



TIST HABARI MOTOMOTO FEBRUARY 2025

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Photo 1: A TIST Tree nursery

In this newsletter, we are going to have one article and one story;

- I. Thinning and pruning your trees for successful growth
- II. A story from Lucy Lameck “I am happy to be a TIST Farmer because I get many benefits”

I. Thinning and pruning your trees for successful growth

In general, the purpose of thinning and pruning trees is to improve individual tree health, as well as overall forest health. This is done by selecting the “best” trees in the forest to keep. For many species, including hardwoods, grevillea, and cypress, these are often the largest trees, each with a single, straight stem. Trees may have different needs for space depending on species, site, planting style (woodlot, incorporated into crop fields, or windbreak), and climate, but some general principles apply.

To grow strong, healthy trees, a spacing of two meters is recommended. This spacing works for many TIST trees (i.e. grevillea, and cypress), but remember some trees require more space (mango and macadamia, for example). Giving trees proper spacing helps them get enough water and nutrients to grow to their full potential. Closer spacing is acceptable when trees are young. As the trees begin to mature, some trees will be larger and more robust than their neighbors, and these best trees should be kept. Thin around the best trees to achieve good spacing.

Once you have determined which trees to remove, cut these at the base of the tree. In the weeks and months following cutting, many trees will begin to sprout from the stump. To keep the tree from coming back, cut or break these sprouts off at the base of the tree.

In general, if all trees of the same species in an area are close to the same age, the larger trees should be chosen to allow growing.

Another good indicator of tree health is the position of the crown of the tree in the canopy. Trees with crowns above the general canopy level can absorb more light than those lower down, and so can grow better. Finally, trees should have a single stem, with no major disease or rot. However, this does not mean that all small trees should be removed! Aim for a minimum of a two-meter by two-meter spacing so that the trees are as large and as healthy as possible to maximize carbon capture.

When making thinning choices, remember that growth rate varies greatly by species. If a mango tree is growing near lots of grevillea, the mango may be far smaller and slower growing than the fast-growing grevillea, but it certainly should not be cut simply because it is smaller! In fact, a tree like mango is of great importance due to its usefulness in producing fruit for food and sale. Mango also is better for other crops growing in the field. Grevillea can make other trees and crops nearby grow poorly. It is important to remember this as you select which trees to thin. There are many uses for trees, depending upon species besides carbon capture. For example, you may want trees for shade. In this case, you should give the tree more room than usual to expose the tree to more sunlight.

This will stimulate the tree to produce new branches on the main stem and on larger limbs. If you want to use a row of trees as a windbreak, keep trees in that row spaced closely together, but remove trees to either side in order to increase the “bushiness” of the trees.

Pruning

In a natural forest, trees naturally self-prune. Branches in the upper canopy shade out lower branches. As leaves on the lower branches begin to die off, so does the branch to which they are attached. Dead and rotted branches naturally fall off or are knocked off. While natural pruning may happen on TIST sites, it may be necessary, or beneficial to prune trees by hand. While each tree species requires a different pruning technique, some general principles apply to all trees as you decide which limbs to remove.

Most tree species should have a single main stem at the ground level. Trees with a single stem generally grow faster and are less prone to split during storms. If a tree with multiple stems is chosen as a crop tree, when choosing which stem to keep, generally choose the largest, but make sure it is healthy, with lots of leaves, free of rot, and relatively straight.

Many people think you should cut limbs parallel to the trunk. This is false. Cuts should be made perpendicular to the limb, slightly out from the trunk. This minimizes the amount of exposed wood, and allows the actively dividing cells in the branch collar to grow over the cut over time. This helps the tree to remain healthy and free of rot.

When pruning, don't be overzealous. Tree trimmings are often used for fuel wood or fodder. While this is good, remember that while pruning can improve tree health and increase growth over time, removing leaves will initially reduce the tree's ability to capture sunlight and cause stress to the tree by creating a scar, which it must heal. If you remove too many, the tree will grow slowly or may die. After removing a limb, leave the area cut alone. Do not cover it with tar or any other material, so the tree can expel any toxic material on the wound; don't forget that trees tend to produce new shoots near cuts from thinning or pruning.

Some trees, especially fruit trees, produce better yields with multiple stems. These are cut near the base of the stem when they are young in order to stimulate new growth. Once the tree has established these new shoots, they too may be cut in order to produce more growth. This process may be repeated in order to increase the bushiness of the tree, but be sure to allow at least a few months or more between trimmings so the tree can recover from the stress caused by cutting.

