

Dryland agroforestry research report project internal review

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Abstract:

This report is based on Biomass production by various multipurpose trees and shrubs in the arable lands of arid and semi-arid regions of Machakos which is a tremendous contribution to the fragile soils of Eastern Kenya. Water harvesting techniques and its retention by use of the microcatchment is a tangible result which, if extended, can benefit farmers. The use of MPTS for fodder, green manure and wood fuel has been studied well within the two phases of DARP. Significant national and international contributions on alley cropping are well articulated and DARP's mandate on this technology is virtually met. Species selection for various purposes has not been achieved. Finally, the effects of agroforestry research are not manifested in a short period of time. It takes and any technologies which have been highlighted as 'wanting' may indeed be long term ones. It will be very necessary therefore, for the scientists in various technical panels to sit down and draw a to-tier plan on long and short-term technologies.