



UTGA new Board

Members Elect New Board
Networking & information sharing
Outgoing Board hands over to Incoming

UTGA AGM & FORESTRY FAIR

UTGA organised and held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) for its Members on 30/April/2015 at the City royal Resort Hotel in Bugolobi. The get-together is mandatory where the Board and management reported on the activities and accomplishments of the past year by presenting an Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2014.

The Members were also given a presentation on the Work plan for the ongoing year and a budget that will support the activities therein. Members approved and passed all the reports. A new Board was also elected by eligible Members at the meeting. The new Board comprises of the following:

Sam Zaramba	Chairperson
Dorcas B. Muhwezi	Vice Chairperson
Isaac Ampeire	Secretary General
Alfred Tumwebaze	Treasurer
C.D langoya	Member
Lillibet Semakula	Member
Moses Obeta	Member
Tom Musoke	Member
Tina Achilla	Member

UTGA AGM & Forestry Fair

Forestry Fair

The Forestry fair of 30/4/2015 organized by both UTGA and SPGS run concurrently with the AGM for the UTGA Members. This took place at City Royale Hotel Bugolobi. It was planned about a month in advance. A lot of information from the archives was used to dig out the previous exhibitors. The turn up of the public was much better than that of 2014 which was held at the same venue. Various stakeholders attended it. This was a moment to show case the innovations in the forestry sector in general. Both exhibitors and



The Minister of Water & Environment being taken around the Forestry Fair by the UTGA Chairman Dr Sam Zaramba

guests came from all walks of life. The event brought forest owners, contractors, nursery managers and wood dealers together. Other sectors like:

banking, insurance, transporters and forestry management consultancies did not appear. Yet these form part of the support areas for the sector.

Some suppliers of forestry tools, chemicals and equipment turned up. This presented an opportunity for the sector to meet and discuss new ways that can enhance profitability for forest owners. This could be via use of appropriate weed control chemicals, proper pruning machines, or appropriate harvesting technology. Newsolutions were divulged to planters. The exhibition presented opportunities for the various stakeholders to interact, exchange new ideas, get new business contacts, and forge a way forward. New



Members who attend the AGM pose with the Minister

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Products made from pine and eucalyptus at the UTGA and SPGS stalls





Showcasing ECHO products



HAND OVER: Outgoing UTGA Chair to Incoming Chair

UTGA AGM & Forestry Fair

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suppliers got a chance to introduce their products to the foresters. Some of them made sales, obtained market intelligence about the demands of the sector. Yet others identified future upcoming opportunities when we come to harvesting and processing. UTGA as a company identified future partners including the ministry of environment which is likely to support tree growing efforts in the future.

In future, we can plan the event early enough. We can have 6 months to promote the day. We shall need to upload an exhibitors' catalogue to show detailed information about the companies which will participate, details of the likely products and new innovations in the sector, and new partners. It may be better to take the event to a commercial plantation so that we shall show case exactly what happens in the business right from planting ,management ,harvesting procedure ,skidding,forwarding,and haulage processes of our products.

We need to build a data bank for contacts and make continuous communications with exhibitors so that we encourage them to come .It should be developed to have a full national focus, with plans to grow it to a regional function to cover all the East African countries. This will enhance new ideas, new strategic decisions, and will yield interesting investment thinking and actions.

We shall need to demonstrate forestry machinery and equipment for modern silviculture in its proper elements right in the forest. Then forestry advisors and experts will demonstrate to forest owners, contractors and nursery operators' efficient ways to improve profitability. We look forward to seeing much more use of small scale sawmills firewood

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Hon Kamuntu at the Bee hives and honey stall

How strong are Clones?

Tests show good results

An experiment was conducted to study the behaviour of clones and their suitability to serve as electricity poles. 14 poles were collected from Dr. Busuulwa's plantation of 7 years who had mixed poles of GC's and GU's. There were no smart records at the plantation to distinguish the clone types but the difference was noted using known characteristics of the different types. The poles were to be assessed in 5 different ways and their performance compared with the normal eucalyptus poles; Drying defects of the clones, chemical penetration and retention, seasoning time, strength, and dimensional instability.

