

## ACADEMIC STAFF PROFESSIONAL PROFILE FORM



### 1. Personal Data

<b>Name:</b> Dr Ezekiel Mugendi Njeru
<b>Title/Qualifications:</b> PhD
<b>Department/Unit/Section:</b> Microbiology
<b>Contact Address:</b> P.O. Box 43844-00100, Nairobi
<b>Position:</b> Lecturer
<b>Area of Specialization:</b> Microbiology

### 2. Selected Conference Presentations

S/No	Presenter	Title of Paper presented	City/Country	Date of Conference	Funding (US\$)
1.	Njeru E.M.	Enhancing mycorrhizal symbiosis and productivity of field grown organic tomato through crop and management diversification	Budapest and Eger, Hungary.	9th to 13th October 2013	
2.	Njeru E.M.	Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal symbioses in organic systems: the role of crop breeding and management diversity	Rome, Italy	19-20th April, 2012	
3.	Njeru E.M. (Invited speaker)	Unraveling soil fertility dilemma by smallholders in sub-Saharan Africa: do arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi have a role to play?	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	1 -3 November 2011	

### 3. Research

S/ No	Researcher	Year	Title	Donor	Funding (US\$)

### 4. Funded projects

S/ No	Researcher	Year	Title	Granting Body	Funding (US\$)
1.	Ezekiel M. Njeru (PI)	2016-2018	Management and conservation of arbuscular	The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)	

			mycorrhizal fungi for improved crop production in semi-arid tropics of Eastern Kenya.		
2.	Kimiti, J.M. Ombori O., Maingi J.M and Njeru E.M	2014-2016	Increasing Soybeans and Climbing Beans production in smallholders` farms in	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) 5th Graduate Research Grant (GRG).	
3.	Prof. Paolo Barberi (PI) Ezekiel M. Njeru	2011-2014	Strategies for Organic and Low-Input Integrated Breeding and Management (SOLIBAM)	European Union FP7 Programme	

### 5. Selected Publications

S/No.	Author(s)	Year	Title	Journal	ISBN/ISSN Reference No.
1.	Mburu S.W., Koskey G, Kimiti J.M., Ombori M., Maingi J. and Njeru E.M.	2016	Agrobiodiversity conservation enhances food security in subsistence-based farming systems of Eastern Kenya	Agriculture and Food Security Journal	5 (19): 1-10.
2.	Ouma E.A., Asango A.M., Maingi J. and Njeru, E.M.	2016	Elucidating the potential of native rhizobial isolates to improve biological nitrogen fixation and growth of common bean and soybean in smallholder farming systems of Kenya	International Journal of Agronomy	2016: 1-7.
3.	Turrini A., Sbrana C., Avio L., Njeru E. M., Bocci G., Barberi, P. and Giovannetti, M.	2016	Changes in the composition of native root arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal communities during a	Biology and Fertility of Soils	52, (5) 543-553.

			short-term cover crop-maize succession		
4.	Oruru, M. B. and Njeru, E. M.	2016	Upscaling Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Symbiosis and Related Agroecosystems Services in Smallholder Farming Systems	BioMed Research International	2016: 12.
5.	Njeru E.M., Avio L., Sbrana C., Turrini A., Bocci G., Giovannetti M., Bàrberi P. and Oehl F.	2015	Contrasting effects of cover crops on 'hot spot' arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal communities in organic tomato	Biology and Fertility of Soils	51, (2), 151-166.
6.	Njeru, E.M, Avio, L., Sbrana, C., Turrini, A., Bocci, G., Bàrberi, P. and Giovannetti, M	2014	First evidence for a major cover crop effect on arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and organic maize growth	Agronomy for Sustainable Development	34, 841-848.
7.	Njeru, E.M., Maingi, J.M., Cheruiyot, R. and Gitonga, N.M.	2013	Managing soybean for enhanced food production and soil bio-fertility in smallholder systems through maximized fertilizer use efficiency	International Journal of Agriculture and Forestry	3(5):191-197.
8.	Njeru, E.M.	2013	Crop diversification: a potential strategy to mitigate food insecurity by smallholders in sub Saharan Africa	Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development	3(4): 63-69.

#### 6. Consultancy and community service

S/No.	Consultant (s)	Consulting Person/ Body/ Organization	Year	Title Consultancy Service	Payment (US\$)
1.	Njeru E.M	National Research Fund		Reviewer	
2.	Njeru, E.M.	St Martins Kathageri Youth Polytechnic	2017	Member Board of Management.	

#### 7. Affiliation to Professional Bodies

S/No	Name of professional body
1	Kenya Society of Microbiology

2	Society for Applied Microbiology
3	African Network for Soil Biology and Fertility (AfNet)

#### 8. National and International awards and Recognitions

S/No	Name of award or Recognition	Awarding Organization/Body	Year
1	Travel grant	Research and Innovation Support for Europe and Africa (RINEA).	2016
2.	Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellors' Extra Mile Award	Kenyatta University	2014
3.	Travel grant	International Food Research Policy Institute (IFPRI)	2011
4.	Short training grant	European Training Network Activity (ETNA)	2011
5.	PhD Scholarship	Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies (SSUP) and the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MiUR).	2011

#### 9. External Examination (if any)

S/No	Institution	Year

#### 10. Supervision of postgraduate students (if any)

S/No	Name of student	Thesis title	Status of project (e.g. First year etc)
1.	Nicholas Gitonga Mawira (PhD)	Enhancing tripartite symbiosis between soybean, bradyrhizobia and arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi under contrasting land management practices	Ongoing-data collection
2.	Kyule N. Domitila (PhD)	Microbiological Quality and Safety of Farmed Fish and Fish Products Sold in Kenya	Ongoing-data collection
3.	Anncarol Karanja (PhD)	Rapid bioconversion of rice straw using cellulolytic cultures for improved and sustainable crop productivity and soil fertility in Mwea, Kenya	Ongoing-data collection
4.	Muchoka James Peter (PhD)	Mycorrhizal fungi associated with <i>Aspilia pruliseta</i> on phosphorus availability to sorghum plants	Ongoing-data collection
5.	Oruru Marjorie Bonareri (MSc)	Enhancing cowpea production through arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi inoculation and wide interspecific crosses	Graduated (2015)
6.	Ephraim Motaroki	Increasing biological nitrogen fixation by	Graduated (2016)

	Menge (MSc)	common bean grown in eastern kenya	
7.	Simon Mburu W. (MSc)	Genetic diversity and nitrogen fixing potential of indigenous bradyrhizobia nodulating soybean varieties grown in Eastern Kenya	Graduated (2016)
8.	Daniel Mumo Musyoka (MSc)	Influence of Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> on nitrogen fixation and growth of green grams under water stress	Thesis submitted to Graduate School.
9.	Ndivo Felix Mwanzia (MSc)	Efficacy of plant extracts (neem leaf, aloe vera stem and garlic bulb extracts) on the management of potato post harvest diseases	Thesis submitted to Graduate School.
10	Njagi Alfred Kariuki (MSc)	Use of artemisia and ginger extracts in management of crown gall disease as an alternative to cultural and chemical methods	Thesis complete awaiting submission.
11	Currently supervising ten other MSc students who are on data collection stage.		

#### 11. Patents (if any)

S/No	

#### 12. Administrative positions held to date:

Examinations coordinator-Department of Microbiology (2014 to date)

**Please send the completed form to: [webmaster@ku.ac.ke](mailto:webmaster@ku.ac.ke)**