

**e - News 9/15/11 GROW BIOINTENSIVE AGRICULTURE CENTRE, Kenya  
(G-BIACK)**

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**THE FARMER TRAINING FARMER APPROACH**



*Mr. Maina (in cap) in the first picture and Mrs. Wambua (holding a black bucket) in the second picture training fellow farmers in GROW BIOINTENSIVE farming techniques. The two are CRPs from two different communities*

The GROW BIOINTENSIVE Agriculture Centre of Kenya G-BIACK is determined to develop training approaches that are sustainable, farmer friendly, farmer led and farmer driven.

During the initial farmer group trainings offered by G-BIACK in all the communities, the community members are required to choose or elect 2 or more well-known members who are later retrained and are empowered to become the community teachers or the community Resource Persons, CRPs. The main criteria followed to choose the CRPs are that they must be permanent residents of the community and they must be good farmers who must be willing to help others. The CRPs use their own farms as demonstration plots.

G-BIACK introduced this approach three years ago as one of the project phase out plan; the organization intends to work in every community for 3 years after which the community is expected to run the projects on its own.

After training, CRPs are further coached by the G-BIACK field staff on basic extension and follow up services.

Since the introduction of this approach, we have realized that the farmer- train -farmer approach is a very sustainable approach because farmers feel that they are being trained by one of their own, and the response has been very positive.

The CRPs are a “resource” because they are permanent members of the community and they can be accessed by the community members any time.

Presently G-BIACK has 32 CRPs from 8 different communities.

Please visit us! We are located 10km east of Thika town along the Thika – Garissa Rd (highway A3)

Or visit our web site: [www.g-black.org](http://www.g-black.org)

*Donations of any amount help us to reach out to more vulnerable families. Checks payable to Kili Self Help Project and designated for G-BIACK may be mailed to 260 Marion Avenue, Mill Valley CA 94941 USA. Donations are tax deductible and 100% of the donated amount will be sent to G-BIACK for our programmes.*

**G-BIACK- Empowering the communities ~ Transforming Lives**  
(G-BIACK is a registered CBO in Kenya. Donations are tax-deductible)