



KVTC 2025 **NEWSLETTER**

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From Irvine's desk!

We are always excited to bring you a new edition of KVTC's newsletter. We have been extremely busy since we last published our last Newsletter. We just don't have enough space to share all the exciting things we have been up to. The wide array of topics covered in this latest edition should however show you that we have been busy but having fun at the same time. As always, feel free to share your thoughts or feedback—we'd love to hear from you! Enjoy!

The winning Singeli Song KVTC 2024 Secondary School Competition.

Since 2017 KVTC management has been organizing an arts contest among all secondary schools in KVTC's neighbouring villages. The aim of the contest is to impart knowledge, creativity and understanding to youth on promoting sustainable, environmental, and social economic development. The contest also encourages students to participate actively in extracurricular activities.

In 2024, KVTC organised a Singeli Song competition. Singeli is a contemporary informal Tanzanian urban narrative. It involves the beats produced by a DJ and a person singing to the beats while others dance. The words sung by the singer are prompt words that are expressed at specific moments. Singeli dancing involves.

Energetic high speed leg movements and hand clapping. In this contest, KVTC wanted to know how the youth are perceiving the benefits of taking care of the environment.

The theme of the Singeli Song Contest:

- *"In this drama contest we want to know how the youth are perceiving the benefits of environmental conservation."*
- *"Take care of environment, it will take care of you. (Tunza mazingira yakutunze)"*



Below are the lyrics of the winning song from Lupiro Secondary School;

Song name:

Let Conserve the Environment

Chorus:

*Let's protect our environment so it can care for us,
When we nurture the earth, we all thrive and prosper. (x2)*

Verse 1:

*Caring for nature is my duty, and yours too,
When we protect it, it gives back to me and you. (x2)*

Let's stop cutting down and burning our trees,

Without them, drought will come, and crops won't grow with ease.

*Forests are homes for creatures, wild and free,
Like lions, giraffes, antelopes, and snakes in the trees.*

*We wonder why the world keeps getting so hot,
It's greenhouse gases—pollution is the cause, is it not? (x2)*

*We harm the ozone with toxic fumes in the air,
Let's save our forests, and keep the climate fair.*

*Overcrowding animals harms the land,
Causing erosion, turning soil into sand.
We pollute our rivers, our lakes, and the sea,
But pollution is never the way it should be. (x2)*

Chorus:

Let's protect our environment so it can care for us,

When we nurture the earth, we all thrive and prosper. (x2)

Verse 2:

*A clean environment means a life of peace,
With fresh air and balance, our worries will cease. (x2)*

*As time moves forward, forests fade away,
Wildlife is vanishing, their homes stripped away.*

*Let's take action, let's stand as one,
Protect our earth before it's all gone. (x2)
I pray to God to guide our hands,
Caring for nature is in our plans.
Young and old, let's do our part,
Healing the earth is where we should start.
I mourn the trees that once stood tall,
Where there's green, fresh air blesses all. (x2)*

Chorus:

*Let's protect our environment so it can care for us,
When we nurture the earth, we all thrive and prosper. (x2)*

Verse 3:

*For every tree we cut, let's plant one more,
Better farming can restore what was there before. (x2)*

*Farmers and herders, let's learn and grow,
Protecting water sources will help life flow. (x2)
Let's move away from charcoal and fire,
Alternative energy will lift us higher. (x2)
Plant new trees, keep lands clean,
Educate others on what it means.*

*Now, look around—our world has changed,
Abundant harvests, our lives rearranged.
Fresh, clean air, no more distress,
A future of health, joy, and success.
No more disease, no more despair,
A thriving earth with love and care.*

Chorus:

Let's protect our environment so it can care for us,

When we nurture the earth, we all thrive and prosper. (x2)

Tree Improvement Program

Malaysian teak clones: growth, form and wood properties assessment



The oldest genetic trial in KVTC's highest productivity site, compartment D120a reached 20-year rotation and was clearfelled in October/November 2024. This is one of the two clonal trials on two sites with contrasting productivity containing 10 of the clones originating from Solomon Islands (known as Malaysian clones) and a Tanzanian seed lot as a control.

