

DR. PHYLLIS W. MUTURI

Name: Dr. Phyllis W. Muturi

Title/Qualification: PhD

Position: Lecturer/Researcher

Department: Agricultural Resource Management

School: Agriculture

Area of Specialization: Plant Breeding and Biotechnology

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Short Biography

Dr. Muturi holds a PhD in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology from Makerere University, Uganda, MSc. in Crop Protection and BSc. Agriculture from University of Nairobi, Kenya. She won scholarships for postgraduate training (MSc and PhD) from the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). In 2012, she was recognized by the African Women in Agricultural Research and Development Programme (AWARD) to be among the 70 impressively talented and motivated very young women researchers in Africa. In 2013, she was awarded a two-year fellowship by AWARD to strengthen her leadership and science skills. AWARD is a professional development program that strengthens the research and leadership skills of African women in agricultural science, empowering them to contribute more effectively to poverty alleviation and food security in sub-Saharan Africa. She has over five years practical experience in dry lands research in collaboration with International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). Team player and networked with scientists from public and private sectors. She has worked with rural communities and participated in farmers exchange programs in Eastern Africa. She has presented her research findings in conference and published her work in international peer reviewed journals. She is a mentor and participates in community development projects/programmes.

Research Interests

- Agricultural biotechnology,
- plant breeding, genetics,
- crop protection,
- dry land agriculture
- Sustainable seed systems.

Publications in Journals:

1. **Muturi, P.W.** Mgonja M. and Rubaihayo P, 2014. Identification of new sorghum genotypes resistant to the African and spotted Stem borers. *International Journal of Tropical Insect Science*, pp 1 of 9
2. **Muturi PW**, Rubaihayo P, Mgonja M, Kyamanywa S, Sharma HC and Hash CT, 2012. Novel source of sorghum tolerance to the African stem borer, *Busseola fusca*. *African Journal of Plant Science* Vol. 6(11), pp. 295-302
3. **Muturi P.W**, Rubaihayo P, Mgonja M, Kyamanywa S, Kibuka J and Sharma HC, 2012. New sources of resistance to spotted stem borer, *Chilo partellus* in sorghum. *Int. J. Agr. & Agri. R. Vol. 2, No. 8, p. 18-28*
4. Mwololo J.K., Mburu M.K.W., **Muturi P.W.**, 2012. Performance of sweet potato varieties across environments in Kenya. *Int. J. Agr. & Agri. R. Vol. 2, No. 10, p. 1-11*
5. **Muturi, P.W.**, Mwololo, J.K., Muniyiri, S.W., Rubaihayo P., Muniyua, J.K., Mgonja M., Manyasa E. and Kiarie N, 2010. A perspective on proteomics: Current applications, challenges and potential uses. *Agriculture and biology journal of North America*, Vol. 1, Issue 5: 916-918
6. J.K. Mwololo, **P.W. Muturi**, S.W. Muniyiri and J.K. Muniyua, 2010. An overview of advancement in bioinformatics and its application in functional genomics. *Journal of Animal and Plant Sciences*. Vol. 6, Issue 3:645-652
7. J.K. Mwololo, H.G Karaya, **P.W. Muturi**, S.W. Muniyiri and J.K. Muniyua, 2010. Utilization of proteins and nucleic acids in the study of gene function: A comparative review. *Journal of Applied Biosciences*, 30: 1861-186
8. J. K. Mwololo, **P. W. Muturi**, M. W. K. Mburu, R.W. Njeru, N. Kiarie, J. K. Muniyua E. M. Ateka, R. W. Muinga and R. E. Kapinga, 2009. Additive main effects and multiplicative interaction analysis of genotype x environmental interaction among sweet potato genotypes. *Journal of Animal & Plant Sciences*. Vol. 2, Issue 3: 148 - 155.

Presentation of Papers at Academic and Professional Conferences

1. **Muturi PW**, Mgonja M and Rubaihayo P, 2013. Resistance of sorghum to indigenous stem borers. Paper presented in the 11th African Crop Science Society Conference held on 14 - 17 October 2013, Entebbe, Uganda
2. **Muturi PW**, Rubaihayo P, Kyamanywa S, Mgonja M and Sharma H C, 2012. Performance of Selected Grain Sorghum Genotypes for Improved Food Security and Livelihoods. Paper presented in the 3rd RUFORUM Biennial Conference, 24-28 September, Entebbe, Uganda

3. **Muturi P W**, Rubaihayo P, Kyamanywa S and Mgonja M, 2011. Sources of resistance to *Busseola fusca* and *Chilo partellus* in sorghum for improved food security and livelihoods. Paper presented at the 10th African Crop Science Society Conference held at Maputo, Mozambique on 10-13 October
4. **Muturi, P.W.** Mburu, M.W.K. Mwololo, J.K. Ateka, E. M. Njeru, R. W and Kiarie, N, 2011. Response of Sweet potato to whitefly resistance. Paper presented in aGRO 2011 University of Nairobi held at College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences on 26th-28th September
5. **Muturi P.W.**, Mburu M.W.K., Njeru R.W., Kiarie N., Munyua J.K., Ateka E.M., Muinga R.W., Kapinga R.E. and Lemaga B. "Screening for tolerance in selected sweetpotato germplasm to Sweetpotato Virus Disease in Kenya" Presented at the Regional Universities Forum Biennial Meeting, April 23rd - 27th, 2007, Mangochi, Malawi.
6. Mwololo J.K., **Muturi P.W.**, Mburu M.W.K., Njeru R.W., Kiarie N., Munyua J.K., Ateka E.M., Muinga R.W and Kapinga R.E. "Participatory evaluation of sweetpotato production in Kirinyaga and Kwale districts in Kenya" Presented at the Regional Universities Forum Biennial Meeting, April 23rd - 27th, 2007, Mangochi, Malawi.
7. **Muturi P.W.**, Mwololo J.M., Mburu M.W.K., Njeru R.W., Kiarie N., Munyua J.K., Ateka E.M., Muinga R.W. and Kapinga R.E. Strategies for maintaining sweetpotato nurseries free from insect vectors that spread Sweet potato Virus Disease. African Crop Science Society Conference proceedings 2007, Vol. 8 pp 2071-2074.