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**CONSTRAINTS TO BEE KEEPING, HONEY PROCESSING AND MARKETING IN
SELECTED SUB-COUNTIES OF SOROTI DISTRICT**

BY



KAZIBWE KAKOTO STEPHEN


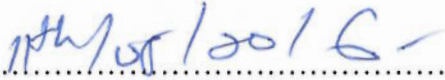
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**A RESEARCH DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
AND ANIMAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

JUNE 2016

DECLARATION

I KAZIBWE KAKOTO STEPHEN, hereby declare that this dissertation is out of my original concept and has never been submitted to any University or institute of higher learning for any academic qualification.

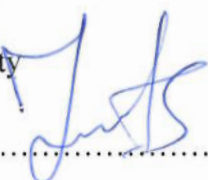
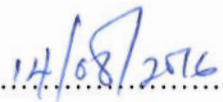
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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

DECLARATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	vii
ABSTRACT.....	x
CHAPTER ONE.....	1
1.1 Problem statement	2
1.3. OBJECTIVES	3
1.3.1 General objective	3
1.3.2 Specific Objectives	3
1.4 Research questions	3
1.5 Significance of the Study	3
1.6 Justitification.	4
1.7 Scope of the study	4
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.0 Introduction	5
2.2.0 World honey Production and its market analysis	7
2.3.0 The apiary sub sector in Uganda	10
2.4.0 Market and market outlook in honey production	10
2.5.0 World honey Market analysis.	11
2.6.0 The market overview in Uganda	11
2.7.0 Challenges faced in marketing of the bee products.	12
2.8.0 Constraints of honey production in East African beekeeping history	12
2.9.0 General constraints honey production in Uganda	12

2.9.1 Main constraints to honey production in Uganda	13
2.9.2 Pest, predator and diseases that affect bee keeping	14
2.9.3 Other challenges of bee keeping	16
CHAPTER THREE: MATERIALS AND METHODS	19
3.1.0 Area of study	19
3.2.0 Research approach	19
3.3.0 Sampling design	20
3.4.0 Sample size determination	20
3.5.0 Operational method	20
3.6.0 Observational method	20
3.7.0 Statistical Design	21
3.8.0 Data Presentation	21
3.9.0 Ethical consideration	21
3.9.1 Environmental consideration	21
3.9.2 Limitation/anticipated problems	21
CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS	22
4.1 Socio economic and cultural characteristics of respondents.	22
4.2 Reasons for keeping bees.	23
4.3 Experience in keeping bees	23
4.4 Type of beehives and number of bee hives owned	24
4.5 Cost of bee hives	25
4.6 Management practices done by the farmers.	25
4.7 Disease and pests' prevalence by farmers	25
4.8 Measures taken in case of outbreak.	26
4.9 honey harvesting	27
4.10 Number of harvesting times per year	28

4.11 Quantity of honey produced per year	29
4.12 Type of honey sold and processing methods	29
4.13 Packaging honey and quantity packaged	30
4.14 Access to market and market structures	31
4.14 Market structure of honey	31
4.15 Where do you market the products?	32
4.16 Assistance received by farmers.	32
4.17 Source of assistance	33
4.18 Nongovernmental organizations rendering assistance to farmers.	33
CHAPTER FIVE; DISCUSSION OF RESULTS	34
CHAPTER SIX; CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.	38
6.0. CONCLUSION	38
Recommendation	38
REFERENCES	39
APPENDIX	45

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFB	American foul brood
BBW	Banana Bacterial Wilt
EFB	European foul brood
EU	European Union
ITC	International Trade Center
KTB	Kenya top bar hives
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal industry and Fisheries
MT	Metric Tones
NRMP	National Residue Monitoring Plan
Pa	per annum
PEAP	poverty eradication action plan
PEAP	poverty eradication action plan
SHB	small hive beetle
SOCCADIDO	Soroti Catholic Diocese Development Organization
THR	Teso Honey Refinery
TUNADO	The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organization
UEPB	Uganda Export Promotion Board
UNDP	United Nations development program me
USA	United States of America

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 showing proportion of education status of respondents	22
Figure 2 showing purposes of bee keeping	23
Figure 3 showing experience of respondents in bee keeping	24
Figure 4 showing proportion of different pests in the hives.	26
Figure 5 showing respondents who harvest honey	28
Figure 6 showing number of harvesting times per year	28
Figure 7 showing markets of honey	32
Figure 8 showing honey marketing areas.	32
Figure 9 showing sources of assistance	33
Figure 10 showing sources of donations from different agencies	33
Figure 11 Map of Soroti showing the location of the study area.....	51
Figure 12 Map of Uganda showing the location of the Soroti.....	52

