

Keep abreast with new developments in the commercial forestry sector



UTGA NEWS

07th November 2014

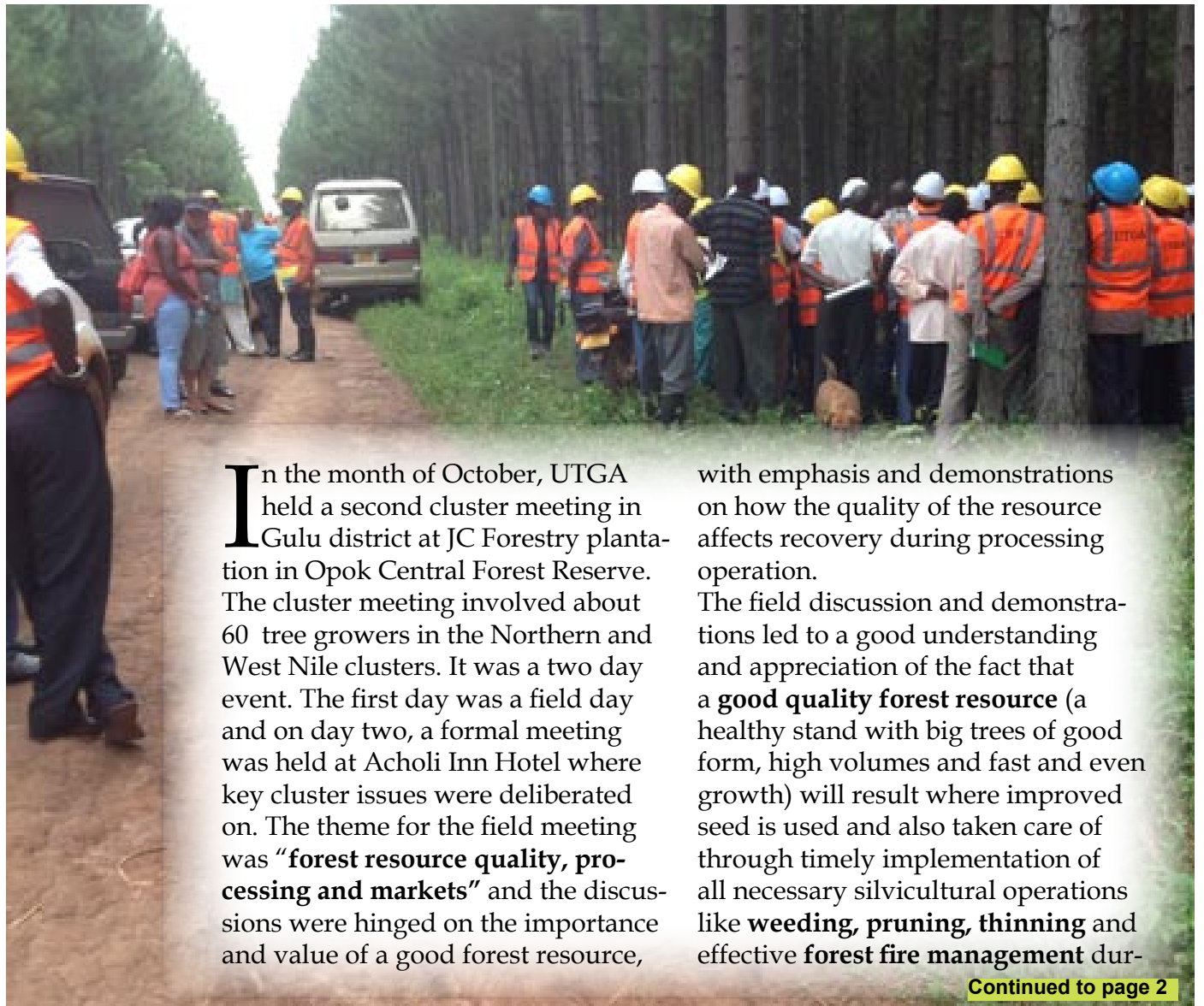
No.31

AUSTRALIAN PINE SEED

UTGA is preparing to order for high quality Pine seed collected from seed orchards in Australia. For those who are interested, please contact the UTGA Secretariat.

