

CURRICULUM VITAE



1: Personal Information

1.1 Name, Nationality, Date & Place of Birth

James Mũnga Kĩmondo, Kenyan, 05.01.59, Nyeri

Sex: Male

Marital Status: Married with four children

1.2 Languages Spoken

Kikuyu (mother tongue)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gikuyu_language

Swahili (national language)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swahili_language

English (educational language- fluent in written & spoken)

1.3 Employer

Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Muguga

PO Box 20412 – 00200

Nairobi

1.4 Current position & Specialisation

Principal Research Officer, Dry lands Agroforestry

1.5 Present Address

Kenya Forestry Research Institute

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1.6 Permanent Home Address:

PO Box 35381 – 00200

Nairobi, Kenya

1.7 Personal homepage

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2. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2.1 Academic Qualifications

- i. PhD,(Agroforestry)
School of the Environment, Natural Resources & Geography,
College of Natural Sciences, Bangor University, UK. May 2010. Thesis title “The potential for optimisation of *Vitex payos* as a dryland resource in Kenya”
- ii. MSc. Forest Biometrics, Coursework & dissertation, University of Alberta, Edmonton Canada, June 1987¹

¹*MSc Forestry course work covered Forest Inventory, Forest Management, Advanced Forest Mensuration, Advanced Applied Statistics and Biometrics. MSc Thesis (1987): Individual tree volume and stand yield prediction for eucalypts in Kenya.*

- iii. BSc. Forestry (Second Class Honours), University of Nairobi, Kenya, March 1983
- iv. East African Advanced Certificate of Education (A-Level), Kagumo High School, Kenya 1977-1978.
- v. East African Certificate of Education (O-Level), Kagumo High School, Kenya 1973-1976.

2.2 Professional Training

- i. Research Funding – Graduate Skills programme, The Future after your PhD. Research & Innovation Office, University of Bangor, UK. April 2010.
- ii. Advanced Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) for Postgraduate Research Students, Academic Development Unit, Bangor University, UK, October-December, 2009
- iii. Application of information Technology to Data handling and presentation: based on Microsoft Office 2007, Academic Development Unit, Bangor University, UK, October-December, 2009
- iv. Information technology skills for thesis production, Academic Development Unit, Bangor University, UK, October-December, 2009
- v. Agroforestry systems and practices, School of Environment, Natural Resources & Geography. Bangor University, UK, October - December 2009.

3. PUBLICATIONS

3.1 Publications available

Kimondo, J.M and Ogawa, S. 2010. A study guide for Livelihood Farmer Field Schools. Sustainable Livelihood Development Project in the Mau Complex. Kenya Forest Service and United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation, Nairobi. 41p

Kimondo, J.M and Ogawa, S. 2010. Activity Catalogue. Livelihood Farmer Field Schools Sustainable Livelihood Development Project in the Mau Complex. Kenya Forest Service and United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation, Nairobi. 15p

Kimondo, J.M. 2009. Multiplying the fruit. *Miti 3:16-17.*

Kariuki, J.G., **Kimondo, J.M.**, Kigwa, B.K. and Mbuvi, M.T.E. 2008. *Melia volkensii* in Kenya: current domestication and improvement programme. Progress report of a KEFRI/KFS/BTC/JICA implemented project

Ndeti, J., Ogawa, S. **Kimondo, J.M.**, Kariuki, P.M. and Abe, S. 2007. A study guide for Farm Forestry Field Schools. (Revised edition). Kenya Forest Service. Nairobi. 71p.

Kimondo, J.M., Ndeti, J., Kariuki, P.M. and Ogawa, S. 2006. Farm Forestry Field Schools: Enterprise Catalogue. Forest Dept. Nairobi. 12p.

Mwamburi, A.; **Kimondo, J.M.** and Kyalo, E. 2006. Traditional methods used by farmers to break seed dormancy in *Melia volkensii* (Gurke) in Eastern and Coastal provinces of Kenya. In Kamondo, B.M.; Kimondo, J.M.; Mulatya, J.M. and Muturi, G.M. eds. Proceedings of the First National *Melia volkensii* Workshop Held at Kitui Regional Research Centre 16 to 19 November 2004. KEFRI, Nairobi

Kimondo, J.M. and Kiamba, J.K. 2006. An overview of natural distribution, propagation and management of *Melia volkensii*. In Kamondo, B.M.; Kimondo, J.M.; Mulatya, J.M. and Muturi, G.M. eds. Proceedings of the First National *Melia volkensii* Workshop Held at Kitui Regional Research Centre 16 to 19 November 2004. KEFRI, Nairobi

