

Bsc Second Year Range Management Academic Trip

This was one and half day intensive exercise exposing Range Management students to Taxonomic and Herbarium field skills. Led by their Taxonomy lecturer and LARMAT technical staff, students visited Rangelands of Kenya; Lukenya, Kalama and Kibwezi dryland farm (UoN) on 18th and 19th October, 2013.

Students identified, collected plant sample from dicot and monocot families. The samples were transported to Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT) Taxonomy and Herbarium laboratories for further description. Dicot families discussed were Leguminosae, Acanthaceae, Labiatae, Verbanaceae, Compositae, Solanaceae, Bignoniaceae, Anacardiaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Tiliaceae, Euphorbiaceae while the monocots were Commelinaceae; Liliaceae, Graminae, Palmae, Musaceae

In the field, their morphological characteristics, floral formula and fruit placentation amongst other entnobotany aspects were discussed.

Other areas of focus during the trip was studying different ecological zones and their vegetations associated, Land use changes and agro pastoral systems.