

Academic Staff Profile Template

1.1 Personal Profile

1.1.1 Personal Details

Name: Wilson M. Thagana Title/Qualification: PhD Department: Agricultural Science and Technology (AST) Designation/Position: Associate Professor of Plant Breeding and Genetics Email: wtmuriithi@gmail.com; thagana.wilson@ku.ac.ke Contact Address: Kenyatta University, 43844-00100, Nairobi, Kenya Area of Specialization: - Plant Breeding & Biotechnology Research Interests: - Application of Biotechnological Tools in Crop Improvement, - Breeding for Drought and Salinity Tolerance Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=list_works&hl=en&user=1nMEZ1AAAAAJ ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7188-9132	
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1.1.2 Academic & Professional Qualifications

- **PhD (Plant Breeding):** 2009 Egerton University, **Kenya.**
- **MSc (Experimental Plant Morphogenesis):** 1992 University of Calgary, **Canada.**
- **BSc (Agriculture):** 1983 University of Nairobi, **Kenya.**
- Certificate in Chickpea Breeding and Seed production: 2009 **ICRISAT, Patancheru, India.**
- Certificate in Molecular Marker Techniques for Development of Improved Crop Varieties: 2006 IAEA/AFRA/ARC-LNR, at **Roodeplaat, Pretoria, South Africa.**
- Certificate in Sunflower Breeding: 1996 World Bank/Ministry of Agriculture at the Directorate of Oilseed Research (DOR), **Hyderabad, India.**

1.1.3 Employment History

- **3/07/2025 to date: Associate Professor of Plant Breeding and Genetics,** Kenyatta University
- **29/9/2022 to 7/11/2022: Deputy Executive Dean,** School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Kenyatta University
- **25/8/2022 to 29/9/2022: Acting Dean,** School of Agriculture, Kenyatta University
- **1/3/2021 to 25/8/2022: Associate Dean,** School of Agriculture, Kenyatta University
- **25/2/2019 to 1/3/2021: Director,** Kitui Campus, Kenyatta University
- **24/08/2017 to 30/9/2018: Chairman,** Agricultural Science and Technology
- **18/03/2015 to date: Senior Lecturer,** Kenyatta University
- **18/01/2010 to 18/03/2015: Lecturer,** Kenyatta University
- **2001-2010: Senior Research Officer,** Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO)
- **1993-2001: Research Officer I,** KALRO-Njoro
- **1983-1993: Research Officer II,** KEPHIS-Lanet

1.1.4 Achievements

1. **23rd to 26/2/2014:** Awarded US \$ 1,704 to attend Guelph East Africa Workshop by Kenyatta University/University of Guelph, Canada at **Serena Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**
2. **2011:** Awarded US \$120 for Best idea on Water harvesting by Kenyatta University Management.
3. **24th to 25th February, 2011:** Financial support to attend EASCOM AGM, **Entebbe, Uganda**
4. **6/01 to 5/02/2009:** Awarded Fellowship by ICRISAT to attend training on Chickpea Breeding and Seed Production at **ICRISAT, Patancheru, India.**
5. **21/9-30/9/2008:** Awarded fellowship to attend Jojoba Breeding and Production by Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project (**KAPP**) at the Association of the Rajasthan Jojoba Plantation Research Project (AJORP) **Jaipur, Rajasthan, India.**
6. **2008:** Awarded US\$ 400 for the **Best Paper** in Horticulture and Industrial Crops by the Secretariat of the 11th KARI Scientific conference..
7. **2006:** Awarded US\$ 145 for the **Best Paper** in Biotechnology by the Secretariat of the 10th KARI Scientific conference.
8. **14/8-1/9/2006:** Fellowship for a course on “Molecular Marker Techniques for Development of Improved Crop Varieties” by IAEA/AFRA/ARC-LNR, at **Roodeplaat, Pretoria, South Africa.**
9. **3-14/10/2005:** Fellowship to attend training on “Marker Assisted Selection and Mutation Breeding” by IAEA at KARI, Njoro, Kenya.
10. **16/2-27/2/2004:** Fellowship to attend training on “ Advances in Molecular Characterization for Crop Improvement” by IAEA at KARI, Njoro, Kenya.
11. 2002: Awarded US 1,000 to attend International Sunflower Association Conference in **Johannesburg, South Africa.**
12. 1999: Sponsorship by KARI to attend International Sunflower Association Conference in **Maputo, Mozambique.**
13. 18/9-18/11/96: Fellowship to attend Sunflower Breeding Course by World Bank/Ministry of Agriculture at **the Directorate of Oilseed Research (DOR), Hyderabad, India.**

1.2 Publications

1.2.1 Referred Journals

1. Rutto, A., Thagana, W., and Nyongesa, M. (2023). Salt Tolerance of Two Potato Cultivars. Africa Journal of Education, Science and Technology Vol. 7(3), pp 702-708.
2. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, and E. K. Gichuru, (2021). Genetic Relationship and the Occurrence of Multiple Gene Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotrichum kahawae* Waller & Bridge) within Selected Coffea

