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Short Biography:

Dr. Bernard Mukiri Gichimu is a Lecturer at University of Embu in the Department of Agricultural Resource Management. He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Horticulture from Maseno University and Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Breeding from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. Previously, he worked at Coffee Research Institute (formerly Coffee Research Foundation) in Ruiru as a Plant Breeder and the Head of Plant Breeding Section for over 5 years. Bernard has published widely in peer reviewed journals and participated in numerous academic and professional conferences. He has also managed several donor funded projects and fostered several collaborative partnerships. He is an active player in the Agriculture Sector in Kenya and is an active member of Horticultural Association of Kenya and Plant Breeders Association of Kenya. Bernard is widely travelled locally and internationally including Colombia, Costa Rica, Italy, Indonesia, India, South Africa, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Tanzania. He is also a mentor to many.

Research Interests: Crop Improvement, Horticulture, Food Security and Climate Change

PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

1. Mumo, C. K., Muturi, P. W., & **Gichimu, B. M.** (2024). A Modified Climate-Smart Push-Pull Technology for the Management of Fall Armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) in the Semiarid Lands of Kenya. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 2024(1), 8038142. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/8038142>
2. Watare, G. W., **Gichimu, B. M.**, & Arunga, E. E. (2023). Host plant resistance to bean common mosaic necrosis virus among snap bean cultivars in Kenya. *Journal of Plant Protection Research*.
3. Mutunga,TK., Musalia, LM., **Gichimu, B.**, & Migose, S. A. (2023). DAIRY GOAT PRODUCTION IN KENYA: A REVIEW. *African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition & Development*, 23(7).

4. Ndegwa, J. K., **Gichimu, B. M.**, Mugwe, J. N., Mucheru-Muna, M., & Njiru, D. M. (2023). Integrated Soil Fertility and Water Management Practices for Enhanced Agricultural Productivity. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 2023.
5. Rugendo, M. K., **Gichimu, B. M.**, Mugwe, J. N., Mucheru-Muna, M., & Mugendi, D. N. (2023). Surface runoff and soil erosion from Nitisols and Ferralsols as influenced by different soil organic carbon levels under simulated rainfall conditions. *Heliyon*.
6. Chelangat, M., Muturi, P., **Gichimu, B.**, Gitari, J., & Mukono, S. (2023). Nutritional and Phytochemical Composition of Bambara Groundnut (*Vigna subterranea* [L.] Verdc) Landraces in Kenya. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 2023.
7. Ombasa, E. M., Muturi, P. W., **Gichimu, B.M.**, Isaboke, H. N., Gitari, J. N. (2022). Factors Influencing Willingness to Adopt Recommended Bambara groundnut (*Vigna subterranea* L. Verdc) Agronomic Practices Among Smallholder Farmers in Semi-Arid Lands of Embu County, Kenya. *Journal of Experimental Biology and Agricultural Sciences*, August - 2022; Volume – 10(4) page 805 – 811
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9. Lydia G. Mugao, **Bernard M. Gichimu**, Phyllis Muturi and Ezekiel K. Njoroge (2021). Essential Oils as Bio-Control Agents of Early and Late Blight Diseases of Tomato Under Greenhouse Conditions. *Hindawi - International Journal of Agronomy*, Article ID 5719091. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/5719091>
10. Dominic N. Kathuri, Samuel N. Ndirangu and **Bernard M. Gichimu** (2021). Adoption of Banana (*Musa* spp) Production Technology among Small-Scale Farmers in Embu West Sub-County, Kenya. *Journal of Agricultural Extension*, 25 (4): 109 - DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jae.v25i4.12>
11. Moses M. Njiru, Samuel N. Ndirangu, Hezron R. Mogaka and **Bernard M. Gichimu** (2021). Factors Influencing Adoption of Improved Cultivars of Macadamia (*Macadamia*) among Small-Scale Farmers in Embu County, Kenya. *Journal of Agricultural Extension*, 25 (4): 119 – 126.
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12. G. Mugao, P.W. Muturi, **B.M. Gichimu**, A.K. Kamiri (2021). Morphological and Molecular Characterization of *Alternaria solani* and *Phytophthora infestans* Isolates from Tomato Farms in Kenya. *Hindawi - International Journal of Agronomy*, 20 (1): 29-40. DOI: 10.3923/ppj.2021.29.40
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16. Lydia Nyawira Muriithi, Charles N. Onyari, Hezron Mogaka, **Bernard M. Gichimu**, Geoffrey N. Gatumo, Kizito Kwena (2021). Adoption Determinants of Adapted Climate Smart Agriculture Technologies Among Smallholder Farmers in Machakos, Makueni, and Kitui Counties of Kenya. *Journal of Agricultural Extension*, 25(2): 75 – 85. <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jae.v25i2.7>
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hypogea) in Response to *Aspergillus flavus* Exposure at Seedling Stage. *International Journal of Research and Scientific Innovation*, Volume VII, Issue VII, 203-208