Kimondo, J.M. and Ouma, G. 2006. Performance of *Melia volkensii* at different spacing in Tiva, Kitui district. In Kamondo, B.M.; Kimondo, J.M.; Mulatya, J.M. and Muturi, G.M. eds. Proceedings of the First National *Melia volkensii* Workshop Held at Kitui Regional Research Centre 16 to 19 November 2004. KEFRI, Nairobi

Kiriinya, C.K. and **Kimondo, J.M.** 2006. Growth of *Eucalyptus urophylla* S.T. Blake provenances at Gede, Kenya. Kenya Forestry Research Institute Technical Note No.27.

Kimondo, J.M. 2005. Tiva Forest Demonstration Guide. Intensified Social Forestry Guide Series No1. pp26

Kimondo, J.M. 2005. Tree establishment and management. In: Utilisation and commercialisation of dryland indigenous fruit tree species to improve livelihoods in East and Central Africa. Proceedings of a Regional Workshop, KEFRI Kitui, Kenya. 20-24 June 2005. p62-64.

Kamondo, B.M., **Kimondo, J.M.**, Mulatya, J.M. and Muturi, G.M. (eds) 2004. Research and Technology Development of Mukau (*Melia volkensii* Gurke). Proceedings of the 1st National Workshop held at Kitui Regional Research Centre 16-19 Nov 2004. 73p.

Ndeti, J., Ogawa, S. **Kimondo, J.M.** and Kariuki, P.M. 2004. A study guide for Farm Forestry Field Schools. Forest Dept. Nairobi. 24p.

Kimondo, J.M. 2004. Mulching through ploughing. Kitui Experience. A paper presented during the International workshop on Dryland Agroforestry at Mwingi Cottage Hotel, Mwingi, Kenya. Nov 28th – Dec 4th 2004. Forest Department, Nairobi, Kenya

Kimondo, J.M. 2001. Social Forestry Extension Model Development project: The approach to extension and poverty alleviation. A paper presented at the African Initiative for Capacity Development Project (AICAD) Forum. March 1-3, 2001. Holiday Inn, Nairobi.

Omenda, T.O., **Kimondo, J.M.** and Muchiri, M.N. 1998. In Pukkala, T. and Eerikäinen (ed.) Modelling the growth of tree plantations and agroforestry systems in South and East Africa. University of Joensuu, Faculty of Forestry. Tiedonantoja Research Notes No. 80. pp 147-154.

Kimondo, J.M. 1996. Two-year growth performance of *Casuarina equisetifolia* provenances in Gede, Kenya. In: Pinyopusarek, K., Turnbull, J.W. and Midgley, S.J. ed. 1996. Recent Casuarina Research and Development. Proceedings of the Third International Casuarina Workshop. Da Nang, Vietnam. 4-7 March 1996 CSIRO, Canberra.

Kimondo, J.M. and Kioko, J.M. 1996. A Manual for tree nursery management. A practical guide on tree nursery practices. KEFRI, Nairobi

Kimondo et al. (ed). 1991. A dryland hand book for Kenya. KEFRI. Nairobi Kenya. 95pp.

Kimondo, J.M. 1991. Early growth performance of lesser known acacia. Tree species in Loruk, Kenya. In Proceeding of ACIAR Acacia Workshop No.36. Bangkok, Thailand. p205-209.

Kimondo, J.M. 1990. Height diameter relationship for plantation grown eucalypts in Kenya. Journal of Tropical Sciences.

Konuche, P.K.A. and **Kimondo, J.M.** 1990. Prospects of replanting clearfelled plantations without the shamba system. KEFRI Technical Note No.8.

Kimondo, J.M. and Konuche, P.K.A. 1989. Results of eucalyptus species trials and establishment methods on seasonally waterlogged soils at Turbo. KEFRI Technical Note No. 4.