- arabica Varieties in Kenya. *African Journal of Agricultural Research* Vol. 15(1), pp 39-48. DOI 10.5897/AJPS2020.2074
3. Wakhanu, J, Nyambaka, H, Kimiywe, J, Nawiri, M and W.M. Thagana. (2020). Nutrition-Sensitive Interventions with African Indigenous Vegetables among School Going Children in Machakos County, Kenya. (2020). *Journal of Medicinally Active Plants* 9, (3):111-125. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.7275/15kg-3r28>
 4. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, Gichimu, B.M, and E. K. Gichuru, (2020). Quantitative trait loci (QTL) mapping of resistance to coffee berry disease (*Colletotrichum kahawae* Waller & Bridge) in *Coffea arabica* L. Variety Sudan. *African Journal of Agricultural Research* Vol. 16(8), pp 1184-1194. DOI 10.5897/AJAR2020.14842
 5. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, Gichimu B.M, Gichuru, E.K, Ziyomo, C and C.H. Sneller. (2020). Genome – Wide Association Study identify the Genetic Loci Conferring Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotrichum Kahawae*) in *Coffee arabica* var. Rume Sudan. *Euphytica* (2020)16:86: 1-17.
 6. Nyaga, C, Gowda M, Beyene, Y, Muriithi, W.T, Burgueno. J, Toledo, F, Makumbi, D, Olsen, M.S, Das, B, Suresh, L.M, Bright, J.M and B.M. Prasanna, (2020). Hybrid Breeding for MLN Resistance: Heterosis, Combining Ability, and Hybrid Prediction. *Plants* 2020,9,468:1-15.
 7. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O and J.M. Ithiru, (2019). Evaluation of Coffee Berry Disease Resistance (*Colletotrichum Kahawae*) in F₂ Populations Derived from Arabica Coffee Varieties Rume Sudan and SL 28. *Journal of Plant Breeding and Crop Science* 11(9): 225-233.
 8. Nyaga, C, Gowda M, Beyene, Y, Muriithi, W.T, Olsen, M.S, Suresh, L.M, Makumbi,D, Jumbo, M.B, Das, B and B.M. Prasanna, . (2019). Genome-Wide Analyses and Prediction of Resistance to MLN in Large Tropical Maize Germplasm. *Genes* 2020,11,16;doi:10.3390/genes: 1-16
 9. Wakhanu, J, Nyambaka, H, Kimiywe, J, Nawiri, M and W.M. Thagana. (2019). Consumption of African Indigenous Vegetables Improves Children's Body Fat Free Mass in Machakos County, Kenya. *Journal of Food Science and Engineering* 9: 305-319. doi: 10.17265/2159-5828/2019.08.002
 10. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O and J.M. Ithiru. (2019). Evaluation of Coffee Berry Disease Resistance (*Colletotrichum kahawae*) in F₂ Populations Derived from Arabica Coffee Varieties Rume Sudan and SL 28. *Journal of Plant Breeding and Crop Science* 11(9): 225-233 ISSN 2006-9758.
 11. Henga, S.A, Thagana, W.M and M.W. Githendu. (2019). Rice Seedlings, Vegetative Growth and Vigour as Influenced by Seed Storage Period. *African Journal of Education, Science and Technology* 5(2): 92-100.
 12. Henga, S.A, Thagana, W.M and M.W. Githendu. (2019). Assessing Seed Vigor Characters of Selected Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) Genotypes Using Accelerated Ageing Method. *Asian Journal of Agricultural and Horticultural Research* 4(3): 1-5.

13. Ndung'u, F.W, Thagana, W.M and D.K. Ndung'u. (2019). Yield of the Testcrosses across the Different Environments. *International Journal of Agriculture* 4(1): 15-27 ISSN 2520-4629.
14. Ndung'u, F.W, Thagana, W.M and D.K. Ndung'u. (2019). Heterotic Orientation of the Inbred Lines. *International Journal of Agriculture* 4(1): 1-14 ISSN 2520-4629.
15. Kariithi Tabitha, Thagana Wilson and P. Gweyi-Onyango Joseph (2018). Influence of Organic and Inorganic Manures on Macro-Nutrients, Micro-Nutrients and Anti-Nutrients in two Amaranth spp in Kiambu County, Kenya. *Asian Journal of Research in Crop Science* 1(1): 1-17.
16. Kirui, K.R, Kibe, A.M, Wagara, I.N, Thagana, M.W. (2017). Effects of Thiram and Carbendazim Application Rates on Growth and Grain Yield of Chick Pea (*Cicer arietinum*) in Kenya. *World Journal of Agricultural Research* 5(6): 284-291. DOI: 10.12691/wjar-5-6-1
17. Kirui, K.R, Kibe, A.M, Wagara, I.N, Thagana, M.W. (2016). Effect of Genotype Resistance and Fungicide Rates on Fusarium Wilt Incidence of Chickpea. *Adv. Plants Agric Res.* 5(5): 624-628. DOI: 10.15406/apar.2016.05.00193
18. Thagana, W.M., 2016, [Appropriate Plant Growth Regulators and Genotypes for Propagation of Jojoba \(*Simmondsia chinensis* L.\)](#) *International Journal of Current Research (IJCR)* 8(1): 24876-24882 ISSN: 24876-24882. (Online).
19. Thagana, W.M. 2016 [Effect of some Agricultural Practices on Field Performance of Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L.\) Seedlings in Semi-Arid Areas of Voi, Kenya](#) *Merit Res. Agric. Sci. soil Sci.* 4(1): 014-022 ISSN: 2,350-2,274 (Online)
20. Thagana, W.M. 2016 [Assessment of Sweet Potato Propagules for Re- infection by Various Viruses in East Kamagak Location – Homa Bay County-Kenya](#) *American Journal of Experimental Agriculture (AJEA)* 11(1): 1-9 Article no.AJEA.21,868 ISSN: 2,231-0606 (Online)
21. Thagana, W.M. 2015 [Yield and Nutritive Attributes Are Not Considered by Farmers in Choice of Sweet Potato Varieties Grown in East Kamagak Location –Homabay County-Kenya.](#) *The International Journal of Technoledge* 3(9): 69-73 ISSN: 2,321-919X (Online)
22. Thagana, W.M., 2015, [Sex Determination of Young Nursery Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L\) Plants using Morphological Traits in Semi-Arid Areas of Voi, Kenya.](#) *Journal of Biology, Agriculture and Healthcare* 5(16): 113-123 ISSN 2,224-3,208 (Paper) ISSN 2,225-093X (Online)
23. Thagana, W.M. 2015 [Studies on Seed Size and Storage on Germination and Performance of Young Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L\) Seedlings in Semi-arid Areas of Kenya,](#) *Agriculture and Healthcare* 5(12): 10-16 ISSN 2,224-3,208 (Paper), ISSN 2,225-093X (Online)
24. Thagana, W.M., 2014, [Beverage Quality and Biochemical Attributes of Arabusta \(*C. arabica* x *C canephora* P.\) and their Parental Genotypes,](#) *African Journal of Food Science*, ISBN: 8(9): 456-464