Remember that to take part in the carbon market; we have to commit to keep trees for the long term. We should allow trees to grow for at least 60 years, thinning and pruning to produce useful, sustainable forests that provide us benefits for years to come. Coppiced trees may not qualify for the carbon market and so may not be counted as TIST trees.

All TIST Farmers we are reminded to plant indigenous trees because they adapt to the climate very well as well as planting fruit, nut and other high beneficial trees for eating and selling.

II. I am happy to be a TIST Farmer because I get many benefits

I am Lucy Lameck from Kibondo town Cluster, my Group is Jitegemee Big with TIST no 2003TZ1034, I joined TIST in 2003 as a Small Group Farmer.

Since I joined TIST I have learnt a lot from Cluster meetings and from my fellow Farmers. I have learned leadership skills; in which we do practice rotational leadership in our group; I have been selected to lead as a Leader in my group for four months.

I have learnt the importance of planting different types of trees in one farm and practicing it. I am happy for this because it has improved the soil health, it has controlled erosion in my farm, and I have been earning income and get food from my trees. Also doing this I am optimizing the use of available land and adapting to changing environmental conditions.

Cluster Servants also taught us about how to practice Conservation Farming and I have been practicing it. This method has helped me to get more yields; I have enough food for my family, I also earn income through selling some crops.

Through TIST program I have gained knowledge of caring for trees and understand how to plant trees in lines and in the required space. I have managed to have a 28-acre farm with a total of 28,075 trees in which I planted Junipers and pines. Every year I plant more trees to my farm, for this rainy season I have planted 4500 trees.

“I am happy to be a TIST Farmer because I get many benefits” including the pre payments we received in our group from the trees we have. The money I got from pre payment I used as a capital to start business of selling rice grain.



Photo 2: Lucy Lameck a TIST Farmer From Kibondo, Kigoma

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TIST Values

As TIST Family we have our Values which most of TIST Small Groups know and practice. We always reflect on these Values and to ensure that we all are truly living by them. The success of TIST is based on the integrity and effort of individual members within TIST. What we can achieve depends on each of us following these Values;

- (i) *We are Honest*
- (ii) *We are Accurate*
- (iii) *We are Transparent*
- (iv) *We are Servants to each other*
- (v) *We are Mutually Accountable to Each Other and*
- (vi) *We create Low Budget/ cost, yet we achieve Big Results.*



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Picha 1: Kitabu cha miti cha TIST

Katika jarida hili, tutakuwa na makala moja na hadithi moja:

- (I) Kupunguzia na kupogolea miti yako ili ikue vizuri
- (II) Hadithi kutoka kwa Lucy Lameck “*Nina furaha kuwa Mkulima wa TIST kwa sababu ninapata faida nyingi*”

I. Kupunguzia na kupogolea miti yako ili ikue vizuri

Madhumuni ya kupunguzia na kupogolea miti ni ili kuboresha afya ya mti mmoja mmoja, pamoja na afya ya misitu kwa ujumla. Hii inafanywa kwa kuchagua miti "bora" katika misitu na kuiacha. Aina ya miti migumu kama grevillea, na cypress, mara nyingi huwa miti mikubwa yenye shina moja lililonyooka. Miti inaweza kuwa na mahitaji tofauti ya nafasi kulingana na aina ya mti, mahali, aina upandaji (sehemu ya miti iliyojumuishwa katika shamba la mazao, au kizuizi cha upepo) na hali ya hewa, lakini tunaweza kutumia kanuni za jumla.

Ili kuwa na miti yenye afya, inashauriwa kuzingatia umbali wa mita mbili. Nafasi hii ya mita mbili inafanya kazi kwa miti mingi ya **TIST (Kupunguzia na kupogolea miti yako ili ikue vizuri**

yaani, grevillea, na cypress), lakini kumbuka baadhi ya miti inahitaji nafasi zaidi (kwa mfano, maembe na makadamia). ukiipa miti nafasi inayofaa huisaidia kupata maji ya kutosha na virutubishi ili kukua ikiwa kamili. Nafasi ya karibu inakubalika wakati miti ikiwa bado midogo. Lakini inapoanza kukomaa, miti mingine itakuwa mikubwa na yenye nguvu zaidi kuliko miti mingine, hivyo miti hii bora inapaswa kutunzwa kwa kuondoa miti iliyo myembamba ambayo iko karibu na miti bora ili kufikia nafasi nzuri.

Baada ya kuamua ni miti gani ya kuondoa, unatakiwa kuikata kwa chini. Katika kipindi cha wiki au miezi baada ya kukata, miti mingi itaanza kuchipua kutoka kwenye kisiki. Ili kuzuia mti usiendelee kuchipua, kata au vunja machipukizi hayo vanayotokea chini ya mti.

