



## Introduction

Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) has released hybrid coffee varieties that combine high yields, and good cup quality with resistance to coffee leaf rust (CLR) and coffee berry diseases (CBD) for Arabica and coffee wilt disease (CWD) for Robusta. This paper describes our innovative approaches which TaCRI is using to help smallholder coffee growers to access the improved coffee seedlings for replanting programs to replace the traditional coffee varieties which are susceptible to CLR, CBD, and CWD.



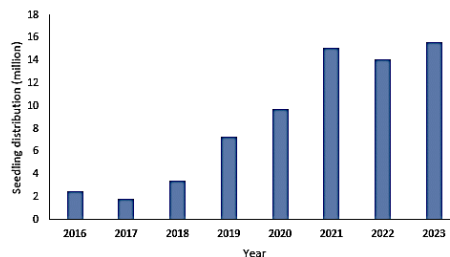
**Figure 1: Primary nursery (On-Station)**



**Figure 3: Tertiary nursery**

## Materials/Methods

TaCRI has placed much emphasis on supporting smallholder coffee growers to access the seedlings of improved coffee varieties. This has been successfully achieved through the formation of farmer groups of 20 to 30 members, the establishment of primary, secondary, and tertiary coffee nurseries, conducting backstopping visits, and the provision of technical skills to smallholders on seedlings multiplication by clonal, seeds, and grafting propagation techniques.



**Figure 2: Trend of improved seedlings distribution**

## Results

Notable achievements have been realized. The institute has formed a network of 284 farmer-managed nurseries

(tertiary) (Fig. 3), 19 secondary, and 6 primary nurseries (Fig.1) with the capacity to multiply and distribute 15 million seedlings annually (Fig. 2).

It is estimated that about 72 million hybrid seedlings have been multiplied distributed (Fig. 1) and planted and 42,000 ha equivalent to 17.5% of the coffee area in Tanzania has been replanted with improved hybrid coffee varieties since the new varieties were officially released in 2005.

## Conclusion/Perspectives

This paper describes our innovative approaches which have enabled coffee growers to access seedlings of improved coffee varieties for replanting programs thus contributing to increased productivity and production. Therefore more efforts are needed to scale up the above approaches to meet the increasing demand for improved coffee seedlings.

## References:

- Magesa, J.M.; Mushi I.K.; Shayo, G.; Ng'homa. N.M.; Mdemu, S.; Tarimo, E.; Teri, J. M. 2012. Strengthening produce organization to speed up the multiplication of improved hybrid coffee varieties in Tanzania. Presented during the 24<sup>th</sup> ASIC Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica, 12 to 16 November 2012.
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