25. Thagana, W.M., 2014, *Genetic Characterization of Arabusta Coffee Hybrids and Their Parental Genotypes using Molecular Markers*, *Plant Cell Biotechnology and Molecular Biology*, ISBN 15(1&2):31-42, Available online at: <http://www.ikpress.org/abstract.php?iid=429&id=34&aid=3559#.VBr3QvmSyho>
26. Thagana W.M., 2013, *Seed Abortion and Numerical Components of Seed Yield of Soyabean (Glycine max L. Merr.) in Three Contrasting*, *J. Agri. Sci.*, ISBN 4(1):1-5.
27. Momo J.A. and Thagana W.M., 2013, *Effect of withholding Irrigation Water after complete Heading on Rice Yield and Components in Mwea-Kenya*, *J. Agri. Sci.*, ISBN 4(2):69-75
28. Thagana W.M., 2013, *Variability in M2 Generations and Characteristics of Advanced Mutant lines of Rapeseed (Brassica napus L.)*, *J. Agri. Sci.*, ISBN 4(2):83-86
29. Thagana W.M., 2009, *Heterosis in hybrids derived from cultivars and mutant lines of rapeseed (Brassica napus L.)*, PhD thesis
30. Thagana W.M., 2007, *Performance of rapeseed (Brassica napus L.) hybrids and parental mutant lines in three environments*, Egerton journal
31. Muriithi, W.T., Indra, S. H., Yeung, E.C. & Thorpe, T.A., 1993, *Plantlet regeneration in Chir Pine (Pinus roxburghii Sarg.): Morphogenesis and Histology. Forest Ecology and Management*, 57: 141-160.
32. Thagana W.M., 1992, *Plantlet Regeneration and Bud Developmental Anatomy of Pinus roxburghii*, Sarg. MSc Thesis
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1.2.2 Books and Books Chapters

1. Thagana W.M., 2021, KST 845: Population and Quantitative Genetics, DSVOL Blended Module
2. Thagana W.M. 2021, KST 209: Principles of Crop Production (DSVOL Blended module).
3. Thagana W.M., 2016, KST 209: Principles of Crop Improvement, DSVOL Module
4. Thagana W.M., 2016, KST 206: Principles of Agricultural Biotechnology, DSVOL Module
5. Thagana W.M., 2014, KST 130: Field Course, DSVOL Module
6. Thagana W.M., 2014, KST 813: Agricultural Biotechnology, DSVOL Module
7. Thagana W.M., 2014, KST 835: Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources, DSVOL Module
8. Thagana W.M., 2014, KST 845: Population and Quantitative Genetics, DSVOL Module
9. Thagana W.M., 2014, KST 850: Seed Physiology and Biotechnology, DSVOL Module
10. Thagana W.M., 2011, KST 832: Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology, DSVOL Module
11. Thagana W.M., 2010, KST 513: Agricultural Biotechnology, DSVOL Module.

Book Chapter

Shadrack Inoti, Lulther Lulandala, Shabani Chamshama, **Wilson Thagana**, Rob Dodson (2021). Investigating the Effect of Some Agricultural Practices on Field Performance of Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis* L.) Seedlings in Semi-Arid Areas of Voi, Kenya. *Recent Progress in Plant and Soil Research Vol. 2*, 27 July 2021, Page 104-115. <https://doi.org/10.9734/bpi/rppsr/v2/12201D> Published: 2021-07-27

