

Miyawaki Tree Planting at the College of Biological and Physical Sciences



Student taking part in tree planting using the 'Miyawaki' method

On April 10, 2018, students and staff of the College of Biological and Physical Sciences participated in a tree planting event at the college. The event, led by Professor Kazue Fujiwara a Japanese Professor was significant because it used a new, and tested method 'the Miyawaki method'. The Miyawaki method has been used extensively in Japan and worldwide to restore degraded forests and has proved one of the fastest way to ensure fast vegetation growth due to use of two ecological principals. First, when plants are grown at high density, they compete for resources that are important for their growth. Some of the key factors that they compete for are light, nutrients, water and space. Since plants must use light energy to photosynthesize and manufacture their own food, then light competition results to the plants all having enhanced growth to capture sunlight since those that are left behind and cannot tolerate shading by the others would

get eliminated naturally. Thus by planting the trees at a high density, this competition for light is brought about resulting to higher than normal vertical growth.

The event was attended by Dr. Samuel Kiboi, Dr. Ong'amo, students as well as the staff at the College of Biological and Physical Sciences.

Prof. Miyawaki and Prof. Fujiwara explain to the audience how to do it 7

The Principal, CBPS, Director, SBS and Prof. Miyawaki launch the tree planting Ceremony 8

Students, Staff and visitors plant trees during the ceremony 9

Students participating in the Tree Planting Ceremony at CBPS 10

Japanese and Kenyan Scientists plant a tree 11

Dr. Kiboi, Mr. Chebii and Mzee Mathenge plant a commemorative tree during the Ceremony