

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Personal

Name Gikuru Mwithiga

Present position Professor

Physical address

School of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Resource Management  
Embu University College,  
Kenya

Postal address

P.O. Box 2241,  
Embu Town  
Kenya

Tel. +254704051438

Email: [gikurum@yahoo.com](mailto:gikurum@yahoo.com)

## Education

Ph.D. Agricultural and Food Engineering, 1997  
Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand

M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering, 1993  
University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya.

B.Sc. Agricultural Engineering, 1987  
University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya

## Short courses attended

18<sup>th</sup> June-2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007. Training on Information Technology in Agriculture for Africa, National Engineering Research Centre for Information Technology in Agriculture, Beijing, China.

1st – 31st August 2002 Drying, cooling and renewable energy – Renewable energy for thermal processes of agricultural products, Bogor university, Indonesia

1st– 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2000 Short course on Research & Development in Postharvest Biology and Technology, ARO, Bet Dagan, Israel

## Awards and Citations

Dec 2013- Awarded the 2012 year award for researchers exceeding expected research output, School of Engineering, UKZN

1January 2011 – National Research fund (NRF), C3 rated researcher

Included in 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the Marquis Who's Who in the World (2009 Edition).

Included in 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Marquis Who's Who in Science and Engineering (2008-2009 Edition).

Awarded PhD. scholarship by Japanese International Cooperative Agency (JICA) 1994-1997

Awarded MSc Scholarship by Japanese International Cooperative Agency (JICA), 1988-1990

Awarded the undergraduate study scholarship by Government of Kenya (GOK), 1984-987

## **Professional Affiliation**

Fellow, South African Institute of Agricultural Engineers, Membership No 11010

Kenya Society of Agricultural Engineers, Membership No.87

Kenya, Engineers Registration Board (ERB), Graduate Engineer No. b1580

Kenya, Institute of Engineers of Kenya (IEK), Membership No. G 1481

## **Work Experience**

Jan 2015 – Present Associate Professor, Embu University College, Kenya

June 2009- Dec 2014 Senior Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal,(UKZN), South Africa

Dec 2008 –May 2009 Senior Lecturer, University of Botswana (UB), Botswana College of Agriculture (BCA), Botswana

May 2005 - Nov 2008 Lecturer, University of Botswana (UB), Botswana College of Agriculture (BCA), Botswana

1998 to 2005 lecturer, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya (JKUAT)

1993-1998 Assistant Lecturer, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya

1988-1992 Teaching Assistant, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya

1987-1988 Graduate Engineer, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya

## **Participation in curriculum development**

2009-2014 Developing a new undergraduate programme for ukzn school of BEEH, UKZN

2009-2014 Development of laboratory facilities for Environmental control, Renewable energy, Food Engineering Modules at BEEH, UKZN

2006-2008 Development of BSc programme in Food Science and Technology, BCA

2005-to 2007 Development of BSc programme in Agricultural Mechanization, BCA

2005-to 2007 Development of BSc programme in Soil and Water Conservation, BCA

2005-to 2007 Development of MSc, MPhil and PhD programmes in Agricultural Engineering, BCA

2002 -2005 Development of MSc and PhD programmes in Agricultural engineering, JKUAT

1998-2002 Development of two new BSc programmes in Agricultural engineering, JKUAT

1997 1998 Review of MSc programme in Agricultural engineering, JKUAT

1992-1993 Planning and development of new building to house the agricultural engineering

department, JKUAT  
1991-1993 Development of BSc in agricultural engineering programme, JKUAT  
1990 Development of agricultural engineering diploma syllabus for Jomo Kenyatta University  
College Agriculture and Technology

### **Research Interests**

1. Engineering aspects of foods in relation to the development of food processing technologies; modeling of food processing systems; engineering properties of foods in relation to quality preservation
2. Renewable energy applications including use of solar energy and biomass conversion technologies

### **Research Involvement**

**Year of funding 2012** – Granted R40,000 per year for five years as NRF funding for rated researchers

**Year of funding 2011** - Granted R942,000 NRF THRIP research grant

**Year of funding 2011** – Granted R382,000 UKZN competitive research grants

**Year of funding 2010** – Granted R650,000 ( about US\$87,000) by Research Office to buy expensive equipment for Food Engineering research

**Year of funding 2007**- Botswana Government funded project – US\$ 52,000) Development of biomass harvesting and storage technology for Botswana (to run over a four year period).

**Year of funding 2005**-JKUAT University funded research- US\$ 3,750 – Development of a commercial solar dryer for fruits and vegetables

### **Publication in refereed international journals**

Please visit my Google scholar site at  
<https://scholar.google.co.za/citations?user=vK1-DM0AAAAJ&hl=en>  
Or my Research gate site at  
[http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gikuru\\_Mwithiga](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gikuru_Mwithiga)