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 showing marital status and sex of respondents	22
Table 2 showing number and types of beehives owned by the respondents	24
Table 3 showing the management practices done by farmer	25
Table 4 Measures taken in case of outbreak	26
Table 5 shows drugs used in treatment	27
Table 6 Money spent in treatment	27
Table 7 Quantity of honey per year	29
Table 8 showing numbers of farmers lacking harvesting equipments.....	29
Table 9 showing type of honey sold and processing methods.....	30
Table 10 Packaging honey and quantity packaged.....	30
Table 11 Respondents who market their products and products marketed	31

ABSTRACT

This study was conducted in Kamuda and Arapai Sub Counties Soroti district to find out the constraints to bee keeping honey processing and marketing. The focus of the study was to identify the types of bee-hives used, assess the socio-economic, cultural, management and other factors affecting quality of honey, establish the factors affecting good quality honey and assess access to market and characterize market structures done in Kamuda and Arapai sub counties. A Hundred (100) respondents were randomly selected and interviewed using a questionnaire which was pretested before the commencement of data collection. The data collected was analyzed using statistical package of social scientists (SPSS version 16) and Microsoft excel 2007 to find the frequencies and percentages which are presented using tables, graphs and pie charts.

The study revealed that 71% of the respondents were married and this provided the family labor, 15% kept bees for home consumption, 23% for income generation and 62% kept the bees for both home consumption and generation of income and the majority (50%) used traditional bee hives made out of tree logs. The study reveals that majority of the farmers in the study area (69%) have less than 10 bee hives on average which is less 15% of the recommended minimum number (Moustafa, 2001). Most farmers (98%) had not recognized disease outbreak but majority (74%) could recognize pests where Varoa mites and ants were most prevalent with 41% and 63% respectively. It was also noted that majority of the bee farmers (95%) don't have harvesting equipments such as smoker, gears etc, which reduced the quality of the honey.

In conclusion therefore, the main constraints to honey production are; lack of experience and knowledge about the diseases, poor bee hives management, pests and diseases, lack of capital to buy modern bee hives, lack of equipments for harvesting and processing honey, etc. From the results, it can be recommended that; the farmers should establish a close linkages with the various service providers who provide services such as training, equipments such as smokers, gears etc and market information and linkages. Beekeepers should also form associations and organized into cooperative societies at the local, and regional and national levels. This will enable them to access services e.g. training and extension services and enhance collective marketing through which they can negotiate for better prices

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Background

Apiculture (bee-keeping) is the deliberate rearing of honey bees (*Apis mellifera*), honey production and other products (Dathine, 2006). Apiculture is one of the fastest growing sectors worldwide. A number of countries have made strategic moves towards the development of this industry. Recent developments show a shift from keeping bees as a hobby to one of a serious Business enterprise (Dathine, 2006). Bee keeping is an applied science of rearing honey bees for man's economics benefits which are commonly carried out in hives and it can be high technology or small scale bee keeping whereby in high technology they are known for large number of colonies, high level of technology used in the production, deals in variety of bee product, park and export to other country (Hilmi *et al.*, 2004).

Uganda is among the countries in Africa where there is active bee keeping programs and lively honey production based on its favorable climate but has not been fully exploited whereby the honey produced is just consumed internally and the surplus exported to other countries (Moustafa, 2004). Though the sector is facing some challenges like pest, predators and diseases, unrestricted use of pesticides which kills the bees, poor traditional hive and methods of harvesting which kills the bees, and low market development and price fluctuation of the products (Lepetu *et al.*, 2001). This is evidenced in Teso sub region and areas of west Nile

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries annual report 2008 about 1.2 million beekeepers are active, with 700,000 beehives colonized countrywide. Many of the beekeepers lack the necessary skills for effective production of honey and do not have resources to acquire better equipment. In spite of this, sizeable quantities of honey are produced in the districts of Bushenyi, Soroti, Gulu, Nakasongola, Kabarole and the West Nile region. (James, 2008)

Beekeeping offers a safety net for the poor against poverty, and can generate income. Beekeeping is also a low risk, sustainable, household-level enterprise. The opportunity to earn more from beekeeping is growing as the demand for honey in the towns of Uganda outstrips supply. The challenge is to transform subsistence beekeeping to business apiary value chain, and it is clear that this effective demand is the key driver to this process (TUNADO, 2010).

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