21. Robert O. Okayo, Darius O. Andika, Mathews M. Dida, George O. K'Otuto and **Bernard M. Gichimu** (2020). Morphological and Molecular Characterization of Toxigenic *Aspergillus flavus* from Groundnut Kernels in Kenya. *Hindawi - International Journal of Microbiology*, Volume 2020, Article ID 8854718. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/8854718>
22. James Mwita Gimase, Wilson Muriithi Thagana, Chripine Ogutu Omondi, Jane Jerono Cheserek, **Bernard Mukiri Gichimu** and Elijah Kathurima Gichuru (2020). Quantitative trait loci (QTL) mapping of resistance to coffee berry disease (*Colletotrichum kahawae* Waller & Bridge) in *Coffea arabica* variety Rume Sudan. *African Journal of Agricultural Research*, Vol. 16(8), pp. 1184-1194.
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24. Fridah A. Mwakha, Nancy L.M. Budambula, Johnstone O. Neondo, **Bernard M. Gichimu**, Eddy O. Odari, Peter K. Kamau, Calvins Odero, Willy Kibet, Steven Runo (2020). Witchweed's Suicidal Germination: Can Slenderleaf Help? *Agronomy*, 10, 873; doi:10.3390/agronomy10060873.
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26. Fridah Mwakha, **Bernard M. Gichimu**, Johnstone O. Neondo, Peter K. Kamau, Eddy O. Odari, Joshua K. Muli and Nancy L.M. Budambula (2020). Agro-morphological Characterization of Kenyan Slender Leaf (*Crotalaria brevidens* and *C. ochroleuca*) Accessions. *Hindawi - International Journal of Agronomy*, Volume 2020, Article ID 2710907, 10 pages <https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/2710907>

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31. Arphaxard Ileri Muthee, **Bernard Mukiri Gichimu** and Paul Njiruh Nthakanio (2019). Analysis of banana production practices and constraints in Embu County, Kenya. *Asian Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development*, 9(1), 123-132.
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33. Daniel Mutiso Nthiwa, David O. Odongo, Horace Ochanda, Samoel Khamadi, and **Bernard M. Gichimu** (2015). Trypanosoma Infection Rates in Glossina Species in Mtito Andei Division, Makueni County, *Journal of Parasitology Research*, Volume 2015, Article ID 607432, 8 pages.
34. G. Ligabo, E.K. Gichuru, O. Kiplagat, **B.M. Gichimu** (2015). Status of Coffee Leaf Rust Resistance on Kenyan Commercial Resistant Cultivars. *British Microbiology Research Journal*; 8(6): 655-662.
35. Lucy K. Njeru, **Bernard M. Gichimu**, Mary C. Lopokoityit and John G. Mwangi (2015). Influence of Kenyan Youth's Perception towards Agriculture and Necessary Interventions; a Review. *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology*; 5(1): 40-45.

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39. **Gichimu B.M.**, Gichuru E.K., Mamati G.E. and Nyende A.B., 2014. Biochemical Composition within *Coffea arabica* Ruiru 11 and its Relationship with Cup Quality. *Journal of Food Research*; 3(3): 31-44.
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41. **Gichimu B.M.**, Gichuru E.K., Mamati G.E. and Nyende A.B., 2013. Variation and Association of Cup Quality Attributes and Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease in *Coffea arabica* Composite Cultivar, Ruiru 11. *Afr. J. Hort. Sci.* (December 2013) 7:22-35.
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55. **Gichimu M.** and Omondi C.O., 2010. Morphological Characterization of Five Newly Developed Lines of Arabica Coffee as Compared to Commercial Cultivars in Kenya. *International Journal of Plant Breeding and Genetics*, 4(4): 238-246, 2010.

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PAPERS PRESENTED IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

1. **Gichimu B.M. (2022):** Role of Vermicomposting in Environmental Conservation – Organic Waste Management. Presented during a Training Session organized for the members of Environmental Health and Safety Committee, University of Embu, on 1st April, 2022.
2. **Gichimu, B.M. (2021).** Coffee and Climate Change: Opportunities, Challenges and their Mitigation. Presented during the Capacity Building Workshop for Coffee Farmers on Climate Smart Agricultural Technologies in Embu County on 3rd and 4th August, 2021 at University of Embu.
3. **Gichimu, B.M. (2021).** Coffee, the Crucified Saviour of Kenyan Economy. Presented in the 28th ASIC Conference held from 28th June – 1st July, 2021 in SupAgro, Montpellier,
4. **Gichimu, B.M. (2021).** Coffee and Climate Change: Opportunities, Challenges and their Mitigation. Presented during the Capacity Building Workshop for Coffee Farmers on Climate Smart Agricultural Technologies in Embu County on 3rd and 4th August, 2021 at University of
5. **Gichimu, B.M. (2021).** Banana Orchard Management - Part 1: Establishment and Cultural Practices. Presented during the ASDSP II Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop for Banana Value Chain Service Providers on 10th February, 2021 at Rwika Social Hall,
6. **Gichimu, B.M. (2021).** Banana Orchard Management - Part 2: Pests and Diseases. Presented during the ASDSP II Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop for Banana Value Chain Service Providers on 11th February, 2021 at Rwika Social Hall,
7. **Gichimu, B.M. (2020).** Youth and Women; the Fulcrum of Food Security in Kenya. Presented During the KSG Symposium on “Role of Governance on Food Security and Nutrition” on 30th June, 2020. A virtual presentation.
8. **Gichimu, B.M. (2020).** Coffee, the Crucified Saviour of Kenyan Economy. Presented During Leland International Hunger Fellows Mid-Field Retreat on April 23, A virtual presentation.
9. **Gichimu, B.M. (2019).** Post-Harvest Management: Challenges and Solutions. Presented During the Food Security and Nutrition Symposium at Kenya School of Government on 14th March 2019.
10. **Gichimu, B.M., Gichuru E.K., Nyende A.B. and Mamati, G.E. (2018).** Introgression of *Coffea canephora* Genome in Ruiru 11 Sibs and its Effect on Quality and CBD Resistance. Presented in the 27th ASIC Conference held from 16th - 20th September, 2018 in Portland, Oregon,