WESTNILE & NORTHERN UGANDA CLUSTERS MEET

UTGA Growers Shown Primary Processing Possibilities



In the month of October, UTGA held a second cluster meeting in Gulu district at JC Forestry plantation in Opok Central Forest Reserve. The cluster meeting involved about 60 tree growers in the Northern and West Nile clusters. It was a two day event. The first day was a field day and on day two, a formal meeting was held at Acholi Inn Hotel where key cluster issues were deliberated on. The theme for the field meeting was “**forest resource quality, processing and markets**” and the discussions were hinged on the importance and value of a good forest resource,

with emphasis and demonstrations on how the quality of the resource affects recovery during processing operation.

The field discussion and demonstrations led to a good understanding and appreciation of the fact that a **good quality forest resource** (a healthy stand with big trees of good form, high volumes and fast and even growth) will result where improved seed is used and also taken care of through timely implementation of all necessary silvicultural operations like **weeding, pruning, thinning** and effective **forest fire management** dur-

Continued to page 2

WESTNILE & NORTHERN

ing the rotation of the crop. The host client, JC Forestry Ltd, was carrying out a second thinning operation and processing using a horizontal band mobile mill from which growers observed the effect of silvicultural treatments on recovery. Trees from stands that were not maintained well were not straight (had a kink at the base), which limited the number of standard logs that could be realised during felling and crosscutting operation. Stands that were not thinned yielded more small diameter logs, which produced smaller timber pieces of low market value compared to bigger logs that yielded sizable timber pieces of higher value. Growers drew a number of key lessons to improve on their forestry operations and business, which included:

- Lifting the pruning height to about 9 meters to allow for at least two standard 14 feet logs per tree.
- Linking timber processing operations to timber utilising industries/ sectors for better marketing of the products. The by-products and major products need to be fed into the appropriate industries for better returns and quick sales.
- The urgent need to educate the general public and major timber consuming industries on the available products to create a market for the great product mix including small and shorter timber pieces.

In sawmilling, the profit comes from maximising the use of the log i.e. timber, sawdust, wood chips and bark. Investing in appropriate machinery will be



Growers are shown the details that go into planning before conversion

an added advantage because growers will be in position to reap much more from their investments.

Cluster Meeting

The formal meeting on day two was concluded with the election of a new Northern cluster head. The general cluster head elect is Mr. Mulondo Peter of Lango Forestry Company in Dokolo, assisted by sub-cluster heads for Acholi sub region- Mr Obonyo, and Mr. Odongo Francis for Lango sub region. Through this team UTGA will be in position

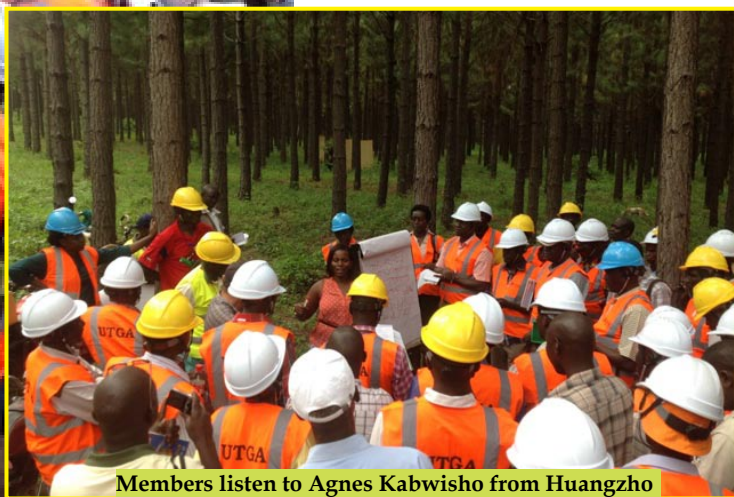
to coordinate its activities in this region successfully.