1.2.3 Conference/Workshops/Seminar Papers

1. Buka, J.G. and Thagana, W.M., Enhancing Fruit Quality of Avocado (*Persea americana*) Using Ripeners in Kitui County, Kenya. 1st KALRO Socio-Economics and Policy Development (SEPD) Conference and Exhibition, KALRO Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya 10th to 12th June, 2025.
2. Thagana, W.M., Identification of SSR Markers associated with Cassava Mosaic Disease in Kenya ASACSES conference, ECOWAS Parliament Building, Abuja, Nigeria 2nd -5th November, 2015
3. Thagana, W.M. Envisaged MSc Postharvest Technology Curriculum at Kenyatta University Kyambogo University, Kampala, Uganda 5th-9th August, 2015
4. Thagana W.M., Efficacy of a Local and Commercial Rooting powder on Roses, 1st School of Agriculture Biennial International Conference sponsored by KU/AGRA/DAAD/UoN, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya, 1st -5th December, 2014
5. Thagana W.M., Effects of Withholding Irrigation Water after Complete Heading on Seed Quality Traits in Mwea, 1st School of Agriculture Biennial International Conference sponsored by KU/AGRA/DAAD/UoN, Kenyatta University(KU), Nairobi, Kenya, 1st -5th December, 2014
6. Thagana, W.M., Targeted Plant Breeding, KARI-Thika/Kenya, 1/11/13
7. Thagana, W.M., Effect of Seed Size on Germination and Early Growth of Jojoba in Semi-arid Areas of Kenya, 11th African crop Science Society Conference. Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel, Entebbe-Uganda. 13th -17th October 2013.
8. Thagana, W.M., Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease using Genetic Engineering and Marker Assisted Selection-a Kenyan project, Arusha/Tanzania, 28/1/13 -1/02/13
9. Thagana, W.M., Effect of Withholding Irrigation Water after Complete Heading on Rice Yield and Components in Mwea, Kenya, 11th African crop Science Society Conference. Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel, Entebbe-Uganda. 13th -17th October 2013.
10. Thagana, W.M., Characterization of Arabusta (*Coffea arabica* L. x *Coffea canephora* Pierre) Coffee and its Parental Genotypes using Molecular Markers, 11th African crop Science Society Conference. Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel, Entebbe-Uganda. 13th -17th October 2013.
11. Thagana, W.M., Effect of Genotype, Plant Spacing and Weeding Regimes on Weed Density and Yields of Upland Rice in Uganda. 11th African crop Science Society Conference. Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel, Entebbe-Uganda. 13th -17th October 2013.
12. Thagana, W.M., Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease using Genetic Engineering and Marker Assisted Selection-a Kenyan project. Arusha/Tanzania. 28/1/13 -1/02/13

13. Thagana, W.M., Occurrence of seed abortion and numerical components of seed yield of soyabean (*Glycine max* L. Merr.) in three contrasting environments. El Minia/Egypt, 25th-29th March, 2012
14. Thagana, W.M., Characterization of Sweet Potato [*Ipomea batatas* (L)] Landraces using Morphological and DNA markers in East Kamagak Location of Rachuonyo District, Bondo University College (BUC), Bondo, Kenya. 4th-7th December 2012.
15. Thagana W.M., Commercialization and Utilization of Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis* [Link] Schneider) as a basis for Industrialization and Income Generation in ASALs, UniBRAIN/PanAAC Fair, Hilton Hotel, Nairobi, 26th-27th Nov, 2010
16. Thagana, W.M., Selection and characterization of superior bushes of Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis* [Link] Schneider) for ASALs in Kenya. Nairobi, 7th-9th April, 2010
17. Thagana, W.M., Chickpea - a promising new food legume crop for drought prone cool areas of Kenya. Cape Town/South Africa 2009
18. Thagana, W.M., Comparison of phenotypic characters of mutant lines of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L) with the original parents. Nairobi/Kenya, 2008
19. Thagana, W.M., *In vitro* embryo culture and immature seed germination techniques for rapid generation advance in soyabean [*Glycine max* (L.) Merrill], Nairobi/Kenya, 2006
20. Thagana, W.M., Variability in M2 generations and characteristics of selected advanced mutant lines of rapeseed. 2006
21. Thagana, W.M., Characterization and genetic relationships of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.), Entebbe/Uganda, 2005
22. Thagana, W.M., Introduction and status of Jojoba *Simmondsia chinensis* (Link) Schneider production in Kenya. Nairobi/Kenya, 2004.
23. Thagana, W.M., Genotype-environment interactions and stability estimates for sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) varieties grown in diverse environments in Kenya. Johannesburg/ South Africa. 2002.
24. Thagana, W.M., Holistic approach in the dissemination of technologies in Lare division, Nakuru district, Egerton university/Kenya. 2001
25. Thagana, W.M., The status of Kenya in the Global production and supply of oilseed and oilseed products. Nairobi/Kenya. 2000.

1.2.4 Student Co-authored Publications

1. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, and E. K. Gichuru, (2021). Genetic Relationship and the Occurrence of Multiple Gene Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotrichum kahawae* Waller & Bridge) within Selected *Coffea arabica* Varieties in Kenya. African Journal of Agricultural Research Vol. 15(1), pp 39-48. DOI 10.5897/AJPS2020.2074
2. Wakhanu, J, Nyambaka, H, Kimiywe, J, Nawiri, M and W.M. Thagana. (2020). Nutrition-Sensitive Interventions with African Indigenous Vegetables among School

