



TIST HABARI MOTOMOTO MARCH 2026

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Photo 1: Sylvester's Grove

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

- (I) **Keep Your Trees Alive: Prune or Thin for your Fuelwood Needs**
- (II) **The Importance of Trees**
- (III) **A story from a TIST Farmer: Sylvester Mtondo is happy to be a TIST Facilitator and a Farmer, because apart from doing the Carbon business, TIST Program has enabled him to gain other benefits!**

I. Keep Your Trees Alive: Prune or Thin for your Fuelwood Needs

TIST Farmers you are advised to prune branches or thin some of those planted closely together in less than 2 meters for firewood needs.

The purpose of having regular thinning is to achieve maximum growth and value of the trees that are left standing. The pruning also provides firewood, poles, building materials, and other benefits directly to the TIST participant. That is the reason that we have the policy of creating a sustainable forest by only harvesting a maximum of 5% of the trees per year, after the trees are 10 years old.

When an occasional TIST member decides to harvest their grove, they harm all the rest of the TIST members in their Small Group and in their Cluster. The actions of very few people can cause big problems for everyone. We expect other Small Group members and members of the Cluster to pay attention and make sure that no one harvests TIST trees. If you are considering harvesting your trees, please contact us so that we can help you make the wisest decision between one time cutting or year after year earning.

When we sign the GhG Agreement, we commit to maintain the trees we plant for TIST to let them grow for 30 years before harvest. This is one reason why it's so important to think carefully about what kinds of trees we want to grow on our farms. Thinning and pruning can help keep trees healthy and provide useful products while the trees grow.

The purpose of thinning and pruning trees is to improve individual tree health, as well as overall forest health. This is done by protecting the “best” trees in the forest and thinning the others. 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, give them a proper spacing which 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. These are the trees that should be kept. In determining which trees should be removed, look at the best trees and determine if they are appropriately spaced. If they are not, you should remove some nearby trees.

When making thinning choices, remember that growth rate varies greatly by species. If a mango tree is growing near lots of exotic trees, the mango may be far smaller and slower growing than the fast-growing exotic trees, but it certainly should not be cut simply because it is smaller! A mango tree is of great importance due to its usefulness in producing fruit for food and sale

Best Practices while Thinning

- Allow crop trees to grow to maturity.
- Thin to proper stocking (number of trees per acre). In TIST, we can select up to 5% of our trees, after 10 years, thinning by selecting as they grow, and providing income.
- Remove dying, diseased, decaying, and poor-quality trees.
- Protect trees from logging damage.
- Promote tree species diversity.
- Monitor your forest for insect and disease outbreaks.
- Cooperate with government agencies in controlling forest insect and disease outbreaks.

II. The Importance of Trees

Trees are very important for many reasons:

- Trees cover soil, which protects it from wind and water erosion.
- Leaves and twigs fall to the ground and provide the soil with extra nutrients.
- Trees increase soil moisture by covering the soil and hence reducing evaporation.
- Tree roots help bind the soil and therefore reduce erosion.
- Tree roots also help water to enter the soil and improve underground water circulation.
- Trees improve local weather conditions by increasing the amount of water vapor in the air (increased humidity).
- Trees improve air quality by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.
- Trees provide shade and shelter
- Trees provide construction materials (furniture, posts, fences, rope etc.)
- Fuel wood
- Medicine
- Food/fodder

These benefits are really valuable for farmers and for the world. Promoting tree planting is of great importance to the community.

III. Sylvester Mtondo is happy to be a TIST Facilitator and a Farmer, because apart from doing the Carbon business, TIST Program has enabled him to gain other benefits!

Sylvester is a TIST Farmer from Kakonko Town Cluster, Mshikamano Group with TIST number 2024TZ95. In 2021 his first time to hear about TIST it was from Dr. Brighton Gwamagobe while he was mobilizing and educating farmers about TIST. In 2024 he decided to join the program after hearing and receiving seminars on planting trees, the benefits of trees and carbon business.

Sylvester has a three-acre tree grove with a total of 1900 living trees that include; mango trees, Cedrela trees, avocados, palms, Elaeis and Acrocarpus. He gets fruits, medicines, firewood and shade from his farm. His farm has been fertile due to the leaves that fall and rot on the ground. There is also no more soil erosion on his farm due to the tree roots under the ground that help hold the soil. Due to the benefits he gets from his farm; the tree planting plan on his farm is sustainable, every year he plants more trees, for example this year he planted more than 1000 trees.

He has motivated other farmers to join TIST; he has formed more than 50 TIST Small Groups; provided trainings to Small Groups and planted trees.