Kwa ujumla, ikiwa miti yote ya aina moja katika shamba inakaribiana umri, chagua miti mikubwa ili kuruhusu ukuaji. Kiashiria kingine kizuri cha afya ya mti ni nafasi ya tawi la mti kwa juu. Miti iliyo na matawi yaliyo juu na kivuli kuliko miti mingine inaweza kunyonya mwanga zaidi kuliko iliyo mifupi, na hivyo inaweza kukua vizuri zaidi. Miti inapaswa kuwa na shina moja, lisilo na ugonjwa mkubwa au kuoza. Hata hivyo, hii haina maana kwamba miti yote midogo inapaswa kuondolewa! Zingatia umbali wa mita mbili kwa mita mbili ili miti iwe mikubwa na yenye afya iwezekanavyo ili kuongeza kupata hewa.

Wakati wa kufanya uchaguzi wa miti ya kuondoa, kumbuka kwamba kiwango cha ukuaji hutofautiana sana kulingana na aina. Ikiwa mwembe utakuwa karibu na migrevillea mingi, mwembe unaweza kuwa mdogo sana na kukua polepole kuliko migrevillea inayokua haraka, kwa hivyo haipaswi kukatwa kwa sababu ni midogo! Mti kama embe una umuhimu mkubwa kutokana na manufaa yake katika kuzalisha matunda kwa ajili ya chakula na uuzaji. Embe pia ni zao bora kulinganisha na mazao mengine yanayostawi shambani. Grevillea inaweza kufanya miti mingine na mimea iliyo karibu kukua vibaya. Ni muhimu kukumbuka hili unapochagua miti ya kupunguza. Kuna matumizi mengi ya miti, kulingana na aina ya mti mbali na kupata kaboni. Kwa mfano, unaweza kutumia miti kwa ajili ya kivuli. Kwa maana hiyo, unapaswa kuipa miti nafasi ili iweze kupata jua zaidi. Hii itachochea mti kutoa matawi mapya kwenye shina kuu na kwenye matawi makubwa zaidi.

Kupogolea

Kwenye msitu wa asili, miti hujikata yenyewe. Matawi ya juu huyafunika matawi ya chini. Majani ya kwenye matawi ya chini yanapoanza kufa, ndivyo tawi ambalo limeshikamana nalo huanguka au kung'oka. Ingawa upogoaji wa asili unaweza kutumika kwenye mashamba ya TIST, inashauriwa kukata miti kwa mikono kwa kuwa kila aina ya mti inahitaji mbinu tofauti ya kupogolea, baadhi ya kanuni za jumla hutumika kwa miti yote unapoamua ni sehemu zipi za kuondoa.

Aina nyingi ya miti inapaswa kuwa na shina kuu moja kutokea chini. Miti yenye shina moja kwa ujumla hukua haraka na huwa vigumu kukatika wakati wa dhoruba. Ikiwa mti wenye mashina mengi umechaguliwa kama mti wa mazao, unapochagua shina la kubakia, kwa ujumla chagua lililo kubwa zaidi, lakini hakikisha ni lenye afya, lenye majani mengi, liwe halijaoza na limenyooka kiasi.

Watu wengi huwaza kukata matawi wakilinganisha usawa wa shina, hii si sahihi, unapokata tawi likate kwa wima nje kidogo kutoka kwenye shina. Hii hupunguza kiasi cha miti kubaki tupu na kuruhusu kwa nguvu mgawanyo wa seli za kwenye utepe wa tawi kukua zaidi kwa kukatwa baada ya muda. Hii husaidia mti kubaki kuwa wenye afya na usioze.

Wakati wa kupogolea, usikate mti kupita kiasi. Mara nyingi miti inayokatwa hutumiwa kwa kuni au mbolea inapooza, hii ni nzuri. Kumbuka kwamba kupogolea kunaboresha afya ya mti na kuongeza ukuaji, kuondoa majani kutaongeza uwezo wa mti wa kupata jua na kusababisha mti kukauka na kuweka kovu ambalo lazima liponywe. Ikiwa utaondoa majani mengi, mti utakua polepole au unaweza kufa. Baada ya kuondoa kiungo, acha wazi eneo lililokatwa. Usifunike kwa kitu chochote, hata hivyo mti unaweza kufukuza aina yeyote ya sumu kwenye jeraha; kumbuka kwamba miti hutoa shina jipya karibu na sehemu tawi lilipopunguzwa.