- Going Children in Machakos County, Kenya. (2020). *Journal of Medicinally Active Plants* 9, (3):111-125. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.7275/15kg-3r28>
3. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, Gichimu, B.M, and E. K. Gichuru, (2020). Quantitative trait loci (QTL) mapping of resistance to coffee berry disease (*Colletotrichum kahawae* Waller & Bridge) in *Coffea arabica* L. Variety Sudan. *African Journal of Agricultural Research* Vol. 16(8), pp 1184-1194. DOI 10.5897/AJAR2020.14842
 4. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O, Cheserek, J.J, Gichimu B.M, Gichuru, E.K, Ziyomo, C and C.H. Sneller. (2020). Genome – Wide Association Study identify the Genetic Loci Conferring Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotrichum Kahawae*) in *Coffea arabica* var. Rume Sudan. *Euphytica* (2020)16:86: 1-17.
 5. Nyaga, C, Gowda M, Beyene, Y, Muriithi, W.T, Burgueno. J, Toledo, F, Makumbi, D, Olsen, M.S, Das, B, Suresh, L.M, Bright, J.M and B.M. Prasanna, (2020). Hybrid Breeding for MLN Resistance: Heterosis, Combining Ability, and Hybrid Prediction. *Plants* 2020,9,468:1-15.
 6. Gimase, J.M, Thagana, W.M, Omondi, C.O and J.M. Ithiru, (2019). Evaluation of Coffee Berry Disease Resistance (*Colletotrichum Kahawae*) in F₂ Populations Derived from Arabica Coffee Varieties Rume Sudan and SL 28. *Journal of Plant Breeding and Crop Science* 11(9): 225-233.
 7. Nyaga, C, Gowda M, Beyene, Y, Muriithi, W.T, Olsen, M.S, Suresh, L.M, Makumbi,D, Jumbo, M.B, Das,B and B.M. Prasanna, . (2019). Genome-Wide Analyses and Prediction of Resistance to MLN in Large Tropical Maize Germplasm. *Genes* 2020,11,16;doi:10.3390/genes: 1-16
 8. Wakhanu, J, Nyambaka, H, Kimiywe, J, Nawiri, M and W.M. Thagana. (2019). Consumption of African Indigenous Vegetables Improves Children’s Body Fat Free Mass in Machakos County, Kenya. *Journal of Food Science and Engineering* 9: 305-319. doi: 10.17265/2159-5828/2019.08.002
 9. Henga, S.A, Thagana, W.M and M.W. Githendu. (2019). Rice Seedlings, Vegetative Growth and Vigour as Influenced by Seed Storage Period. *African Journal of Education, Science and Technology* 5(2): 92-100.
 10. Henga, S.A, Thagana, W.M and M.W. Githendu. (2019). Assessing Seed Vigor Characters of Selected Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) Genotypes Using Accelerated Ageing Method. *Asian Journal of Agricultural and Horticultural Research* 4(3): 1-5.
 11. Ndung’u, F.W, Thagana, W.M and D.K. Ndung’u. (2019). Yield of the Testcrosses across the Different Environments. *International Journal of Agriculture* 4(1): 15-27 ISSN 2520-4629.
 12. Ndung’u, F.W, Thagana, W.M and D.K. Ndung’u. (2019). Heterotic Orientation of the Inbred Lines. *International Journal of Agriculture* 4(1): 1-14 ISSN 2520-4629.
 13. Kariithi Tabitha, Thagana Wilson and P. Gweyi-Onyango Joseph (2018). Influence of Organic and Inorganic Manures on Macro-Nutrients, Micro-Nutrients and Anti-

Nutrients in two Amaranth spp in Kiambu County, Kenya. *Asian Journal of Research in Crop Science* 1(1): 1-17.

14. Kirui, K.R, Kibe, A.M, Wagara, I.N, Thagana, M.W. (2017). Effects of Thiram and Carbendazin Application Rates on Growth and Grain Yield of Chick Pea (*Cicer arietinum*) in Kenya. *World Journal of Agricultural Research* 5(6): 284-291. DOI: 10.12691/wjar-5-6-1
15. Kirui, K.R, Kibe, A.M, Wagara, I.N, Thagana, M.W. (2016). Effect of Genotype Resistance and Fungicide Rates on Fusarium Wilt Incidence of Chickpea. *Adv. Plants Agric Res.* 5(5): 624-628. DOI: 10.15406/apar.2016.05.00193
16. Thagana, W.M., 2016, [Appropriate Plant Growth Regulators and Genotypes for Propagation of Jojoba \(*Simmondsia chinensis* L.\)](#) International Journal of Current Research (IJCR) 8(1): 24876-24882 ISSN: 24876-24882 (Online)
17. Thagana, W.M. 2016 [Effect of some Agricultural Practices on Field Performance of Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L.\) Seedlings in Semi-Arid Areas of Voi, Kenya](#) Merit Res. Agric. Sci. soil Sci. 4(1): 014-022 ISSN: 2,350-2,274 (Online)
18. Thagana, W.M. 2016 [Assessment of Sweet Potato Propagules for Re- infection by Various Viruses in East Kamagak Location – Homa Bay County-Kenya](#) American Journal of Experimental Agriculture (AJEA) 11(1): 1-9 Article no.AJEA.21,868 ISSN: 2,231-0606 (Online)
19. Thagana, W.M. 2015 [Yield and Nutritive Attributes Are Not Considered by Farmers in Choice of Sweet Potato Varieties Grown in East Kamagak Location –Homabay County-Kenya](#). The International Journal of Technoledge 3(9): 69-73 ISSN: 2,321-919X (Online)
20. Thagana, W.M., 2015, [Sex Determination of Young Nursery Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L\) Plants using Morphological Traits in Semi-Arid Areas of Voi, Kenya](#). Journal of Biology, Agriculture and Healthcare 5(16): 113-123 ISSN 2,224-3,208 (Paper) ISSN 2,225-093X (Online)
21. Thagana, W.M. 2015 [Studies on Seed Size and Storage on Germination and Performance of Young Jojoba \(*Simmondsia Chinensis* L\) Seedlings in Semi-arid Areas of Kenya](#), Agriculture and Healthcare 5(12): 10-16 ISSN 2,224-3,208 (Paper), ISSN 2,225-093X (Online)
22. Thagana, W.M., 2014, [Beverage Quality and Biochemical Attributes of Arabusta \(*C. arabica* x *C canephora* P.\) and their Parental Genotypes](#), African Journal of Food Science, ISBN: 8(9): 456-464
23. Thagana, W.M., 2014, [Genetic Characterization of Arabusta Coffee Hybrids and Their Parental Genotypes using Molecular Markers](#) , Plant Cell Biotechnology and Molecular Biology, ISBN 15(1&2):31-42, Available online at: <http://www.ikpress.org/abstract.php?iid=429&id=34&aid=3559#.VBr3QvmSyho>