Sylvester says in TIST there are other additional benefits that he has gained! His family uses improved stove (Jiko banifu) for cooking; he learned it from his fellow group members stove technicians. Improved stove help him reduce the use of charcoal and firewood because he uses less charcoal and firewood. He also do a small shop business with food needs, does welding work and makes “alternative charcoal” which is processed from waste materials like papers, ashes and dried leaves, this charcoal offer long burning time, low smoke and reduce deforestation which helps to protect the environment by not destroying forests; these businesses help him to earn some income.

Other benefits he has gained in TIST are tree farming along with practicing Conservation Farming which has helped him improve his and the member of his family’s health because they eat enough food, they eat fruits that provide them with vitamins, tree leaves that they use as medicine, they get fresh air and shades. Sylvester enjoys and implements “*we are mutually accountable*” one of the TIST values, because as a facilitator he is responsible for motivating other farmers and forming Small Groups.

He advises TIST Farmers to use the Best Practices he used to achieve his work as a TIST Farmer; (i) To continue planting more trees every year (ii) To make and use alternative charcoal (iii) Attending Small Groups meetings (iv) Attending Cluster meetings (v) Attending various seminars that are provided by TIST leaders so as to continue learning as well as encouraging other farmers to join TIST.



2. Sylvester's welding machine



4. Sylvester's alternative charcoal making machine



3. Sylvester's small shop

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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;

Who are we?

- (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

How we do things that other people can see

- 1) We are committed
- 2) We do our work in small groups
- 3) We seek and use the best way
- 4) We use our minds and hands

What do we do?

- 1) We plant different species of trees for long - term
- 2) We find ways to improve our health

3) We practice Conservation Farming

4) We do other projects and businesses (sustainable agriculture, nurseries, citrus growing, dairy goats and farming, chickens, bee keeping, fishponds and fish keeping, silkworm farming etc.)

5) We sell carbon credits

What do we create?

1) We create team work - by doing things this way; we end up working as a team.

2) We create capacity - we create organization, strength, and a system that is strong.

3) We create enjoyment - we see results, we accomplish big things that we enjoy.

4) We create Big Results - In Conservation Farming and from other projects and business that we do.

5) We create Low Budget/Cost, yet we achieve big results.



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Picha 1: Shamba la miti la Sylvester

Katika jarida hili, tutakuwa na makala mbili na hadithi moja ya mafanikio:

- (i) Dumisha miti yako kwa ajili ya TIST: Pogolea au punguzia kwa mahitaji yako ya Kuni
- (ii) Umuhimu wa Miti
- (iii) Hadithi ya mafanikio kutoka Kwa mkulima wa TIST: Sylvester Mtondo anafurahi kuwa Mhamasishaji na mkulima wa TIST, mbali na **biashara ya Kaboni, Mradi wa TIST umemuwezesha kupata faida nyingine!**

I.Dumisha miti yako kwa ajili ya TIST: Pogolea au punguzia kwa mahitaji yako ya Kuni

Wakulima wa TIST tunashauriwa kupunguzia matawi au kukata baadhi ya miti iliyopandwa karibu karibu chini ya mita 2 na miti iliyopunguzwa itatumika kwa mahitaji ya kuni.

Madhumuni ya kuwa na utaratibu wa kupogolea na kupunguzia mara kwa mara ni kuongeza ukuaji zaidi na kuongeza thamani kwa ile miti iliyobaki. Matawi yaliyokatwa na miti iliyopunguzwa yanaweza kutumika kwa kuni, kutengeneza samani, mbao kwa ajili ya ujenzi, na manufaa mengine ya moja kwa moja kwa mkulima wa TIST. Ndiyo sababu tuna sera ya kuunda msitu endelevu kwa kuvuna kiwango cha juu cha 5% tu ya miti kwa mwaka, baada ya miti kufikia umri wa miaka 10.

Pale mkulima wa TIST anapoamua kuvuna miti yote kwenye shamba lake, uamuzi huu huleta madhara na kwa wakulima wengine wote wa TIST walio katika Kikundi chake na kwenye Klasta yake. Matendo ya watu wachache sana yanaweza kusababisha matatizo makubwa kwa kila mtu. Tunatarajia wakulima wengine wa Vikundi Vidogo na wanachama wa Klasta kuwa makini na kuhakikisha kwamba hakuna mtu anayevuna miti ya TIST. Iwapo unafikiria kuvuna miti yako, tafadhali wasiliana na uongozi wa TIST ili tuweze kukusaidia kufanya uamuzi wa busara zaidi kati ya uvunaji wa mara moja au kupata mapato ya kila mwaka.