Baadhi ya miti, hasa miti ya matunda, hutoa mazao mengi yakiwa na mashina mengi. Miti hii hukatwa karibu na shina kuu wakati mti ukiwa mchanga ili kuchochea ukuaji mpya. Baada ya mti kuota machipukizi haya mapya, yanaweza pia kukatwa ili kuongeza ukuaji zaidi. Utaratibu huu unaweza kurudiwa ili kuongeza msitu wa mti, lakini hakikisha unaruhusu angalau kwa miezi michache au zaidi toka kupogolea ili mti uweze kupona kutokana na matatizo yanayosababishwa na kukata.

Kumbuka kwamba kushiriki kwenye soko la kaboni; tunapaswa kujitolea kutunza miti kwa muda mrefu. Tunapaswa kuruhusu miti kukua kwa angalau miaka 60, kupunguza na kupogolea ili kutoa misitu muhimu na endelevu ambayo itatupatia faida kwa miaka ijayo. Miti iliyokatwa na kuchipua inaweza isifae kwenye soko la kaboni na kwa hivyo haiwezi kuhesabiwa kama miti ya TIST.

Wakulima wote wa TIST tunakumbushwa kupanda miti ya asili kwa sababu inaendana na vizuri na hali ya hewa kwenye maeneo yetu. Pia tupande miti ya matunda na miti mingine yenye faida kubwa kwa asili ya kaboni na hewa.

Nina furaha kuwa Mkulima wa TIST kwa sababu ninapata faida nyingi

Mimi ni Lucy Lameck kutoka Klasta ya Kibondo mjini, Kikundi changu kinaitwa Jitegemee Big chenye TIST no 2003TZ1034, nilijiunga na TIST mwaka 2003 nikiwa Mkulima wa Kikundi Kidogo.

Tangu nilipojiunga na TIST nimejifunza mambo mengi kutoka kwenye mikutano ya Klasta na pia kutoka kwa Wakulima wenzangu. Nimejifunza namna uongozi wa mzunguko unavyofanya kazi; ambapo kwenye Kikundi chetu na kwenye Klasta yetu tunafanya uongozi wa mzunguko; Nilichaguliwa kuongoza kama Mwezeshaji katika Klasta yangu kwa muda wa miezi minne.

Nimejifunza umuhimu wa kupanda aina mbalimbali za miti katika shamba moja. Nina furaha kwa kuwa baada ya kuanza kufanyia kazi hili imenisaidia kuboresha rutuba ya udongo, imedhibiti mmomonyoko wa udongo katika shamba langu, na nimekuwa nikipata mapato kutoka TIST kwa Malipo ya awali kutoka kwenye miti yangu.

Watumishi wa Klasta pia walitufundisha jinsi ya kufanya Kilimo Hai na nimekuwa nikilima kwa njia namna hii. Njia hii imenisaidia kupata mavuno mengi; Nina chakula cha kutosha kwa familia yangu, pia ninapata mapato kwa kuuza baadhi ya mazao.

Kupitia Mpango wa TIST nimepata ujuzi wa kutunza miti na kuelewa jinsi ya kupanda miti kwa mistari na kwa kufuata nafasi inayotakiwa. Nimefanikiwa kuwa na shamba la ekari 28 lenye jumla ya miti 28,075, ambalo nimepanda miti ya Mihumula na misonobari. Kila mwaka huwa napanda miti kwa wingi kwenye shamba langu,

Nina furaha kuwa Mkulima wa TIST kwa sababu ninapata faida nyingi ikiwa ni pamoja na malipo ya awali tuliyopokea katika kikundi chetu kutokana na miti tuliyonayo. Pesa niliyopata kutokana na malipo ya awali nilitumia kama mtaji kuanzisha biashara ya kuuza mchele.



Picha 2: Lucy Lameck, Mkulima wa TIST Kibondo, Kigoma.

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MAADILI YA TIST

Kama Familia ya TIST tuna Maadili yetu ambayo wengi wa Wanavikundi Vidogo vya TIST wanayajua na kuyatekeleza. Daima tunatafakari juu ya Maadili haya na kuhakikisha kwamba sote tunaishi kulingana nayo. Mafanikio ya TIST yanatokana na uadilifu na juhudi za wanachama binafsi ndani ya TIST. Tunachoweza kufikia inategemea kila mmoja wetu kufuata Maadili haya;

- 1) Sisi ni Waaminifu**
- 2) Sisi Tunatoa Taarifa Sahihi**
- 3) Sisi ni Wawazi**
- 4) Sisi Tunatumikiana**
- 5) Sisi ni Wawajibikaji**
- 6) Bajeti Ndogo, Matokeo Makubwa**