During the meeting, many participants signed up for membership, a clear sign that the growers realised the value in being a member of the UTGA. Here are some comments from a few growers on the cluster meeting: **Tom Ebong, a tree grower in Apach District:** The cluster meeting was very informative. UTGA should make herself known to all the tree growers in the region to benefit from their great services. This can be

UGANDA CLUSTERS MEET



Log conversion using a mobile sawmill



Members listen to Agnes Kabwisho from Huangzho on the purchase and application of chemical



Stacked in the field to facilitate air drying

through talk shows on the kind of support they give.

John Paul Elokaikich, a saw miller in Lira District. This was a very good exposure. More opportunities for learning and training needed on saw-milling operation for maximum recovery from the resource. There are other mills which UTGA should expose its members to in the future for better decision making.

Charles Ejanga, planter in West Nile. I am very happy with this kind of arrangement.

It was perfect timing for me since I am just starting and yet so green on forestry operations and practices. I will be in position to avoid all the costly mistakes. This was a very good eye opener to me and other planters I believe. To All tree planters in this

region who missed out, we hope to have you on board in the next meeting. We are here to guide you for better returns from your investment!



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PREPARING FSC RESPONSIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR 4 PILOT FOREST PLANTATION PROPERTIES IN MUBENDE DISTRICT

A project to facilitate FSC market development in Uganda has been prepared and is being funded jointly by FSC and WWF Uganda Country Office. The overall objective the project is to establish systems and institutional arrangements that will ensure sustainable market for FSC certified forest products using the case study of smallholder farmers.

The Project is aimed at supporting Uganda Timber Growers Association (UTGA) to certify their forests and to access market for the forest certified forest products. To this end pilot activities will be carried out on four pilot properties of UTGA members. Specific objectives are:-

1. Undertake a review of documents to synthesize existing forest management planning operating procedures in forestry (NFA, SPGS, MWE and Environment Guidelines for Management of Private Natural Forests etc.)
2. Develop a framework for forest management planning that will meet the FSC requirements for Principal 7.
3. Collect information on environmental, social and economic aspects that is required for the preparation of the four FMPs
4. Compile the FMP in line with FSC Standard requirements

A suitable consultant will demonstrate availability of technical capacity to undertake the full range of activities necessary to accomplish assignment is needed. For a more detailed TORs, contact UTGA or write to address below. The interested consultant will prepare a technical and financial proposal highlighting detailed methods and approaches to be used for the task and submit to Environmental Alert not later than 12th November 2014 on email addresses: po.naturalresources@envalert.org, or kaycea333@gmail.com with a copy to ed@envalert.org/ccwalaga@yahoo.com.



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CARRYING OUT PLANTATION INVENTORIES & MAPPING OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE SITES AND CONSERVATION AREAS IN 4 PILOT FOREST PLANTATION PROPERTIES IN MUBENDE DISTRICT

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1. Carryout timber inventories on the four pilot properties
2. Establish permanent sample plots (PSPs) in the properties
3. Prepare forest management maps for the pilot properties
4. Identify high conservation value areas in the properties and include them on the forest management map
5. Help to build the technical capacity of the property owner and the relevant UTGA staff to sustain the outputs

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PAYMENT OF ANNUAL FEES

The Secretariat is very grateful to all the members who have paid their Annual Subscription fees for 2014 and arrears. This is to kindly remind all those that have not yet paid to do so. Payments for arrears can be received in installments. Payments to meet the financial liabilities for the current year plus those who have arrears can be made at the:

1. Office

A receipt is availed immediately.

2. By Direct Debit to the Bank

Account, a receipt is written after confirmation with the bank and scanned to the Payee.

3. Mobile money

Charges for withdrawing must be included in the amount sent, a receipt is written and scanned and sent to the Payee.

4. Collection of payment

A call/email may be made to the secretariat for Members in and around Kampala. UTGA Staff will pick the payment from agreed location and a receipt availed immediately.

Payment of the Annual fees is highly appreciated and allows for the efficient running of the Secretariat, facilitating and supporting UTGA activities.