1.2.5 Other Publications

1. Thagana W.M., 2003. Make More Money Grow Sunflower-Technology Dissemination Leaflet.

1.3 Research

1. **2017-2020:** PhD-Pyramiding of Genes for Conferring Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotricum kahawae*) in *Coffea arabica* L. Using Marker Assisted Selection.
2. **2017-2018:** Commercialization of Locally Developed Agricultural Inputs-Foliar Fertilizers, Hydroponic Nutrient Solutions and Rooting Powders.
3. **2017-2020:** Development of Net Blotch Resistant Doubled Haploid Genotypes of Barley by Chromosome Elimination using Bulbosum Technique.
4. **2016-2018:** Fingerprinting and Relating Juvenile Characters of Rice to Yield and Its Components.
5. **2014-15:** Nutrition-sensitive Intervention with African Leafy Vegetables to Improve Nutrition Status of School Going Children in Kenya.
6. **2012-15:** Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host Plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease.
7. **2011-12:** Characterization of Sweet Potato (*Ipomea batatas* [L.] Lam) Landraces Using Morphological and DNA Markers in East Kamagak Location of Rachuonyo District.
8. **2008-2010:** Enhancing Chickpea Productivity and Production in Drought-Prone Areas of sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
9. **2008-09:** Commercialization and utilization of Jojoba in ASALS.
10. **1993-2009:** Oilseed breeding KALRO-Njoro.
11. **1983-1993:** Seed certification, maize and sorghum research, KEPHIS-Lanet.

1.4 Funded Projects

1. **2017-2020:** PhD-Pyramiding of Genes for Conferring Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotricum kahawae*) in *Coffea arabica* L. Using Marker Assisted Selection, NRF. US\$ 6,000.
2. **2017-2018:** Commercialization of Locally Developed Agricultural Inputs-Foliar Fertilizers, Hydroponic Nutrient Solutions and Rooting, Powders, Kenyatta University Vice Chancellors' Research Grant Call 2016. US\$ 11,000
3. **2017-2020:** Development of Net Blotch Resistant Doubled Haploid Genotypes of Barley by Chromosome Elimination using Bulbosum Technique, NRF. US\$ 20,000.
4. **2016-2019:** Fingerprinting and Relating Juvenile Characters of Rice to Yield and Its Components, NACOSTI US\$ 8,000.
5. **2014-15:** Nutrition-sensitive Intervention with African Leafy Vegetables to Improve Nutrition Status of School Going Children in Kenya, Kenyatta University Vice Chancellors' Research Grant Call 2013. US\$ 16,666.
6. **2012-15:** Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host Plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease, EAAPP. US\$ 264,677.

7. **2011-12:** Characterization of Sweet Potato (*Ipomea batatas* [L.] Lam) Landraces Using Morphological and DNA Markers in East Kamagak Location of Rachuonyo District, NCST. US\$ 2,169.
8. **2008-2010:** Enhancing Chickpea Productivity and Production in Drought-Prone Areas of sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, Bill & Melinda Gates. US\$ 106,830.
9. **2008-09:** Commercialization and utilization of Jojoba in ASALS, KAPP. US\$ 100,000.

1.5 Conferenced/Workshops/Seminars Attended

1. Thagana, W.M., Identification of SSR Markers associated with Cassava Mosaic Disease in Kenya ASACSES conference, ECOWAS Parliament Building, Abuja, Nigeria 2nd -5th November, 2015
2. Thagana, W.M. Envisaged MSc Postharvest Technology Curriculum at Kenyatta University Kyambogo University, Kampala, Uganda 5th-9th August, 2015
3. Thagana W.M., Efficacy of a Local and Commercial Rooting powder on Roses, 1st School of Agriculture Biennial International Conference sponsored by KU/AGRA/DAAD/UoN, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya, 1st -5th December, 2014
4. Thagana W.M., Effects of Withholding Irrigation Water after Complete Heading on Seed Quality Traits in Mwea, 1st School of Agriculture Biennial International Conference sponsored by KU/AGRA/DAAD/UoN, Kenyatta University(KU), Nairobi, Kenya, 1st -5th December, 2014
5. Thagana, W.M., Targeted Plant Breeding, KARI-Thika/Kenya, 1/11/13
6. Thagana, W.M., Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease using Genetic Engineering and Marker Assisted Selection-a Kenyan project, Arusha/Tanzania, 28/1/13 -1/02/13
7. Thagana, W.M., Enhancing Cassava Productivity Through Host plant Resistance Breeding Against Cassava Mosaic Disease and Cassava Brown Streak Disease using Genetic Engineering and Marker Assisted Selection-a Kenyan project. Arusha/Tanzania. 28/1/13 -1/02/13
8. Thagana, W.M., Occurrence of seed abortion and numerical components of seed yield of soyabean (*Glycine max* L. Merr.) in three contrasting environments. El Minia/Egypt, 25th-29th March, 2012
9. Thagana W.M., Commercialization and Utilization of Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis* [Link] Schneider) as a basis for Industrialization and Income Generation in ASALS, UniBRAIN/PanAAC Fair, Hilton Hotel, Nairobi, 26th-27th Nov, 2010
10. Thagana, W.M., Chickpea - a promising new food legume crop for drought prone cool areas of Kenya. Cape Town/South Africa 2009
11. Thagana, W.M., Comparison of phenotypic characters of mutant lines of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L) with the original parents. Nairobi/Kenya, 2008
12. Thagana, W.M., *In vitro* embryo culture and immature seed germination techniques for rapid generation advance in soyabean [*Glycine max* (L.) Merrill], Nairobi/Kenya, 2006

