

	
Name Dr. Steven Runo	
Title/Qualification B.Sc. M.Sc. PhD	
Department/Unit/Section Biochemistry and Biotechnology	
Position Lecturer	
Area of Specialization Plant Molecular Biology/ Biotechnology	
Professional affiliation Kenya Society of Microbiology Africa Biotechnology Network	
Research/Projects RNAi as a Resistance mechanism against parasitic plants Agrobacterium rhizogenes transformation Maize genetic transformation	
Funded Projects/Consultancies Rockefeller Foundation	
Publications/Exhibitions <p>Rakefet David-Schwartz, Steven Runo, Brad Townsley, Jesse Machuka and Neelima Sinha (2008). Long-distance transport of mRNA via parenchyma cells and phloem across the host -parasite junction in <i>Cuscuta</i>. <i>New Phytologist</i> 179: 1133–1141 (Equal first author)</p> <p>Runo, M.S., Muluvi, G.M. and Odee, D.W. 2004. Analysis of genetic structure in <i>Melia volkensii</i> (Gurke.) populations using random amplified polymorphic DNA. <i>African Journal of Biotechnology</i>, 3: 421-425.</p>	

Conference papers and posters

Runo, M.S. Rakefet David-Schwartz, Brad Townsley, Jesse Machuka Neelima Sinha 2008. siRNAs Against Parasitic Plants: A Trojan Horse Approach. Bio-Earn/ VIREES Scientific Conference. Harnessing Bioresources for Socio-economic Transformation for Eastern Africa. Munyonyo 24th November, 2008- 26th November, 2008. Speke Resort and Conference Centre Kampala Uganda.

Runo, M.S. Rakefet David-Schwartz, Brad Townsley, Jesse Machuka Neelima Sinha 2007. Biotechnological approaches to parasitic weed control. Third general meeting: Biotechnology, Breeding and Seed Systems for African Crops- March 26-29, 2007. Instituto de Investigacao Agraria de Mocambique (IIAM), Maputo Mozambique.

Runo, M.S. Rakefet David-Schwartz, Brad Townsley, Jesse Machuka Neelima Sinha 2006. RNAi as a resistance mechanism against parasitic plants. International Symposium on Integrating New Technologies for *Striga* Control: Towards Ending the Witch-hunt. Hilton Hotel. November 5-11, 2006. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Runo, M.S. 2006. *Striga KNOX1* RNAi as a resistance mechanism in maize and sorghum. 48th annual maize genetics conference. 9th-12th march 2006. Asilomar conference grounds. Pacific Grove, California USA.

Runo, M.S. 2005. *Striga KNOX1* RNAi as a resistance mechanism in maize. 47th annual maize genetics conference. 10th-13th march 2006. Grand Geneva resort. Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, USA.

S. Runo, B. Townsley, J. Machuka, N. Sinha 2005. A strategy to make maize resistant to *Striga*. 2nd general meeting of The Rockefeller Foundation-supported program Biotechnology, Breeding and Seed Systems for African Crops. 24th -27th January 2005 Safari Park hotel Nairobi, Kenya. 15th February, 2008- 10th March 19, 2008
Reviewer Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation- Small Grants Program

Recognition/Awards

- African Academy of Sciences. African forestry network Research Fellowship. June 2000.
- Kenyatta University. Postgraduate research Fellowship. September 1998
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in "Biosafety and GMO detection" 2008

Other Steven Runo links

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/07/080731140231.htm>

<http://www-plb.ucdavis.edu/Labs/sinha/runo.html>

http://www.firstscience.com/home/news/breaking-news-all-topics/plant-parasite-wiretaps-host_50499.html