Be informed that the Association currently provides the following services directly to its Members:-

- Forest Valuation, a paid for service at cost;
- Specific needs-training required and requested by Members;
- Technical forest visits to Members plantation to offer onsite advice;
- Direct lobbying on aspects that touch on commercial forestry
- Importation of specialised forest tools and equipment that may not be in Uganda.
- Importation of improved, high quality seed

On 11th and 12th September 2014, UTGA organised a field day for its Members in the South Western Uganda Cluster "Pruning and Thinning in Commercial Forestry". The field excursion was held at CBM plantation in Rwoho CFR in Mbarara District.

Networking with other stakeholders helps to strengthen partnerships for commercial forestry and so in addition to UTGA Members/Growers, other participants included Local Leaders, the Police, District Forest Officers, Community Planters and National Forestry Authority officials.

Objectives

The main objectives of the field training included train the members on pruning skills:- when, why and how to prune plus training members on thinning techniques i.e. selective and systematic methods of thinning.

Elections

The Members agreed to form sub-clusters within the Cluster and elected Mr. Martin Ahimbisibwe to head the Ankole sub cluster while Mr. Augustine Matsiko to head the Kigezi sub cluster.

Inspections

The Growers agreed that plantations are should be established and managed according to specific standards and adherence and compliance to applicable standards increased returns. Resultantly, they asked that UTGA needs to link with Cluster and Sub-Cluster Heads to carry out inspection of Members plantations to ensure that they are replicating and putting to good use what they are learning from the variuos training and cluster meeting sessions

FIELD DAY FOR S.W UGANDA CLUSTER

Growers Ask for Inspections



ATTENTIVE: Members listening to the explanations on Thinning



SW Cluster meeting was attended by Growers from Ankole and Kigezi



Walter Mapanda showing the Growers how to do pruning

The term manday is commonly used in Uganda's forest sector. For this reason it is important to define a manday in a forest context. A manday is the amount of work (a unit of work) performed by the average worker in one day. In other words a manday refers to one person working for one day. It is based on a standard number of manhours in a day of work. Similar concepts to manday are manhour, man-week, manmonth, or man-year. These terms refer to the amount of work performed by an average worker during one hour, week, month, or year, respectively.

Manday calculation is used for estimation of labour required to perform a task per day per hectare. The hectare is the basic unit of measure for tasks in

MANDAY CONCEPT

What is a manday?

forestry. The labour required to perform a task in a hectare is then used to calculate the total amount of labour for the whole area. Examples of a task in forestry would be:

- Prepare one hectare for planting
- Mark and Pit one hectare
- Planting one hectare
- Weeding one hectare
- Pruning one hectare

The prerequisites for determining a man-day for an activity are that the worker must be qualified to perform the task, work at a reasonable pace, produce quality work and occu-

pled for the expected working hours per day.

A proper manday determination must be based on work-study (ie method study and time study) data. This involves timing qualified workers performing the job in conditions prevailing in the field.

The manday is linked to manday rate which is the cost that an organization pays a worker for one days' work. Examples of mandays required per hectare for a few selected forest operations are shown here. If the tree farmer and the contractor fail to agree on man days per hectare, then work-study

is carried out on the task as a way of resolving the conflict. Growers can contact UTGA on advice on conducting work study. A leaflet covering a wide range of operations will be made available at UTGA in two weeks time.

Plantation operation	Labour productivities (MD/ Ha)		
	Lower	Average	Higher
Land clearing	14.3	15.0	15.8
Land preparation (Slash Burning)	3.3	3.5	3.7
Preplant spraying	1.9	2.0	2.1
Lining out and Marking	2.9	3.0	3.2
Pitting	3.8	4.0	4.2
Pre-plant Termite Protection	2.4	2.5	2.6
Planting	3.8	4.0	4.2
Blanking	1.0	1.0	1.1

BENEFITS/REASONS WHY TREE GROWERS SHOULD JOIN UTGA

1. Receive Members' discounts on improved high quality seed and genuine chemicals.
2. Support lobbying of GoU/NFA in critical aspects that afflict investors/growers.
3. Benefit from centralized timber trading as the trees mature (Thinning and logs).
4. Receive professional advice from teams of experienced Technical Advisors (TAs) and Programme Officers (POs).
5. Keep abreast of relevant information through regular newsletters, phone messages (SMS) and website.
6. Network with other growers at regular Forest Days held in each Cluster and other technical workshops and get-togethers.
7. Centralised purchase of specialist equipment and forestry tools some of which are not available in Uganda.
8. Have a voice to direct research and training needs.
9. Receive forestry training on critical areas to allow proper establishment, management harvesting and processing.

