

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Journal of Agriculture, Science and Technology (JAGST) is a scientific publication produced biannually by the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT).

Scope

The journal publishes articles, book reviews, notes, news and reports in a wide range of subject areas: agriculture, biotechnology, forestry, pure sciences, veterinary medicine, engineering, architecture and closely allied subjects. Articles must deal with original research and must not have been accepted for publication elsewhere.

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From the editors desk

The Kenyan Agricultural sector is still very important to Kenyans. In this issue of the Journal of Agriculture, Science and Technology (JAGST) we feature four papers addressing various areas in this sector. The first one in this issue addresses new methods of assessing production in the small holder dairying, the next one discusses the effect of drip irrigation on crop performance, the third one is on the influence of nitrogen application on two African nightshade species in Kenya and the fourth one addresses the distribution of commercial Mobydick in Kenya.

The journal also carries a paper on the characteristics of undrainable water dams used for fish rearing. While most undrainable water resources have been stocked with fish, their utilization for fish rearing remains low and hence the need to assess the water quality status of the dams to assess their suitability for fish farming.

The importance of controlling ticks cannot be understated. In this issue we publish a paper reporting on the use of Neem cake extracts to trap ticks (*Amblyomma variegatum*) in vegetation.

In support of innovative ideas we carry two publications detailing new innovations. The first one describes the development of a microprocessor used to control the intensity of light from direct current bulbs. This innovation has been shown to be effective in reducing the cost of electrical energy thereby saving on cost of electricity. Following this theme of energy saving we also publish a paper on a prototype that has potential for use as a solar powered steam producing device.

We have also carried publications in the areas of thermodynamic modelling of equilibria in Lake Baringo, the application of hexane in treated PVDF films in bending piezoelectricity and the effect of pumping water from wells in an aquifer.

Finally in our report section we have an article on Nanotechnology. The role nanotechnology can play in Kenya's manufacturing sector cannot be underestimated. The article puts a strong case why Kenya cannot be left behind while the rest of the world embraces nanotechnology. We are sure that it will make very interesting reading.

We will continue to publish scientific articles that are not only interesting but also addressing Kenya's problems. Remember to look out for the journal via the university website: www.jkuat.ac.ke



Prof. Anne Wangari T-Muigai
Editor-in-Chief

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