Results

Drying defects

All poles showed signs of splitting but the extent on each pole varied. There was no significant difference visible between clones and other normal eucalyptus poles. It was however observed that;

1. Clones did not split way through from the butt to the top end of the pole. See attached Photos
2. Clones had smaller splits which were deep
3. Clones had numerous checks throughout the whole pole
4. There was no deformation lengthwise (crooks and sweeps after drying).

Reclassification

Due to end splits 2 poles each of 10m's were reclassified from their original sizes to 9m's. This was after realizing they could not be

acceptable in their original sizes due to end splits.

Penetration and Retention

The poles had good penetration averaging between 23 to 30mm against 20mm. The retention of the clones soon after treatment produced 19.44kg/m³ slightly lower than the minimum 20kg/mm³. However when a repeat test was done after 24hrs the retention came to 20.25kg/m³ Samples from other poles in the same charge produced 21.23kg/m³ immediately without a repeat.

The chemical solution strength used was 6%w/v.

After treatment, the splits and checks appeared to have closed.



Poles after chemical treatment

This however could be temporary and the poles will continue to be monitored for post treatment defects.

Seasoning Time

It took 4month and 3 weeks for these poles to achieve an average of 25%Mc. All the other poles on the same stack were also registering the same Moisture content and the stack was treated at once.

Strength test

All the poles passed the strength test, they met the specification requirements. The SANS 754:2010 was used to carry out the tests.



Poles after chemical treatment

LT15



Compact and versatile

The LT15 offers Wood-Mizer performance (proven in more than 50,000 sawmill installations worldwide) in the most affordable package yet, for a serious production mill. Using the same blades and blade guide systems as the larger models, this compact powerhouse can cut logs up to 70cm in diameter and 5.4m in length in its standard form. Extra bed sections are available which allow virtually unlimited log length.

Whether used for cutting high quality hardwood lumber for fine cabinets and furniture or for sawing a few trees around the farm for buildings and fencing materials, there is no better sawmill for the money than the LT15.

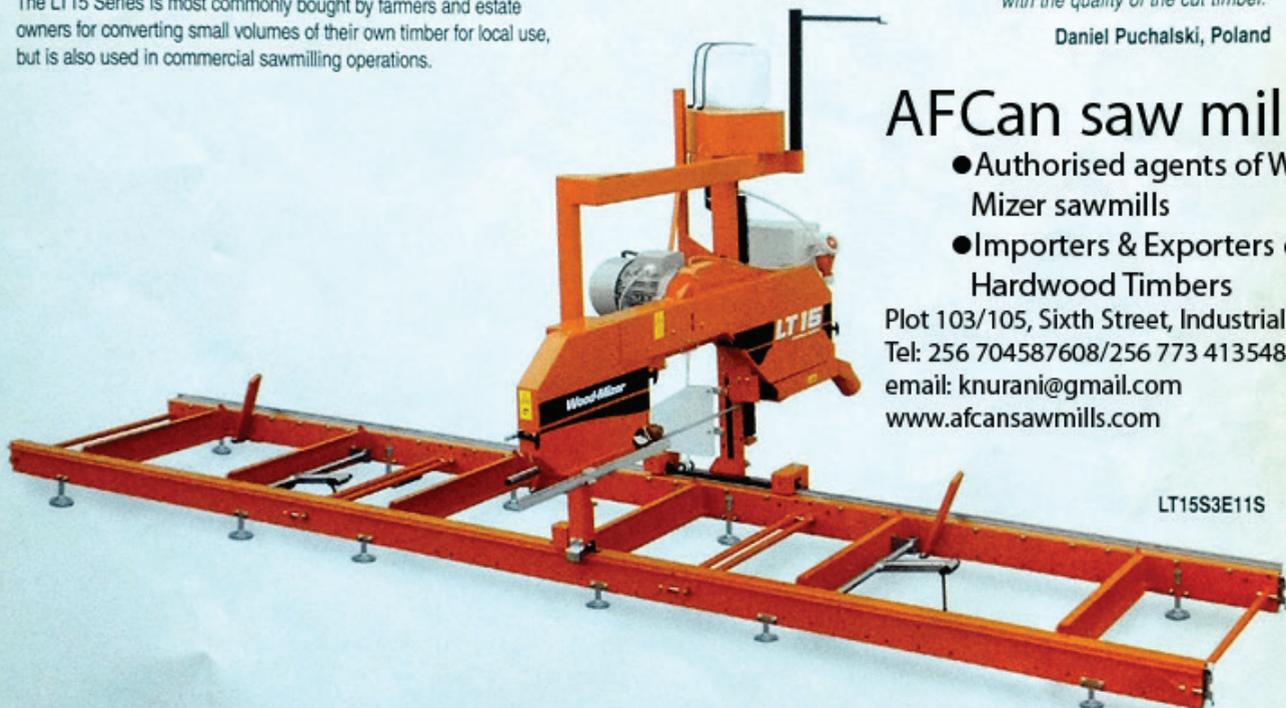
The LT15 Series is most commonly bought by farmers and estate owners for converting small volumes of their own timber for local use, but is also used in commercial sawmilling operations.



