SURVEY OF THE DISTRIBUTION AND GROWTH OF MUVULE TREE IN NAMASAGALI SUB COUNTY IN KAMULI DISTRICT

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DECLARATION

I, AKITWI LILLIAN, do solemnly declare that this research report of survey of distribution and growth of muvule tree in Namasagali sub county Kamuli district is my own original work and has not been submitted or, presented to any other Institution of learning for any academic purposes for the award of a Bachelors Degree or its equivalent, nor has it been published anywhere by anyone.

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STATEMENT OF APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research report by Akitwi Lillian was done under my supervision and has been submitted to the Faculty of Natural Resource and Environmental Sciences Busitema University for examination with my approval as the candidate's supervisor.

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LIST OF ACRYONYMS

CBO'S Community Based Organizations

CFM Collaborative Forest Governance

CFR Central Forest Reserve

DBH Diameter at breast Height

DFO District Forest Office

FD Forest Department

Ft Feet

LC1 Local Council one

LFR Local Forest Reserve

M Meter

NARO National Agricultural Research Organization

NECI Namasagali Environmental Conservation Initiative

NEMA National Environment Management Authority

NFA National Forest Authority

NFP National Forest Policy

NGO'S Non Government Organizations

NORAD Norwegian International Development Agency

DEFINATION OF KEY TERMS

Milicia excelsa refers to a botanical name for muvule tree

Muvule refers to a local name to a tree species with botanical name milicia excelsa and it is a large deciduous tree 30-50 m high, with a diameter of 2-10.

Planting trees refers to pronunciation of a tree into the ground so that it can grow especially after growing it from seed in an indoor environment.

Survey refers to gathering information by individual samples so as to learn about the whole thing

Distribution of muvule refers to the frequency of occurrence of muvule in the natural geographic range or place where any of it exists

ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in order to survey the distribution and growth of muvule tree in Namasagali sub county Kamuli district. The study objectively sought to find out the relationship between land ownership and tree planting together with the factors that encourage or discourage tree planting.

The methodology used was basically use of the research design, study population, sample size, sampling procedure, data type, method of data collection, validity and reliability of data collection instrument and data analysis. Questionaires were used whereby the responses of the participants were put on paper provided by the researcher and they were 77 in number, to create an understanding of the questionnaire to those who had limited knowledge of English, an interpreter was used, depending on the local language spoken, for this case it was Lusoga. Data was then analysed in spss software package which facilitated the formation of frequency tables, graphs, pie charts and cross tabulations to generate raw data.

The findings revealed that most of the respondents did not plant muvule trees because they did not own land represented by 70% compared to 30% who planted because they owned land. The problems faced in tree planting included long gestation period, eaten by termites, drying to sunshine and harbour of snakes, The findings also revealed that given a shorter period for other trees such as eucalyptus, pine, mango trees, jackfruit among others and other use values like provision of fruits were shown by 91% compared to those that are not willing to grow other species with 9% because they do not own land. The findings also revealed that the social and cultural attributes of muvule such as major source of fuel wood, timber and symbol for location among other uses greatly encouraged locals to plant the tree in their region.

It was concluded that the land ownership greatly affects tree planting in that those who do not own land are not likely to plant trees also the use and none use values provided by muvule such as shade, timber, firewood, recreation, existence value, symbol for location and souvenir greatly encouraged people to plant muvule in Namasagali Sub County.

Finally a number of recommendations were made such as, long time period for muvule to grow, I recommended the Involvement of the private sector to take on tree planting projects in trees with short time periods, improved tree planting education, improved mechanisms for the delivery of incentives such as fruit trees to encourage local people plant muvule should be adopted and many others.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

The study was carried out to survey the distribution and growth of muvule tree in Namasagali Sub County in Kamuli district. It was basically to find out the factors that encourage or discourage muvule tree planting together with the relationship between land ownership and tree planting.

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

According to the indigenous Trees of the Uganda Protectorate, (1951), William J.Eggeling, Busoga region is one of the areas where muvule is distributed most as it is found on almost every plot of land. Therefore its abundance especially in Kamuli district calls upon attention from various sectors of the economy because of its use values. The role of trees in establishing land claims was noted by one of the earliest Europeans to publish on Sumatra. Marsden (1811, p 69), drawing on his experience living in Sumatra in the late 16th century long before rubber and coffee were introduced, wrote that property in land depends on occupancy, unless where fruit-bearing trees have been planted While unfair rights usually are established under customary land tenure, individual rights to transfer and inheritance are limited and controlled by community and lineage leaders. Given unclear and uncertain individual rights, incentives to invest in land and tree resources may be dissatisfied (Besley, 1995). However, relatively strong individual ownership rights are granted to those who clear communal forests for cultivation and to those who plant trees. Shepherd (1991, p.155) argues that "It is the investment of labour which creates ownership." It is also important to realize that the individual land rights acquired through clearance of communal forests tend to diminish over time, if land use is limited to food crops grown under shifting cultivation (slash and burn). In particular, when land is fallowed, other members of the extended family or the community can claim the right. Non-Governmental organisations (NGO'S) and community based organisations (CBO's) can provide pivotal role in mobilising and sensitising local people, strengthening civil society and in supporting their active participation in management of trees. They also carry out research and technological development, improved mechanisms for delivering incentives such as fruit trees to encourage local people plant trees also improve tree planting educations strengthening civil society, supporting active local participation in managing trees, supporting the provision of advisory services, and ensuring that the concerns of the underprivileged are incorporated into national development processes.

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