

**BUSITEMA  
UNIVERSITY**  
*Pursuing Excellence*

**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING**

**DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILE AND GINNING ENGINEERING**

**DEVELOPMENT OF A BIOACTIVE FABRIC USING DYE EXTRACTS  
FROM SELECTED INDIGENOUS MEDICINAL PLANT SPECIES**

**BY**

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A research project submitted to the department of textile and ginning engineering in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of a Bachelor of Science in textile engineering of

Busitema University

**MAY 2016**

**DECLARATION**

I GUMISIRIZA Onesmas Registration Number BU/UG/2012/144 do hereby declare that this research project is my original work and has never been submitted to any higher institute of learning for any academic award.

Signature.....

Date: 13/05/2016.



**APPROVAL**

I hereby submit in a research project for approval under the supervision of the following supervisors;

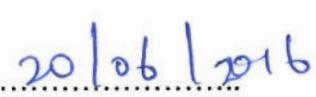
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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I am so much indebted to God for the success of this project work; His sufficient grace carried me on in the darkest moments.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to my supervisors Mr. Loum Janani and Mr. Musinguzi Alex for providing encouragement, advice and guidance throughout in this project work.

Special thanks also go to the entire department of Textile and Ginning, Faculty of Engineering Bisitema University

Finally, a very special expression of appreciation is extended to the entire team of Makerere microbiology Lab, especially Mr. Musisi Lubowa who is the head of that the department for all the guidance and ideas rendered to me and also allowing me carryout my practical's in their lab.

**ABSTRACT**

In this context, the antimicrobial activity of 100% plain woven scoured and bleached cotton fabric sample, and 100% degummed and bleached hand knitted fabric dyed with the extracts from *Aloe Vera*, *Bidens Pilosa*, *Datura stramonium*, *Ricinus Communis* and *Galinsoga Parviflora* plant species was investigated against two strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* (gram-positive bacterial) and *pseudomonas aeruginosa* (gram- negative bacteria). The dye extracts from medicinal plants were added onto both fabric samples using post mordanting method with two mordants vis Alum and Iron II Sulphate. The present study has revealed the importance of using natural dyed fabrics to control antibiotic resistant bacteria, which have been a threat to human health and posed noticeable challenges confronted with medical physicians in the treatment of many infectious diseases. Among the five plant species, only four that is, *Aloe Vera*, *Bidens Pilosa*, *Datura stramonium* and *Ricinus Communis* showed positive results on both fabric samples against the two selected bacteria strains.

**Keywords:** Bioactive, Medicinal plants, Antimicrobial activity, *pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus aureus*

**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

ATCC - American Type Culture Collection

AATCC - American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists

ISO - International Standards Organisation

JIS - Japanese Industrial Standards

MRSA - Multiresistant Staphylococcus Aureus

SN - Swiss Norm

O.W.F - On Weight of Fabric

WHO - World Health Organization

MIC - Minimum Inhibitory Concentration

MHA - Mueller Hinton Agar

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## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Textiles play an important role in the daily lives of humans, and the demand for various quality attributes of them are based on enhancing the properties through proper finishing (*Resmi & Amsamani, 2014*). Textiles are excellent substrates for bacterial growth and microbial proliferation under appropriate moisture, nutrients and temperature conditions. Natural fibres are more liable to bacterial attack than synthetic fibres due to their porous and hydrophilic nature. The structure of natural fibers retains water and oxygen along with nutrients, in that way offering optimal environment for microbial growth (*A Khan et al, 2012*). On the other hand, direct contact with human body supplies warmth, humidity and nutrients, which provides a perfect environment and optimal conditions for microbial growth. (*Hooda et al. 2013*).

The term bioactive refers to a substance having an effect or causing a reaction in the living animal or plant tissue exposed to it thus a bioactive material is the one that induces a specific biological activity (*Elmajdoub et al, 2014*). Natural bioactive compounds with antimicrobial properties are gaining considerable attention as attractive eco-friendly alternative to synthetic antimicrobial agents for textile applications, especially in medical and health care textiles, as they are safe, non-toxic and skin-friendly(*Duangsri et al. 2014*). The purpose of imparting antimicrobial activity to textiles is to protect the material from microbial attack, prevent the transmission and spreading of pathogenic microorganisms, inhibit odour development resulting from microbial degradation, and creating a material that will act as preventive or curative treatment (*Gao et al, 2004*). Although there are many natural products with antimicrobial agents, the study of their use in textiles is very limited and not well documented.

In developing countries Uganda inclusive, rapid urbanization increases overcrowding in slum areas, exacerbating the problem of skin diseases. Families often sacrifice part of their overstretched household budgets trying to treat the infections, only to see them reappear. Thus, controlling skin diseases through simple but effective public health measures is necessary and

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