

Examination of Planting Trees at Home in the Global World (A Case Study of Uganda)



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ABSTRACT: Purpose: To examine the planting of trees at home globally, find the truth and add to the existing knowledge. The study employed two theories i.e. cultural theory to elucidate household perceptions of tree planting and found an appositive correlation between perceptions of tree planting (Hajjar and Kozar 2015), and Utility maximization theory to investigate household perceptions of tree planting (Vosser et al 2012)

Methodology: The study used a documentary review of the available written data from books, journals, and articles from newspapers and an observational method of data, collection the researcher used the empirical evidence of observing the trees planted at his home, workplace, and surroundings to make the research practical and add on the available knowledge.

Findings: After the study looking at the influences of planting trees in the home wide world and its impacts. The findings indicate that planting trees in homes is influenced by many people to beautify the compound, plants are planted for shade, food, and medication and hold soils from getting washed away, especially in the sloppy areas (An example is hilly places in Bushenyi district kyabugimbi sub-county kajunju village where there are various hills after leveling the compound you need to plant trees and grass to hold soils from being washed away by rainwater which was observed by the researcher physically).

Conclusion: The study concluded that planting trees in homes indirectly reduces heat in these homes because of the winds that gain entry into the small openings of the houses we live in. And it was observed that trees give off oxygen that we need to breathe. Negatively planting trees around homes, roots affect the houses more especially because they cause cracks, trees hide mosquitoes which cause malaria and others bring snakes which are dangerous to human life.

Recommendation: It was recommended that planting trees around our homes should be done by everyone to protect the environment and save more lives because of its various benefits, as shown above.

KEYWORDS: Examination of Planting Trees, Home, and global world

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Planting trees is defined as the transplanting of a seedling or sapling tree to a permanent position or a technique whereby tree seedlings are transplanted for a variety of different purposes such as forestry, land reclamation, or landscape (Wikipedia)

Planting more trees contributes to global reforestation efforts, restoring lost forests, repairing damaged ecosystems, and mitigating climate.

Globally the study shows that tree fruit planting started in the ancient civilization of the Romans they used the system of putting the seeds in containers and could dig large and deep holes for planting trees for fruits especially the nuts which were later expanded into a monarchy fruits like apples were introduced.

In Africa, 32 countries have committed to planting fruit trees at home to restore soil, and watersheds, improving the lives of the communities, food, medicine, beautifying the compound, and sometimes income. Africa tree planting aims to restore 100 million hectares of deforested and degraded land by the year 2030.

In Malawi aiming to improve livelihoods, free fruit tree seedlings are provided to the community planters and nursery workers as additional rewards to plant on their lands. This participation has helped food security for malnourished and non-malnourished families. Some of these fruits include mango, orange, tangerine, avocado, apple, and Brazil nuts.

In Tanzania, the government has introduced a tree-planting campaign strategy aimed at reducing pressure on natural forests. Traditionally, households in Tanzania exploit natural forests for fueling wood without planting trees.

Several development projects have been established to enhance forest restoration through tree planting programs (Malimbwi and Zahabu 2008)

In Kenya, the international tree foundation embraces agroforestry as a reforestation approach by integrating trees. This helps to support local families both ecologically and economically. Planting tree fruits in this country has led to improved soil fertility in homes and their surroundings, water conservation, and increased biodiversity.

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In Uganda fruit trees are grown especially in compounds in many homesteads, Fruit trees such as avocado, mangoes, jackfruit, and pawpaw are the most commonly grown, especially in the central region. Many of these plant trees are put in nursery beds, especially in pots in small backyards at home, and It's where they are removed and taken for planting.



Figure 1. Shows how a nursery bed looks like in Uganda

Source: Primary data 2023

The study employed cultural theory to elucidate household perceptions of tree planting and found an apposite correlation between perceptions of tree planting (Hajjar and Kozar 2015), using utility maximization theory to investigate household perceptions of tree planting, found a significant correlation between household perceptions of tree planting and demand for tree products is only associational; the market for fuelwood from tree planting is expected to satisfy the demand, granting a good price in the market as a policy instrument that ensures households gain from tree planting(Vosser et al 2012).

2.0 SCOPE

The study will focus on different types of trees planted at home, the influences/causes of tree planting in homes, and their impacts on the community. The study will rely on secondary data, by reading the available literature in books, journals, articles, and newspapers. The study will further use empirical study through observation methods practically at home and at workplaces where various trees are planted.

3.0 AIM OF THE STUDY

To examine the planting of trees at home globally to find the truth and add to the existing knowledge.

4.0 CAUSES OF PLANTING TREES IN HOMESTEADS

Beauty. many compound trees are planted to beautify the compound and its surroundings. Many homesteads on the globe make designs of their compounds and plant various trees to make their compounds nice and attractive.