13. Thagana, W.M., Variability in M2 generations and characteristics of selected advanced mutant lines of rapeseed. 2006
14. Thagana, W.M., Characterization and genetic relationships of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.), Entebbe/Uganda, 2005
15. Thagana, W.M., Introduction and status of Jojoba *Simmondsia chinensis* (Link) Schneider production in Kenya. Nairobi/Kenya, 2004.
16. Thagana, W.M., Genotype-environment interactions and stability estimates for sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) varieties grown in diverse environments in Kenya. Johannesburg/ South Africa. 2002.
17. Thagana, W.M., Holistic approach in the dissemination of technologies in Lare division, Nakuru district, Egerton university/Kenya. 2001
18. Thagana, W.M., The status of Kenya in the Global production and supply of oilseed and oilseed products. Nairobi/Kenya. 2000.

1.6 Supervision of Postgraduate Students

1.6.1 Masters

1. **Kirui Kipngetich Rickson 2017.** MSc Thesis-Evaluation of Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* Genotypes for Fusarium Wilt Resistance and Its' Management by Fungicides. **Graduated-8th December, 2017, Egerton University.**
2. **Onyango Rosally Anyango 2014.** MSc Thesis- Characterization of Virus-free Sweet Potato (*Ipomea batatas* [L.] Lam) Landraces Using Morphological and SSR Markers in East Kamagak Location-Rachuonyo District. **Graduated 4th July 2014, Kenyatta University.**
3. **Jobson Aruna Momo 2014.** MSc Thesis-Effect of Withholding Irrigation Water at Different Levels After Complete Heading on Rice Yield and Seed Quality. **Graduated 4th July 2014, Kenyatta University.**
4. **James M. Gimase 2014.** MSc Thesis-Genetic Diversity of Arabusta Coffee (*Coffea arabica* L. x *Coffea canephora* Pierre) and their Parental Genotypes. **Graduated 4th July 2014, Kenya University.**
5. **Anyang Robert Tabot 2015.** MSc Thesis-Effects of Varietal Differences, Plant Spacing, and Yields of Upland Rice in Uganda. **Graduated 19th July, 2015, Kenya University.**
6. **Wanyama Patrick Wanjala 2018.** MSc Thesis-Path and Stability Analyses of Yield and Yield Components of Soyabean (*Glycine max.* L Merr.) Varieties Intercropped with Maize. **Graduated 14th December, 2018, Kenya University.**
7. **Tabitha Kariithi 2018.** MSc-Effect of Organic and Inorganic Fertilizers on Yield and Quality of *Amaranthus* Species in Kiambu County. **Graduated 3rd August 2018, Kenyatta University.**

8. **Janet Mwendu Nzamu 2018.** MSc Thesis-Assessment of Pollen Viability and Haploid Induction Capacity of 12 Maize(*Zea mays* L.) Inducer Lines in Makueni County, Kenya. (CIMMYT-sponsored), **Graduated 14th December, 2018, Kenya University.**
9. **Felista Wanjiku Ndungu 2017.** MSc Research- Line by Tester Analysis of Maize Inbred Lines for Northern Leaf Blight and Other Yield Related Traits. **Graduated 23rd July, 2021, Kenyatta University.**
10. **Nyaga M. Christine.** MSc Research-Prediction of Hybrid Performance and Characterization of QTL Alleles Associated with Resistance to Maize Lethal Necrosis (MLN) in CIMMYT Maize (*Zea mays*) Lines. (CIMMYT-sponsored)- **Graduated 23rd July, 2021, Kenyatta University.**
11. **Mary Wakaria.** MSc Research-Evaluation of Rice Germplasm for Resistance to Rice Blast (*Magnaporthe oryzae*) in Mwea, Kirinyaga County –Kenya. **Graduated 17th December, 2021, Kenyatta University).**
12. **Gatheru Peter Karanja.** MSc research- Occurrence, Distribution and Management of Burrowing Nematodes (*Radopholus similis*) on Bananas in Kirinyaga County, Kenya. Second Year, Kenyatta University.
13. **Arphaxad Kipkosgey Ruto.** MSC Research. Introgression of Salt Tolerance Genes to Adapted Variety-Shangi. Second year, Kenyatta University.
14. **Amanuel Tekle.** MSc Research. Seed and Malting Quality of Barley under Various Management Strategies in Central Highlands, Eritrea. Second year. Kenyatta University.
15. **Brian Wachira.** MSc Research. Genotype × Environment Interaction and Stability Analysis for Root Yield in Sweet Potato (*Ipomoea batatas* [L.] Lam) Propagated Using Slips in Taita Taveta, Kenya. First Year, Kenyatta University
16. **Francisca Mutindi Mutunga,** MSc Research. Development of Finger Millet (*Eleusine Coracana* L.) Lines Resistant to Striga (*Striga hermonthica* Benth.) Using CRISPR/Cas9 Genome Editing. First Year, Kenyatta University