Tutakapotia saina Mkataba wa GhG, tunajitolea kudumisha miti tunayopanda kwa ajili ya TIST ili iweze kukua kwa miaka 30 kabla ya kuvuna. Hii ni sababu mojawapo na ni muhimu sana kufikiria kwa makini kuhusu aina gani ya miti tunataka kupanda kwenye mashamba yetu. Kupunguzia na kupogolea kunafanya miti kuwa yenye afya na kutoa bidhaa muhimu wakati miti inakua vizuri

Madhumuni ya kupunguza na kupogoa miti ni ili kuboresha afya ya miti mmoja mmoja, pamoja na afya ya misitu kwa ujumla. Hii inafanywa ili kulinda miti "bora" katika msitu na kupunguza isiyofaa. Miti inaweza kuwa na mahitaji tofauti ya nafasi kulingana na jamii ya mti, eneo, mtindo wa upandaji (shamba la miti, iliyochanganywa katika shamba la mazao, au kuzuia upepo), na hali ya hewa, lakini kanuni za jumla zinatumiwa.

Ili kukuza miti yenye nguvu na afya, ipe nafasi inayofaa ambayo huisaidia kupata maji na virutubishi vya kutosha kukua hadi kufikia uwezo kamili wa mti. Nafasi ya karibu inakubalika wakati miti ikiwa michanga. Miti inapoanza kukomaa, miti mingine itakuwa mikubwa na yenye nguvu zaidi kuliko miti mingine iliyo jirani. Miti hii inayokua mikubwa kuliko mingine ndio inapaswa kutunzwa. Katika kuamua ni miti gani inapaswa kuondolewa, angalia miti bora na utambue ikiwa imetenganishwa ipasavyo. Ikiwa sio hivyo, unapaswa kuondoa miti iliyo karibu.

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Wakati wa kufanya uchaguzi wa kupunguzia, kumbuka kwamba kiwango cha ukuaji hutofautiana sana kulingana na aina ya jamii ya mti. Ikiwa mwembe unakua karibu na miti mingi ya kigeni, mwembe unaweza kuwa mdogo sana na unakua polepole kuliko miti ya kigeni inayokua haraka, lakini mwembe haupaswi kukatwa kwa sababu ni mdogo! Mti wa mwembe una umuhimu mkubwa kutokana na manufaa yake katika kuzalisha matunda kwa ajili ya chakula na kuuza kwa ajili ya kuongeza kipato.

Mbinu Bora Wakati wa Kupogolea

- Ruhusu miti ya mazao kukua hadi kukomaa.
- Punguzia kwa kiwango kizuri kinachotakiwa (idadi ya miti kwa ekari). Kwa TIST, tunaweza kuchagua hadi 5% ya miti yetu, baada ya miaka 10, tukipunguzia kwa kuchagua namna mti unavyokua na kutoa mapato.
- Ondoa miti inayokufa, yenye magonjwa, inayooza na isiyo na ubora. Linda miti kutokana na uharibifu wa ukataji miti.
- Panda aina mbalimbali ya miti kwenye shamba lako
- Fuatilia msitu wako kama kuna milipuko ya wadudu na magonjwa na upulize dawa
- Ikiwa umepuliza dawa na msitu wako bado una magonjwa, shirikiana na mashirika ya serikali katika kudhibiti milipuko ya wadudu wa misitu na magonjwa.

II. Umuhimu wa Miti

Miti ni muhimu sana kwa sababu mbalimbali:

- Miti hufunika udongo, ambayo huilinda kutokana na mmomonyoko wa udongo na upepo mkali
- Majani na matawi huanguka chini na kuupa udongo virutubisho vya ziada
- Miti huongeza unyevu wa udongo kwa kufunika udongo na hivyo kupunguza mvuke kupanda juu
- Mizizi ya miti husaidia kuunganisha udongo na hivyo kupunguza mmomonyoko
- Mizizi ya miti pia husaidia maji kuingia kwenye udongo na kuboresha mzunguko wa maji chini ya ardhi
- Miti huboresha hali ya hewa kwa kuongeza kiasi cha mvuke hewani (inaongeza unyevunyevu)
- Miti huboresha hali ya hewa kwa kunyonya hewa ya kaboni na kutoa oksijeni
- Miti hutoa kivuli na makazi
- Miti hutoa Nyenzo za ujenzi (samani, uzio, kamba n.k.)
- Miti inatoa kuni
- Miti inatoa madawa.
- Miti inatoa chakula/lishe.

Faida hizi ni muhimu sana kwa wakulima na dunia kwa jumla. Kuongeza juhudi ya upandaji miti kuna umuhimu mkubwa kwa jamii.

III. Sylvester Mtondo anafurahi kuwa Mhamasishaji na mkulima wa TIST, mbali na biashara ya Kaboni, Mradi wa TIST umemuwezesha kupata faida nyingine!

Sylvester Mtondo ni mkulima kutoka Klasta ya Kakonko mjini, Kikundi cha Mshikamano chenye namba ya TIST 2024TZ95. Mara yake ya kwanza kusikia habari za TIST ilikuwa mwaka 2021 kutoka kwa dr. Brighton Gwamagobe alipokuwa akihamasisha na kufundisha wakulima kuhusu TIST. Mwaka 2024 aliamua kujiunga na mradi wa TIST baada ya kusikia na kupata semina kuhusu kupanda miti, faida za miti na biashara ya kaboni nk.