Figure 2: Shows compound designs and beautification

Source: Primary data (2023)

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Food: planting fruit trees in the compound at home helps the family to increase food production. Plants like mangoes, oranges, tangerines, avocados, and apples are good for food at home, and this on the other hand fight mar nourishment in many local communities worldwide.

Medicine: Most people because of the scarcity of land due to continuous overpopulation utilize all the available land around homesteads for productivity. local trees have different uses, some trees planted at home, are used as medicine for various diseases like boiled leaves of different trees cure malaria, flu, and cough.



Figure: 3 Shows trees accessed for medicine in Kampala Metropolitan at the researcher's compound.

Source: Primary source 2023

Reduction of heat in homesteads. Fruits and non-fruit trees planted at home help to reduce heat in many homesteads for example as the wind blows it enters the small openings of the homestead and reduces the heat in such homesteads.



Figure 4: shows how trees reduce heat in a homestead

Source: Primary through observation method (2023)

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Prevention of Soil Erosion. Planting trees of different species in homesteads helps to prevent soil erosion, retains the soil, and ensures that other plants surrounding the home have adequate nutrients to grow as shown in the figure 5 below.



Figure 5: shows how soil erosion is prevented on a slope at Police Senior Command and Staff Collge-Bwebajja.

Source: primary source (2023)

Income Generation: Many communities in Uganda plant trees in homesteads to increase income generation. Such communities rely on planted trees as resources for fuel, food, and income. This type of innovation based on the scarcity of land helps farmers involved to build new economic activities that are more sustainable and more friendly in the limited space they have in their homesteads. Many urban centers in Uganda such as Kampala Metropolitan, Mukono, Wakiso, and Jinja districts have several plants planted in many homes and this has to a large extent influenced the weather of late these areas have had morning subsequent rains in the last month of April to date May 2023.

5.0 IMPACTS OF PLANTING TREES AT HOME

Oxygen Provision. Planting trees in a homestead provides Oxygen to the family. Is believed that one tree planted in the compound can provide oxygen to four people in that home.

Air Provider: Planting trees can remove up to 5 tons of carbon dioxide and up to 13 tons of other particles and gasses yearly. One tree can absorb up to 1 ton of carbon in more than 39 years' life span. This will help the life span of humanity and its surroundings.

Stress management: People who do daily subsequent activities can't avoid stress and this causes high blood pressure, therefore exposure to trees planted at home or in the workplace can manage stress. it's believed that because of the exposure of trees to children, they are less stressed. On the other hand, drivers who get stressed because of long journeys they drive if reach a green place where there are trees their stress decreases.

Energy management and saving: Tree planting can save 25 to 30 percent of the energy consumed. Good trees planted around homes are the most beneficial for energy savings since they provide shade in the warmer months of the year and sunshine through the colder months.

An example is the picture shown below.



Figure 6: shows energy saving and management under the shade in Entebbe Kampala District.

Source: Primary source (2023)

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Peace Making: Tree planting minimizes illness in many homesteads. Planted trees in homes can act as a block to the noise from the neighborhood. Therefore, it is very important to take care of the good trees.

Protection of human rights abuses: Tree planting around homes helps protect against human rights abuses. The 30 human rights and freedoms are set out in the United Declaration of human rights 1948. Right, 30 right to residence. Trees protect heavy winds from blowing off the roof of the homesteads because many branches of trees help to control heavy winds from destroying the houses where the man lives thus protecting the right to life which is the 3rd right in the list of 1948 UDHR.

6.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Summary

Planting trees is defined as the transplanting of a seedling or sapling tree to a permanent position or a technique whereby tree seedlings are transplanted for a variety of different purposes such as forestry, land reclamation, or landscapes. The study examined the planting of trees at home globally to find the truth and add to the existing knowledge. The research used secondary data collection and observational methods.

6.2 Conclusion

In conclusion therefore it was observed that planting of trees around homes influenced beautification, control of winds, planting of trees for medicine, food, control of erosion, and lastly provision of shades for human rest. However, planting trees in homesteads leads to stress management which can control high blood pressure, peacemaking, and energy saving. On a serious note planting trees around homesteads become hiding places for mosquitoes which cause malaria to humans and terminate people's lives. Malaria has been looked at as one of the most killer diseases in Africa which is thus a human right abuse limiting the right to life.

6.3 Recommendation

I recommend that Planting trees in homesteads is vital to human life as it acts as a source of food like mangoes, avocados, pawpaw, apples, and jackfruits, are used as medicine, manage stress, provide oxygen, peacemaking and conserve nature and fight global warming. Looking at the global world if one person on Earth plants at least one tree and one for their children it will save many lives of more than 250,000 people anticipated to lose their lives by 2030 to 2050 in the few years to come.

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