



### Field Excursion in Tanzania

2011/05/25 - 2011/05/26

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During a 2 days field excursions BIA researchers visited Diligent (<http://www.diligent-tanzania.com/index.php?id=1112>) a Jatropha processing company in Arusha (Tanzania), as well as a women's group in Arumeru, who have ventured into Jatropha soap production.



Visit at Diligent Tanzania Ltd. The company buys *Jatropha curcas* seeds from small scale farmers in the region of Arusha and beyond. The company insists on buying only seeds harvested from Jatropha hedges and fences. Mono-cropping or inter-cropping is considered by the company's management to be too risky for the farmers, as returns from Jatropha are still relatively low and time is needed until first harvests are possible.



Jatropha oil production at Diligent Tanzania Ltd is still conducted at a small scale. The company exports oil to Europe and the USA, but wishes to target a local market to improve the ecological balance of their product. The local tourism industry is a potential customer for Jatropha oil or biodiesel and for press-cake derivatives like pellets and briquettes.

### Calendar

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Jatropha Products Tanzania Limited (JPTL) located in Arusha is providing support to a local women's group for the production of Jatropha soap. Although the soap is more expensive than regular soap, it is appreciated for its medicinal value (cure of rashes and other skin ailments).



The women's group produces soap from Jatropha seeds sold to them by local farmers. The oil is processed into soap and packed in the village. Next to soap making, the women are also active in fish rearing and micro credit.



JPTL is trying to develop a cooking stove that can be fuelled with Jatropha press residues. The press cake is filled into the stove and compacted. Then the central metallic element is removed and a few wood splinters and a bit of Jatropha oil are poured into the open space and then lit.



The combustion of the press cake is long lasting and regular. However, due to the remaining oil in the press cake, the combustion produces smoke, which limits its utilization indoors. To address this issue, a ventilation pipe was added to the stove. Eventually a system with outside ventilation could be developed to improve the comfort of use indoors.

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