Sylvester ana shamba la miti ekari tatu lenye jumla ya miti iliyo hai 1900, aina ya miti iliyoko shambani kwake ni mihumula, miti kunuka, miparachichi, michenza, michikichi na agrokopas. Kwenye shamba lake anapata matunda, madawa, kuni na kivuli. Miti aliyopanda imesaidia kuboresha shamba lake kwa kuwa na rutuba kutokana na majani yanayoanguka na kuoza kwenye ardhi. Pia hakuna tena mmomonyoko wa udongo kwenye shamba lake kutokana na mizizi ya miti ambayo inasaidia kushika udongo. Kwa manufaa anayopata kutoka shambani kwake; mpango wa kupanda miti kwenye shamba lake ni endelevu, kila mwaka anapanda miti, mwaka huu amepanda jumla ya miti 1000.

Tangu amejiunga na TIST amekuwa mhamasishaji wa wakulima wengine kujiunga na TIST, kuunda vikundi, Kutoa mafunzo kwenye vikundi na kupanda miti. Pia anajishughulisha na biashara ndogo ya duka lenye mahitaji ya vyakula, anafanya kazi za kuchomelea (welding) na kutengeneza “mkaa mbadala” ambao unatengenezwa kwa kutumia takataka kama karatasi, majivu na majani makavu. Mkaa huu unasaidia kutunza mazingira kwa kutoharibu misitu, biashara hizi zinamsaidia kuongeza kipato.

Akiwa ndani ya TIST kuna faida nyingine za ziada ambazo amepata! Familia yake wanatumia jiko banifu kupikia, alijifunza kutoka kwa wanavikundi wenzake ambao ni mafundi wa majiko banifu. Jiko banifu linamsaidia kupunguza matumizi ya mkaa na kuni kwa sababu anatumia kiasi kidogo cha mkaa na kuni. Faida nyingine alizopata ndani ya TIST ni kilimo cha miti pamoja na kufanya kilimo Hai vimemsaidia kuboresha afya yake na familia yake kwa kuwa wanakula chakula cha kutosha, wanakula matunda ambayo yanawapatia vitamin, majani ya miti ambayo wanatumia kama madawa pia wanapata hewa safi na vivuli.

Sylvester anafurahia na kutekeleza “sisi ni wawajikaji) mojawapo ya maadili ya TIST, kwa sababu anawajibika kwa kuhamasisha wakulima na kuunda vikundi. Tangu amejiunga na TIST amefanikiwa kuhamasisha na kuunda zaidi ya vikundi 50.

Anawashauri wakulima wengine watumie Mbinu Bora anazotumia yeye hadi kufikia mafanikio yake kama mkulima wa TIST ambazo ni;(i) Kuendelea kupanda miti kila mwaka (ii) Kutengeneza na kutumia mkaa mbadala (iii) Kuhudhuria mikutano ya kikundi (iv) Kuhudhuria mikutano ya Klasta (v) Kuhudhuria semina mbalimbali ili kuendelea kujifunza pamoja na kuhamasisha wakulima wengine kujiunga na TIST.



Picha 3: Duka dogo la Sylvester



Picha 2: Mashine kwa ajili ya kuchomelea



Picha 4: Mashine ya kutengeneza mkaa mbadala

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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;

Sisi ni Nani?

- 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

Jinsi tunavyofanya mambo ambayo watu wengine wanaweza kuona

- 1) Sisi tunajitolea.
- 2) Tunafanya kazi zetu katika vikundi vidogovidogo
- 3) Tunatafuta na kutumia njia bora
- 4) Tunatumia akili na mikono yetu.

Tunachofanya

- 1) Tunapanda aina mbalimbali za miti itakayodumu kwa muda mrefu.
- 2) Tunafanya mambo kuboresha afya zetu.
- 3) Tunafanya Kilimo Hai.
- 4) Tunafanya miradi na biashara zingine.
- 5) Tunafanya biashara ya hewa ya kaboni.

Tunafanya.

- 1) Tunaunda kazi ya timu—kwa kufanya mambo kwa njia hii; tunaishia kufanya kazi kama timu.
- 2) Tunajenga Uwezo-tunaunda shirika, nguvu, na mfumo ambao ni imara.
- 3) Tunafanya mambo yanayotufurahisha-tunaona matokeo, tunatimiza mambo makubwa ambayo tunafurahia
- 4) Tunafanya mambo yanayoleta matokeo makubwa-matokeo makubwa ya upandaji miti. matokeo makubwa katika Kilimo Hai na matokeo makubwa kutokana na miradi na biashara zingine tunazofanya.