Wood-Mizer
only

„In 2002, when we bought our LT15, there was no other mill within 50 km. These days there are 4 Wood-Mizer mills working in the area and each of us has a lot of work. We are proud that we work with Wood-Mizer and our customers are very happy with the quality of the cut timber.”

Daniel Puchalski, Poland



AFCan saw mills

- Authorised agents of Wood Mizer sawmills
- Importers & Exporters of Hardwood Timbers

Plot 103/105, Sixth Street, Industrial Area
Tel: 256 704587608/256 773 413548
email: knurani@gmail.com
www.afcansawmills.com

LT15S3E11S



LT15 Series

Performance Specifications

Max. Log Capacity	70cm dia. x 5.2m (2 segments 2.7m each) 70cm dia. x 5.4m (3 segments 1.95m each) 70cm dia. x 7.9m (3 segments 2.7m each)
Log Handling	Manual
Head Drive	Manual Feed and Power Up/Down
Power Options	10HP Diesel 18HP Petrol 7.5kW Electric
Standard	Roller Blade Guides
Typical Options	Cant Hooks SW Networks Debarker – AC models only Loading Ramps Trailer Package Bed Section: 1.95m or 2.7m

Investment opportunity for Growers in Mubende cluster



Discussions between Growers of the Mubende cluster at the meeting

Background

As most members' trees get to maturity, there is need to come up with ways in which members will get maximum value from their plantations. We need to reduce waste that has been coming from selling logs alone, such as tree branches or the very small logs as one cross cuts trees from bottom to top. We have been; leaving the first thinning's to waste, losing all the bent and small sized trees, incurring high transport cost to the market, been cheated at processing plants, had our logs rejected at the entrance to markets. Much uncertainty about the market has persisted for a long time. Our members have been exploited by unscrupulous business men. Through market intelligence, Mubende cluster has an opportunity to take advantage of. There is a foreign investor who is interested in setting up a woodlot in Mubende. He will essentially buy all the resource in the cluster. The costs of taking our resources to the market will significantly be reduced. An opportunity for members to co-own the business with him has presented itself. Members will begin to anticipate

high returns on investment and believe that forestry is profitable. The above are some of the benefits which members in Mubende cluster are looking forward to enjoying as soon as a deal is agreed. The investor proposed to own 80% of the total investment and the cluster to own 20% at the beginning of the relationship. The latter will sell their resources to the former. Progressively, the investor will cede 20% shares of the total investment to the members after every 5 years. In 16 years from date of the agreement and upon satisfaction of the terms that will be agreed, the investor will fully cede the whole investment to Mubende cluster. The opportunity sounded too good to let go. As a result, UTGA spear headed the organization and facilitation of a meeting for Mubende cluster on 14/5/2015 at Pride Hotel in Mubende. 22 members attended the initial consultations. Many issues came up in the meeting that could not be resolved by all in attendance. Owing to the importance of the matter, the group elected a 4-man committee comprised of Mr. Richard Bakojja as chairman, Mr. Mugabira as

secretary, Mr. Walter Mapanda and Mr. Kaija as committee members to further scrutinize the new hope. These will voluntarily help to get pertinent details about the investor and report back the findings by 12/6/2015. They will specifically work to:

- Get detailed information about the investor's capacity, reliability and commitment to work with group;
- Analyze his return on investment in the projected period (16 years);
- Establish the possible working mechanisms between both parties;
- Establish the contractual obligations for either party;
- Explore any other benefits which investor can bring on board;
- Provide alternative options of investments for analysis to guide members when it comes to decision making on choice.

