

NEEDS OF TREE GROWERS, FARMERS AND TREE GROWERS ASSOCIATIONS.



Southern highlands zone is the potential area where tree farming is done to the extent every family does it like a normal cultivation of other food Crops. These farmers are of different varieties in terms of organization as follows;

Organized Farmers.

In this group is where farmers are jointly organized to perform forestry activities together and few of them are organized and registered as Farmers organizations (FOs) and others are just jointly held performing Forestry activities like Nursery, planting and good husbandry. Always self alliance from own sources and some grants is a key feature you can find within these FOs.

Disorganized or Individual Tree Growers.

It is in this category where you can identify the following characteristics;

- Poor families.
- Early harvesting for example premature harvest of timber trees.
- Lack of tree growing skills like forest measuring equipment.
- The use of local seeds.

The needs of the above mentioned Farmers is divided into four Categories;

1. Availability of seeds.
2. Education in Nursery practices and Good husbandry.
3. Woodlots keeping and harvesting management.
4. Improvement of products resulted from forestry.

1. SEEDS AVAILABILITY.

Southern highlands farmers generally do lack the supply of improved seeds to boost their productivity in case of short time and maturity. The great population is still in the old technology of preparing seeds from the old breeds which are now not performing well in terms of growth and size of the trees. So these farmers now are in need of seeds with the following pick points;

- High breed seeds with low maturity period.
- A variety of seeds like Pines and Eucalyptus and others.
- All seeds must be priced at a tolerable rate so that every farmer can afford.
- Seeds which are suitable and tolerable to diseases.

These seed will provide a great value to the farmers who are now discouraged with the variety of seeds and availability in current situation.



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NURSERY PRACTICES MANAGEMENT.

Nursery management is the foundation of high quality seedlings or less growing seedlings. It is in this stop center in forestry where trees diseases can be produced or not. Generally expatriate knowledge and curing mechanisms are to be held. There is a need to farmers to be trained on the following;

- Pre – nursery activities
- Nursery requirements preparation
- Timing of nursery activities
- Availability and reliability of nursery inputs like Polythene tubes and seeds.
- Experts are needed to lead these farmers in this tenure.

The sense of quality seeds is seen in Nursery good husbandry so good seedlings is not a cause of quality seeds rather than best nursery management practices.

Nursery good husbandry practices.





3.WOODLOTS KEEPING AND HARVESTING MANAGEMENT.

Farmers always they do use the primitive methodologies in managing woodlots as they assume trees are plants like other resistant plants not a business deal. So these farmers need to be transformed from where they are now to new version by keeping in touch as other products like maize are kept. Also some threshold limits might be settled to regulate farmers from early harvest. We need to set time frame as from planting to harvesting for each variety of trees so that the farmers are to be informed and regulated.

This is a difficult scenario but it is essential for having Quality forestry products as it increases value chain of forest produces especially timber and poles.

Other income generating activities need to be subsidized to the farmers to keep them waiting for the planted trees to mature. Income generating activities like Beekeeping, Horticulture, and Avocado husbandry as well as revolving credits Schemes are to be launched.

Because of extreme poverty owed by these farmers Subsidies and trainings on mentioned Income generating activities are essential for them to be in track waiting for maturity period.





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4. IMPROVEMENT OF PRODUCTS RESULTED FROM FORESTRY OUTPUTS.

Regardless to the quality forestry products produced there still unpromising quality of the furniture's produced to lack of carpentry technology to cope with national and international market demands. Forestry boosted the presence of a great number of Carpentry workshops but with a very low processing technology. As we are major producers we need to be leading by selling final products with amazing quality. This sector now employs a great number of youths who are to be trained well to have an exceptional knowledge and add their value.

For example in my village we have almost 20 Carpentry workshops with at least six beginners each, resulting to 120 personnel performing carpentry activities. After adoption of less knowledge they gained from these workshops they quit and open their own so we can see here how this low knowledge is spread. We need to equip them by having a Vocational training center to deal with forestry final products processing as a major industry in Tanzania.







Small Scale Growers have 5 Questions to be answered thoroughly.

1. Will I know the timber tree when it is ready harvest?
2. Will I get a fair price and will be able to sell freely at good terms?
3. Will I have an association that allies for my interest?
4. Will I have an access to information that will help me Succeed in my business?

5. Will I have an access to funds to help me establish, maintain, harvest, package and transport my timber to the market?

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TUENDELEE KUMPENDA MUNGU NA
WANADAMU WENZETU!**