11. **Gichimu M.**, 2014. Coffee Growing in Kenya; Climate Change Challenges and their Mitigation. Presented in the 1st DeKUT International Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation, Nyeri–Kenya, 4th to 7th November, 2014.
12. **Gichimu B.M.**, Coffee Sustainability in Kenya: Role Played by Improved Varieties. Presented in the 25th International Conference on Coffee Science, Armenia – Colombia, 8th to 13th September, 2014.
13. **Gichimu B.M.**, Gichuru E.K., Mamati G.E. and Nyende A.B., 2014. Combining CBD Resistance with High Yields and Good Cup Quality: Success case in Ruiru 11 Cultivar. Presented in the 25th International Conference on Coffee Science, Armenia – Colombia, 8th to 13th September,
14. Omondi C.O. and **Gichimu B.M.**, Coffee Variety Development and Expansion of Growing Areas to New Frontiers. Presented during Kenya Coffee @50 Forum (National Coffee Stakeholders Conference), Ruiru, Kenya. 7th - 8th February 2014.
15. **Gichimu B.M.**, Arabica Coffee Breeding; Challenges Posed by Climate Change. Presented in the 10th African Fine Coffee Conference in Kampala Uganda on 16th February 2013.
16. **Gichimu B.M.**, Coffee Breeding in Kenya; Achievements, Gaps and Priorities. Presented in the 3rd African Coffee Sustainability Forum in Kampala Uganda on 13th February 2013.
17. **Gichimu B.M.**, Gichuru E.K., Mamati G.E. and Nyende A.B., 2012. Variation and Associations of Cup Quality traits and CBD Resistance in *Coffea arabica* cv Ruiru 11. Presented in the *12th Workshop on Sustainable Horticultural Production in the Tropics*, Held at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology between 4th and 7th December
18. **Gichimu B.M.**, Coffee Breeding in Kenya; Achievements, Challenges and Current Focus. Presented in the 24th International Conference on Coffee Science, San Jose – Costa Rica, 11th to 17th November, 2012.
19. **Gichimu B.M.**, Coffee Breeding Lines in Kenya. Presented in a Conference on "Technologies and best practices for optimal utilization of by-products in the coffee value chain: how to increase sustainability in the coffee supply chain in East African countries" held at Trieste, Italy from 11th to 14th June 2012 organized by ICS-UNIDO in cooperation with the Ernesto Illy Foundation and illycaffè.
20. **Gichimu B.M.**, Batian Coffee; Its Merits and Demand Trends. Presented during the March 2012 Coffee Research Institute monthly seminar held at Coffee Research Station Lecture Theatre.

21. **Gichimu B.M.**, Gichuru E.K., Mamati G.E. and Nyende A.B., 2011. Discrimination of Ruiru 11 Hybrid Sibs based on Raw Coffee Quality. Presented in the 11th Workshop on Sustainable Horticultural Production in the Tropics, Held at Pwani University College between 7th and 10th December
22. Phiri A., **Gichimu B.M.**, Gatarayiha C., Kutwayo D., Prakash N., Musoli P., Agwanda C., Kimani M., Musebe R. and Oduor G., 2011. Increasing the resilience of coffee production to Coffee Leaf Rust and other Diseases in India and four other African countries. Presented on 23rd March 2011 at ICRAF Complex, Gigiri, Nairobi.
23. Kimemia J.K., **Gichimu B.M.** and Kathurima C.W., 2011. Highlights of Batian. A new tall statured and disease resistant Arabica coffee variety with excellent quality. In Kamau et al (Eds), African Fine Coffees Review, Issue No.7. African Fine Coffees
24. **Gichimu B.M.** and Phiri N.A., 2010. Response of Newly Developed and Introduced Arabica Coffee Genotypes to *Colletotrichum kahawae*, the Coffee Berry Disease Pathogen, in Kenya. Proceedings of 12th Biennial KARI Scientific Conference, KARI Headquarters Complex, Kaptagat Road, Loresho, Nairobi, 8th – 12th November,
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