The members unanimously agreed on the need for more committed to working together to get the best out of their investment. UTGA will hold the next meeting on the 12th/6/2015 at Pride Hotel Mubende from 9am up to 1:00pm. That will guide on the next step to take. When this succeeds, it will become a learning and turning point to guide future market decisions and actions for the members in other parts of the country.

Forestry News bits

Yumbe bans sale of charcoal
Yumbe district council has passed by-law banning the sale and transportation of charcoal in bulk in the district. The by-law was passed last Friday following public outcry over rampant cutting down of trees.

ENCROACHERS VACATING NEBBI FOREST RESERVE-
Encroachers in omier, Nebbi district have started vacating the forest reserve. It comes after the encroachers lost a case in which they sued National Forest Authority (NFA) in February, protesting their decision to evict them from the reserve.

NFA ARRESTS KIBAALÉ FOREST ENCROACHERS

The National forestry authority (NFA) and the police have arrested suspected encroachers who were found cultivating fresh fields in kangombe central forest reserve in kibaale district

COURT FINES SIX FOREST RESERVE ENCROACHERS

KIBAALÉ: The kagadi Grade One magistrates court in kibaale District has sentenced six people to a fine of shs400,000 each or two years imprisonment after they were convicted of destroying kangombe central forest reserve



Gen. Moses Ali plants a tree to commemorate his visit

Global Woods Ag. celebrate 13 years

UTGA joined Global Woods Ag. to celebrate their 13th anniversary since they began to plant and grow trees in Uganda. The celebrations took place at their plantation in Kikonda CFR in Kyankwanzi District on Saturday, 16th May 2015. The Chief Guest was Gen. Moses Ali, 3rd Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy leader of government business in Parliament who represented H.E. The Vice President Kiwanuka Ssekandi

On arrival and after signing the Visitor's Book, the chief Guest held a meeting with management of Global Woods Ag., UTGA representatives and local district leadership. There were 2 presentations given by Matthias Baldus, the CEO of Global Woods Ag. who gave a briefing to

the on the activities and company specific challenges while Dr Sam Zaramba UTGA Chairperson dwelled on

the wholistic benefits of commercial forestry, the challenges to the sector and the need for government to offer support to the industry.

Gen Moses Ali was taken out to the premise compound where he ceremonially planted a tree.

This was followed by a tour of the forest and one site in the community on the company's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. After the tour, the entourage proceeded to the main venue, an education and community centre that Global Woods set up as part of promoting good relations with its neighbours and the community in general. This is where the public had been invited to engage with the Chief Guest, management of Global Woods, UTGA and the local government leadership.



Members of the community enjoying themselves at the celebrations

UTGA AGM & Forestry Fair

splitters, GPS gadgets, and other machinery in practice. In conclusion, the fair was a success story. It met the objectives that it was supposed to deliver. In future, as the sector grows and attracts more players, it is possible to have it done in the forest. This is because more practical demonstrations and applications of various forestry management techniques, Value addition and the business wing of the sector will be easily understood.

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.

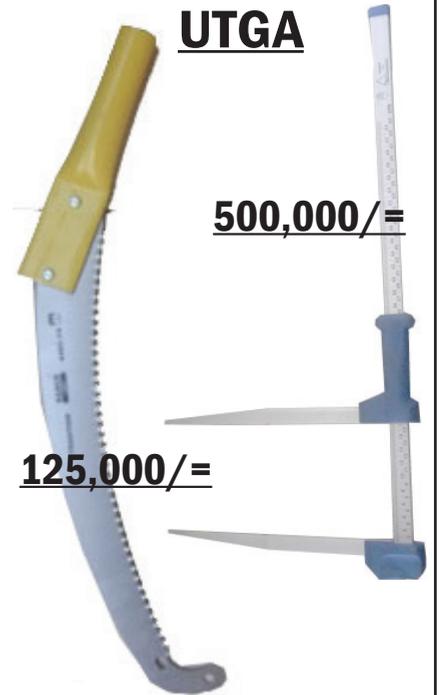
Avoid fake & adulterated products. Purchase only from Hangzhou Agro Chemicals (U) Ltd is located on Plot 56/58, 7th Street Industrial Area, Tel: 0414-252295

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

PRUNING SAWS AND CALIPERS AVAILABLE AT UTGA



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.

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