

**REASERCH PROJECT**

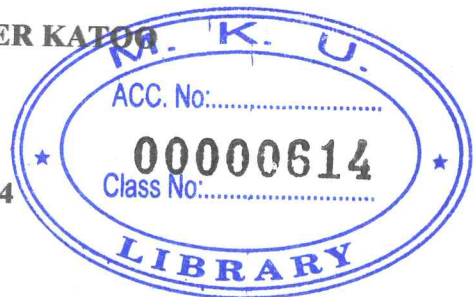
**EDU412**

**THE EFFECTIVE METHODS OF TEACHING AGRICULTURE IN SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS AND CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARDS AGRICULTURE ORIENTED  
CAREERS – IN MWINGI DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOLS – KENYA.**

**BY**

**ATHANAS ALEXANDER KATOO**

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**A RESEACH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM  
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## ABSTRACT

Agriculture is regarded as a very important factor in the economy of Kenya. It is estimated that 80% of Kenya's population is dependent on Agriculture. As the most of population continue to live in rural areas, dependency on Agriculture will continue to rise. Every Nation has a responsibility to feed its own people. Many Kenyan's, however still believe Agriculture as a career is an option for those who fail to secure good jobs. Others see it as a job in which one is always in contact with soil hence regarded as dirty job. Still dealing with animals especially livestock is also seen and treated by many Kenyans as quite a dirty job.

After introduction of the 8-4-4 system of education, Agriculture subject in secondary schools was given more emphasis by the Ministry of Education by first of all being given more lessons per week, training and employing more Agriculture teachers and revision of teaching and learning materials for teachers and learners in line with the new syllabus. Special considerations were placed on crop production, livestock production, farm machinery, water supply and irrigation and Agricultural economics. All this was done with the aim of exposing students to the basic principles of Agriculture that can be put into practice for the benefit of individual and the community in general in future and also to prepare the learners for future careers related to Agriculture.

This study investigated the effective methods of teaching Agriculture in secondary schools and change in attitude towards Agriculture oriented careers. The study captured Mwingi District in Eastern Province which has a total of forty secondary schools which present students for K.C.S.E examination on Agriculture. Twenty schools were purposely selected to constitute a representative sample and data on the schools' K.C.S.E registered candidates for the last three consecutive years collected using questionnaires. The data was analysed using Microsoft office excel.

A summary and policy recommendations were given at the end of the study. Such information is useful to policy makers more so in the education and agricultural sectors of the economy.

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