3.2 Articles in Press

Okurut, S.A., Agea, J.G., Okwakol, M.J.N. Okoth, V.A.O, Okia, C.A. and **Kimondo, J.M.** Assessment of Termite Damage and yield loss on Maize and possibility of Chemical control in Central Uganda

4. WORK EXPERIENCE

I started my research career in 1983 as an Assistant Research officer attached to the office of the silviculturist. My main responsibilities were to collect growth data of earlier established trials in the field, carry out the preliminary data analysis and prepare draft report for the same. I also undertook data analysis of some trials whose information had been accumulated for some time. As the research department was still a branch of the forest department at that time, I was also in the silviculturist team that undertook to evaluate the performance of the newly established plantations countrywide on an annual basis and evaluated their status. Subsequently I was tasked to come up with reasons for any failures in situations where establishment was poor and advice the forest department on whether to plant a different species or employ a different site preparation method and plant the same species. In 1984, I was granted a scholarship to pursue a Masters degree at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada where I worked under Prof. Steve J. Titus in the area of Forest Biometrics. I addressed eucalypts growth performance as it was the third main plantation species but had no growth data.

After my studies, I took up the responsibilities of overseeing the silviculture research activities covering the high potential areas of the country and the coastal strip. The main research activities in these areas were evaluation of growth performance of tree species and their provenances (thus identification of appropriate seed sources), the nursery management, management of young plantations under different planting methods and silvicultural management of the different species to maximize their productivity.

Personally, my interests were in introduction of better germplasm of two promising species at the coast, namely *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Eucalyptus urophylla*, both of which had high growth rate and ready market locally but exhibited very diverse growth pattern in their plantations. In the highlands, my interests were in *Casuarina junghuhiana*, to eliminate the problem of farmers in those areas planting the *C. equisetifolia* which was not adapted to their locality. The management of seedlings in nursery once overgrown was a major challenge among the main timber species: viz cypress and pines. Beliefs were held that no cutting back of these species could be carried out. Trials were set up to determine the veracity of the belief and alternatives of handlings such seedlings in forest nurseries.

Since 1999, I have been working in the dry areas of the country where rainfalls are 500 to 850mm per year. Unfortunately the rains are quite erratic and unreliable. The distribution is also poor; implying the total amount of rain for the whole year may be received within a few days. As the population increases in these areas, the need to plant trees to provide various products and especially food increases as well. It is out of this felt need that my research has focussed on improving the establishment of trees and fruit tree species in the field through understanding the seedling physiology and thus their environmental requirements. The main species that I have focussed on are those well known to the people in terms of their products but are hardly planted on the farms. Among the main achievement in the drylands has been the promotion of *Melia volkensii* planting on the farms for the purpose of supplying timber to the farmers for construction and furniture making beside sale for income generation. Additionally, the supply of planting germplasm which in the past was issued free by the government nurseries is currently coming mainly from the small scale nurseries (>60%) owned and managed by individual farmers or women groups.

During the period between 1999 and 2002, I was in charge of running of a donor supported project on “Social Forestry Extension Model development for semi arid areas in Kitui, Kenya”. The project entailed the four sections that complemented each other. These were: the on station research to develop technologies; nursery and on farm research for verification of results with the farmers; extension section to take the information to a wider clientele within the project area and beyond; and information section for documentation and preparation of extension material for wider distribution.

I have developed research interest and have been involved in organising stakeholders meeting in the drylands of Eastern Province of Kenya to determine what fruit tree species are in use, how they obtained these fruits and their potential for domestication. During the forum on “Utilization and commercialisation of Indigenous tree species to improve livelihoods in the drylands of East Africa” several fruit tree species were addressed in terms of their resource base, knowledge on their propagation and establishment, processing and value adding of their products. These efforts culminated in my PhD studies on *Vitex payos*, an indigenous fruit tree species naturally found in Eastern province of Kenya drylands through a scholarship granted by LeverhulmeTrust (UK).

5. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS ATTENDED

5.1 Training

Accounting and Finance for Non-Financial Manager offered by Kenya Institute of Business Training, Ministry of Trade & Industry. Six Eighty Hotel, Nairobi. August 25th 27th 2004.

Training of Trainers Course on Farmer Forestry Field School (FFS) organised by Intensified Social Forestry Project (ISFP) for Semi Arid Areas of Kenya, and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) held in KEFRI, Kitui Centre.

Performance Management & Appraisal offered under the auspices of Kenya Institute of Business Training, Ministry of Trade & Industry, Nairobi. August 18th 19th 2003.

Senior Management Seminar held at Kenya Institute of Administration, Lower Kabete Nairobi March 31st – April 18th 2003

Presentation Techniques and PowerPoint Course held in KEFRI Hqs, Muguga. Winrock International. September 10th – 13th 2002.