It was of interest to gather adequate information not only on tree growth performance and form through a series of measurements and assessments during its life but also on desired wood properties of the final wood produced.

A sampling strategy was designed, where for each clone, 10 trees were selected and suitable boards were extracted from each of the butt logs (2.3 metres long) for Wood Properties Assessment. The following Wood Properties were deemed important for KVTC and its clientele:

1. Basic Wood Density
2. Static Bending: Modulus of Elasticity (MOE), Modulus of Rupture (MOR), Work to Maximum Load
3. Wood workability
4. Nail withdrawal
5. Heartwood colour



The Lab work is still being conducted at Sokoine University of Agriculture, College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism under the Department of Forest Engineering and Wood Sciences through an existing MOU with the College. The rationale of the previous series of growth measurements and assessments and the current Lab work is to explore breeding opportunities for a combination of optimal growth, form, and the selected wood properties.

A similar study will be conducted with clones from the contrasting productivity trial site in compartment D111. This will be clear-felled later this year. The goal is to conclude the study and provide a list of recommended clones for appropriate commercial deployment. by Jeremiah Gumadi



KVTC Wins HIV/AIDS Sustainability Awards

Since 2005, the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) has been recognizing outstanding organizations through the Employer of the Year Awards (EYA), honoring members who excel in Human Resources Management and business practices.

In 2024, KVTC proudly participated in the competition, in various categories, including the newly introduced HIV/AIDS Sustainability category. This category recognizes organizations that demonstrate exceptional commitment to HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention, and support programs within the workplace.

KVTC led the way and emerged as the winner of the HIV/AIDS Sustainability Award! This achievement highlights KVTC's dedication to employee well-being, health initiatives, and sustainable business practices.

Winning this award is a testament to KVTC's ongoing efforts to create a healthy, supportive, and inclusive work

environment. The company remains committed to promoting awareness, education, and prevention programs to support employees and their families.





KVTC Board Members Visit

In November 2024, the KVTC Management had the honor of welcoming the Board of Directors for an insightful field visit. The visit provided an opportunity for board members to witness firsthand the ongoing projects, operational progress, and the impact of KVTC's initiatives on sustainable forestry management and community development.



During the tour, the board members engaged with staff, observed key operations, and gained a deeper understanding of the challenges and achievements within the organization. The visit reinforced KVTC's commitment to excellence and innovation in sustainable resource management.





KVTC Team Building Activity Strengthens Bonds and Boosts Morale

KVTC organized an exciting Team Building Activity, bringing employees together for a day filled with fun, **collaboration, and** motivation. The event aimed to strengthen teamwork, enhance communication, and create a positive work environment.

Employees engaged in interactive outdoor games designed to encourage unity and teamwork. The event provided a refreshing break from daily routines.



As KVTC moves forward, the lessons and bonds formed during this activity will contribute to a more motivated and cohesive team, ready to take on new challenges in 2025.



KVTC Forestry Department Honors Best Foresters

KVTC proudly recognizes Yusuph Kihwele, Cleria Kahemela and Yusta Abel as the 2024, 2023, and 2022 Best Foresters of the Forestry Department, respectively. The forestry team celebrated and recognised their dedication, hard work, and outstanding contributions to the company's success.

Throughout the years, they demonstrated exceptional commitment, teamwork, and innovation. Their efforts have played a significant role in enhancing efficiency and operational excellence within the department.

The recognition was awarded during a special ceremony where the Chief Forest Manager, Geoffrey Kessy applauded the winner's achievements and encouraged all employees to continue striving for excellence. This award reflects KVTC's commitment to fostering a culture of dedication, professionalism, and continuous improvement.

Congratulations to Yusuph Kihwele, Cleria Kahemela and Yusta Abel for this well-deserved recognition! Their passion and hard work serve as an inspiration to the entire KVTC team