How UTGA Members improve their access to the Timber Supply Chain

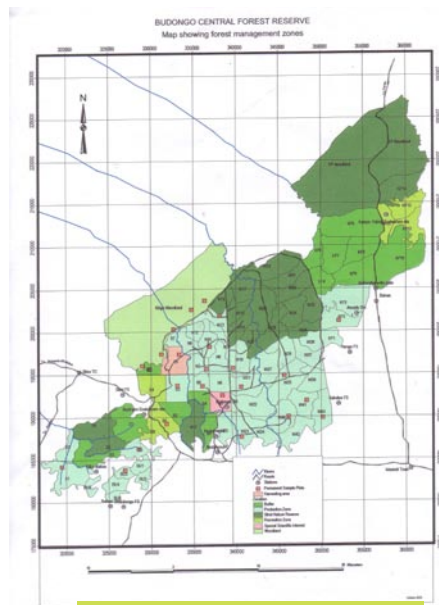
External pressures in a highly competitive global forestry market are forcing organisations to streamline their business processes, increase operational efficiencies, reduce operating costs and make better-informed and timelier business decisions. The recent decline in available credit, declines in demand for sawn wood and newsprint, increased competition, higher transport and energy costs, pests, currency fluctuations,

timber theft and more have been driving a need for change. Poor and isolated access to information often hampers an organisation from responding to these external pressures in a timely fashion. It also hampers scaling the business to meet the growth in production. The solutions to all of the above issues are information intensive. Attaining reliable resource and cost information to ensure an efficient use of forest products through a complex flow of information and tasks is essential to all Tree Growers. For UTGA and others to manage raw material supplies requires an in-

formation system that covers the full forest lifecycle from planting to the final harvest.

Although making use of management tools may be unsophisticated, attaining accurate and timely data has often proven to be complicated in the African context, due to the fragmented land tenure and obstacles when accessing the forests for data collection. Keeping the data

sets updated and readily available to those institutes and individuals that need them for improving on planning and management has often been a stumbling block. UTGA is developing a model data information base together with NORSKOG that when completed and combined with a forest management software, will provide all of the forest owners with the possibility to make a modern forest management plan and supply the necessary information for both industry and the resource owners to make wise decisions based on real-time data.



Map showing forest management in a CFR in Uganda

UTGA News is a digital newsletter for the Uganda Timber Growers Association. It is published semimonthly (twice a month) to briefly summarize recent forestry-related publications, projects, activities, and news.

Do you have news, content, or ideas that you want to share in upcoming newsletters? Please send us your segments on articles and opinions on your organization, partnership, project, group, field stories, successes, challenges, fact sheets,

papers, books, guides, or other resources, upcoming or past events.

UTGA News is a great way to reach a wide audience of foresters, natural resource persons, practitioners, scientists and the public across the Uganda, East Africa and across the globe. If you have friends (*of forestry*) or anyone you think will benefit if they receive UTGA News, please send their email addresses to dennisk@utga.ug.

Advisory

All UTGA Members are informed that by flashing your Membership card at Hangzhou Agro Chemicals (U) Ltd, you qualify for an automatic discount on all purchases of chemicals once you are a UTGA Member.

Hangzhou Agro Chemicals (U) Ltd is located on Plot 56/58, 7th Street Industrial Area, Tel: 0414-252295

SULKY FOR HIRE



UTGA has a sully at the office that members can hire at a small fee. The sully is used extensively in the skidding or extraction of wood/thinning from the interior of the plantation to a collection point. Those who are interested can call 0785-343564

ADVERTISING RATES FOR UTGA NEWSLETTER

UTGA News is now running adverts at cost-friendly rates. Reach hundreds of individuals, groups and companies in and of various fields and professions.

Front page strip	60,000/=
Quarter page	100,000/=
Half page	200,000/=
Full page	300,000/=

Contact: Uganda Timber Growers Association (UTGA)
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