Peter Mwangi	Natibani	918 Kitui		0724417214	Peter
109	Dennis Kirimi	Amref	98156 Mombasa		072390549	Dennis
110	Ken Katia	Royal Media	744 Kitui		072256758	Ken
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