Economically, Eucalyptus is the most widely planted tree species.

The estimated Eucalyptus standing volume (100,000ha) in Kenya is worth about Kshs. 30B.

Insect pest damage to trees and forest products leads to 30% loss in yield and reduced quality.

It is estimated that a loss of Kshs. 10B is incurred due to damage by pests on Eucalyptus.

In Kenya, about 70% on-farm tree planting is on Eucalyptus spp. which is threatened by invasive insect pests like Blue Gum Chalcid (BGC), Snout beetle and Bronze bug.

Another major pest of Eucalyptus is termites. About 90% death of trees in termite prone areas has been recorded where management options are not practiced.

KEFRI has developed measures to manage these pests that include: species selection, species site-matching, application of termiticides and implementation of biological control programs.