Cultivating success in Uganda: Kigezi farmers and colonial policies


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Abstract

Kigezi, a district in south-western Uganda, has proved itself to be an area of exceptionality in many ways. In contrast to many other parts of the colonial world this district did not adopt cash crops, successfully adopted soil conservation practices, and had a remarkably developed and individualised land market. This book presents a comprehensive study of livelihoods in Kigezi. Its findings are particularly exciting for all those involved in the ongoing key debates in natural resource management and environmental history. Following the lead of groundbreaking studies by Tiffen, Fairhead and Leach, this case study pushes this debate forward, exploring how the political economy of land and labour has been transformed alongside a more positive environmental story.

Item Type: Book

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Schools and Departments: School of Global Studies > Geography

Subjects: Geography, Anthropology, Recreation > Geography (General) > G0001 Geography (General)

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Cultivating Success in Uganda: Kigezi Farmers and Colonial Policies (Eastern African Studies) Grace Carswell Kigezi, a district in south-western Uganda, has proved itself to be an area of exceptionality in many ways. In contrast to many other parts of the colonial world this district did not adopt cash crops, successfully adopted soil conservation practices, and had a remarkably developed and individualised land market. This book presents a comprehensive study of livelihoods in Kigezi. Its findings are particularly exciting for all those involved in the ongoing key debates in natural resource Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute. Cultivating Success in Uganda: Kigezi farmers and colonial policies (review). Chris Conte. Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute. That people in Kigezi have produced food surpluses should not surprise students of East Africa's pre-colonial agricultural history, during which highland zones served as regional bread baskets whose surpluses farmers exchanged with their neighbours, who had access either to manufactured goods or to commodities like salt and cattle. Rather than strengthening or sustaining the pre-existing social and economic networks, colonial policy aimed to sequester highland regions as sites for forest reserves or settler-run coffee and tea plantations.