1.6.2 Ph.D.

1. **Inoti, Shadrack Kinyua. (2016).** PhD Thesis- Characterization, Propagation and Management of Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis*) in Semi-arid Areas of Voi, Kenya. **Graduated 25th November, 2016,-Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.**
2. **Sylvia A. Henga. (2019).** PhD Thesis-Finger Printing and Relating Juvenile Characters of Rice to Yield and its Components. **(NACOSTI Grant-sponsored)- Kenyatta University. Graduated 27th July, 2019.**
3. **Wakhanu John Akello. (2020).** PhD Research-Nutrition-sensitive Intervention with African Leafy Vegetables to Improve Nutrition Status of School Going-Children in Kenya. **-(Vice-chancellor's Grant-sponsored)- Graduated 18th December, 2020-Kenyatta University.**
4. **James Mwita Gimase.** PhD-Pyramiding of Genes for Conferring Resistance to Coffee Berry Disease (*Colletotricum kahawae*) in *Coffea arabica* L. Using Marker Assisted Selection. **(NRF Grant-sponsored)- Graduated 23rd July, 2021, Kenyatta University..**
5. **Onyango Rosally Anyango.** PhD Research-Development of Net Blotch Resistant Doubled Haploid Genotypes of Barley by Chromosome Elimination using Bulbosum Technique. **-(NRF Grant)-Kenyatta University.**

1.7 Professional/Consultancy (Editor/Peer review in journals, Networks/Collaborations, External Examiner, Patents)

Editor/Peer review of journals

1. **2015-** Finalization of Seed and Plant Varieties Act (CAP326) Regulations.
2. **2014-** Reviewer, AGRA/KU/UON/HAK International Conference.
3. **2014-** Reviewer, Journal of Applied Biosciences (JABs).
4. **2013-** Review of Seed and Plant Varieties Act (CAP326) Regulations.
5. **2010-** Reviewer of Papers-Journal of Animal and Plant Sciences.
6. **2008-** Reviewer of Papers-10th KARI Conference.

External Examination

1. **2017-to date:** External Examiner, Department of Animal Health and Production Mount, Kenya University.
2. **2022-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, Fort Hare University-South Africa.
3. **2021-** External Examiner, PhD Thesis, Embu University.
4. **2020-** External Examiner, PhD Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.
5. **2019-** External Examiner, PhD Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.
6. **2019-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.
7. **2017-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.
8. **2016-** External Examiner, PhD Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.

9. **2016-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, Egerton University.
10. **2015-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, University of Nairobi.
11. **2015-** External Examiner, MSc Thesis, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.

1.8 Community Service and Other Engagements

1. **Elected member of County Kitui Ndeengu KGGPF** with a mandate on Green grams.
2. **Member of Board of Management** Nyumbani Village Schools, **Kitui** (A Registered Charity in Kenya, USA, UK, Italy, Ireland and Spain).

1.9 Affiliation of Professional Bodies

1. **Member**, Kenya Association of Food Safety and Protection (**KAFSAP**)-9/4/2019 **to date**.
2. **Chairman**, Plant Breeders' Association of Kenya (**PBAK**), 2009-2017.

2.0 National and International awards and Recognitions

1. **2008:** Awarded US\$ 400 for the **Best Paper** in Horticulture and Industrial Crops by the Secretariat of the 11th KARI Scientific conference.
2. **2006:** Awarded US\$ 145 for the **Best Paper** in Biotechnology by the Secretariat of the 10th KARI Scientific conference.

2.1 Administrative Positions Held

2.1.1 Recognized university administrative positions

1. **Deputy Executive Dean, School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Kenyatta University**-29th September, 2022 to 7/11/2022
2. **Acting Dean, School of Agriculture, Kenyatta University**-25th August, 2022 to 29/9/2022
3. **Associate Dean, School of Agriculture, Kenyatta University**-1st March, 2021 to 25/8/2022.
4. **Director, Kitui Campus, Kenyatta University**-25th February, 2019 to 1/3/2021.
5. **Member of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), International Food Safety Conference**, Kenyatta University, Nairobi **20th -24th May, 2019**.
6. **Chairman, Agricultural Science and Technology**-10th August, 2017-30th September, **2018**.
7. **Member School Board of Postgraduate Studies, School of Agriculture and Enterprise Development (SAED)**-26th October, 2015-**2017**
8. **Departmental Post Graduate Co-ordinator**-8th November, 2015-**2017**
9. **Departmental Digital and E-learning Co-ordinator**-1st October, 2015 to February, **2016**
10. **Departmental Examination Coordinator, Agricultural Science and Technology (AST)**-30th June, 2011 to 30th October **2013**.
11. **Member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC)**-JICA supported Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)-Rice project-1st July 2013-**2018**.

2.1.2 Other administrative positions Held

1. **Chairman, Kenya Association of Food Safety and Protection (KAFSAP)**-9/4/2019 **to 2021**
2. **External Examiner, Department of Animal Health Production, Mount Kenya University**-12th October, 2017-**To date**
3. **Chairman, Plant Breeders' Association of Kenya (PBAK)**, 2009-2017.