Individual Training Course in Forestry Researches, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Forest Product Research Institute, Kumamoto Prefectural Government, and Oita Prefectural Government. JICA. October 30th – November 15th 2001.

Applied Biometrics. Statistical Data Analysis and Experimental Planning. Elementary, Advanced Courses and SPSS Statistical programme (Windows Version). Organised by GTZ and KEFRI. KEFRI/Muguga March 1st – 10th 1995.

Introduction course on dBase III+. Organised by GTZ and KEFRI. KEFRI Hqs, Jan 30th – Feb 3rd 1995

Introduction to MS-DOS, Windows and WinWord 6.0. Organised by GTZ and KEFRI. KEFRI Hqs, Jan 23rd – 27th 1995

Scientific writing course for agricultural research scientists. Jan 9 – 20th 1995. Sponsored by CTA, GTZ, WARDA and ICRAF. ICRAF, Nairobi

Group Training Course in Devastated Forest Restoration Technique, Forestry Department, Hiroshima Prefectural Government, Japan. July 12th – October 5th 1994.

Intensive Japanese Language Course – held at Tokyo International Centre (TIC), June 27th – July 1st 1994

Workshop on Research Policy Management, Ministry of Research, Science & Technology organised by Directorate of Personnel Management (DPM) and United State Agency for International Development (USAID) at Sagret Hotel, Thika. November 8th 14th 1992.

Statistical Computer Training Course conducted by KEFRI in collaboration with Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) held at KEFRI Hqs, Muguga. June 18th 29th 1990.

5.2 External Excursions

- Ethiopian trip JICA – to share information and experiences on project implementation with the farmers using the Farmer Field School and the WaBub approach among Japanese supported project in Kenya and Ethiopia
- Tunisian trip BTC – A review of tree establishment under low annual rainfall, land preparation and water harvesting to improve tree growth.
- Japanese trip – Kyushu Fukuoka Research Centre. Research Implementation and management for project managers
- South African trip GTZ – Management of plantation forest for commercial production of raw material for pulp and timber
- Dresden trip GTZ - attachment in Saxony Forest Research Institute on the management of natural regeneration of timber species
- Tanzania trip – Experience sharing among Japanese supported projects promoting tree planting among local communities in Kenya and Tanzania

5.3 Workshops

- ◇ Bangkok ACIAR sponsored workshop 1991.
Paper presented “Early growth performance of lesser known acacia. Tree species in Loruk, Kenya.”
- ◇ Da Nang Vietnam ACIAR sponsored workshop. 1996.
Paper presented “Two-year growth performance of *Casuarina equisetifolia* provenances in Gede, Kenya.
- ◇ JICA sponsored workshops on social forestry activities in Kitui, Kenya between 1989 and 2002.
- ◇ BTC sponsored workshops on district forest development programme (DFDP) in drylands of Ukambani.
- ◇ Forest Officers Conference, Kenya Forest Department. Paper presented “Silvicultural treatments for industrial round-wood production” held at Kunste Hotel, Nakuru Kenya. Kenya Forestry Master Plan. 1993
- ◇ Dryland Research Activities Consolidation Workshop Embu. This workshop produced the first dryland forest handbook published by KEFRI 1991.
- ◇ BTC INRMU Project workshop Mwingi 2004. “Paper presented Mulching through ploughing. Kitui Experience”.
- ◇ Workshop on Research Policy & Management, organised by the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology, and Directorate of Personnel Management held at Sargret Hotel Thika Kenya. November 8th – 14th 1992.

6. GRANTS AND AWARDS

- ♣ Awarded the Leverhulme Trust scholarship to pursue PhD studies in Agroforestry at the University of Wales, Bangor, 2007.

- ♣ Awarded funds by Belgium Technical Cooperation to undertake a study on the “Use conservation Tillage for improved tree establishment in dry lands”. This was a 2 year collaborative research project between KEFRI and BTC, 2005.
- ♣ Awarded the Kenya-Canada General Training Funds Scholarship to pursue studies in Forest Biometrics at the University of Alberta, Edmonton Canada, August 1987.
- ♣ Awarded Government of Kenya scholarship to pursue BSc. Forestry, University of Nairobi, September 1979.

7. SERVICES TO COMMUNITY

- ♣ Chairman, Board of Governor, St Joseph Almano Secondary School.
- ♣ Board Member, Ndathi Secondary School

8. REFEREES

Referees can be availed on request.