

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

FINAL YEAR PROJECT PROPOSAL REPORT

AUTOMATIC ROBOTIC SEED SOWER

BY

MUJUZI RAMUZY

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E-MAIL: ramseymu@gmail.com

CONTACT: 0704929751

A PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

Supervisor: Dr. Semwogerere Twaibu

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DECLARATION

I MUJUZI RAMUZY do hereby declar for any other degree award to any other	are that this project report is original and not been submitted or University before.
Signature	Date
MUJUZI RAMUZY	
Bachelor of Computer Engineering	
Department of Computer Engineering	
Busitema University.	

APPROVAL

This Dissertation Report has been so	ubmitted with the approval of the following supervisor(s)
Signature	Date:
MUJUZI RAMUZY	
Department of Computer Engineering	ng
Faculty of Engineering	
Busitema University.	

LIST OF ACRONYMS

RF Radio Frequency.

ARSS Automatic Robotic Seed Sower.

IR Infra-Red.

TX Transmitter.

RX Receiver.

DC Direct Current

MCU Microcontroller Unit

IDE Integrated development Environment

LED Lighting Emitting Diode

LCD Liquid Crystal Display

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ABSTRACT

An automatic robotic seed sower is the subject system. This system creates furrows, sows seeds into these furrows at evenly spaced intervals and covers these holes/furrows. This system improves the technology of the existing metering systems in the attempt to reduce or completely curb down the high labour expenses spent on achieving fast seed sowing.

In gathering information, consultations and document reviews concerning the existing seed sowing systems were carried out. It was from the analysis of this gathered information that the developing of the Automatic Robotic Seed Sower.

I programmed this system using Arduino IDE software.

The components of the system were designed prior to system testing using a bread board after which they were soldered on a copper board. The functionality of the system was under the control of the code that was written on the microcontroller.

The system was finally subjected to system testing to validate and verify its working by me and some of my classmates before presenting to the Busitema University Computer engineering panel.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

In the past, agriculture in India has played and will continue to play a dominant role in the growth of Indian economy in the foreseeable future. It represents the largest sector producing to around 28 percent of the GDP, is the largest employer providing more than 60 percent of the jobs and is the prime arbiter of living standards for seventy percent of India's population in the rural areas. These factors together with a strong determination to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains production have ensured a high priority for agriculture sector in the successive development plans of the country. [1]. The combined factors of increased international competition in the agricultural sector, advances in computer technology, and the rapidly decreasing costs of new technology have now brought us to a time when the widespread of intelligent machines in agriculture is imminent. [2]

Agriculture is the backbone of Uganda's economy mostly. Agriculture contributes highly to Uganda's economy since it employs about 80% of the labor force and also accounts for over 90% of export earnings. Food crops (plantains, cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, sorghum, maize, beans, groundnuts and sesame) represent 60% of agricultural GDP, livestock 19% and export crops 12%. Uganda's agriculture is characterized by the predominance of small-scale traditional mode of farming. Economical crop farming in Uganda involves the exporting of crops like coffee, maize, beans etc. and all start from sowing of the seeds into the ground and ensuring that they grow till they are harvested at the right time. Crop farming in Uganda is done on both small and large scale depending on what the farmer wants to grow. The first step to cropping is planting the seeds into the desired land of fertile soils and this activity usually takes long depending on the size of the field.

To keep agriculture on the cutting edge, many farmers now implement a variety of technologies e.g. precision agriculture, remote sensing, computers, the internet, specialized software, global positioning, drip irrigation and bio-tech. Agricultural advancements also appear in much smaller form's such as seeds. For farmers to optimize agricultural production they must plant high quality,

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