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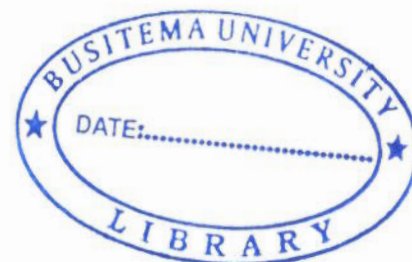
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**ADOPTION OF KUROILER CHICKEN AMONG FARMERS IN BAITAMBOGWE
SUB-COUNTY, MAYUGE DISTRICT**

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

JULY, 2013

DECLARATION

I **Nabirye Sharon**, hereby declare that the inclusion of this report are my own making and has never been submitted to any institution of higher learning for award of any academic qualification.

Signature: *Nabirye Sharon* Date: *16/08/2013*

This dissertation has been submitted for examination with the approval of my supervisor:

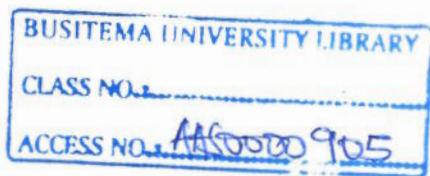
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DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to my father Mr Kanaalo Robert, for his sacrifices and commitment to keep me in school till this far and his parental guidance accorded to me will ever remain a memorable contribution to my life.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am very grateful to the local farmers of Baitambogwe Sub county, Mayuge district for their participation and valuable information in this survey and to my father Mr. Kanaalo Robert for the financial support during the investigation.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
NAGRC & DB	National Animal Genetic Research Centre and Data Bank
UN	United Nations
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
IC	Indigenous Chickens
S/C	Sub-county
Kg	Kilogram
%	Percent

ABSTRACT

In 2010, the NAGRC & DB raised and distributed improved chickens to more than 100 communities in about five districts of Uganda. Although not all members in all the communities benefited from this distribution, it was however expected that non beneficiaries would see the benefits of keeping improved chickens and eventually adopt its production. The aim of the study was to assess the rate and extent of adoption of Kuroiler chickens among the farmers in Baitambogwe Sub County using selected parameters, the study employed farm household's survey using structured questionnaire administered to 70 respondents. From the study it was found out that the respondents that had the Kuroilers for more than two years yielded most high adopters (43%), followed by medium adopters that had kept the birds between 1-2 years (37.3%) and the least adopters (19.4%) had kept the birds for less than a year. The study identified that older, more educated farmers with larger families are more likely to adopt better chicken varieties in their households; the patterns of adoption included procurement of either (eggs, chicks or mature birds) for use in breed diffusion. The Farmer's perceptions about kuroilers was that the kuroilers have a higher performance when compared to the ICs and factors for non-adoption included rampant chicken theft, failure to sustain supply of chicks, inadequate incomes and other constraints faced during production process like sudden breakout of diseases. The study recommended that inputs of production such as feeds, vaccines should be made available within the rural households and initiatives should be taken by the government to have hatchery units being put in various parts of the district.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.

1.1 Background

Poultry is a widespread and well-established activity in villages. Chickens are relatively cheap to buy, require fewer inputs and the indigenous chickens, which are commonly referred to as "village chickens" in the literature, contribute to basic socio-economic welfare in rural families as they provide food for special festivals, petty cash for the household and play various cultural roles in communities for instance they are used as offerings for traditional ceremonies, they are important in the lives of rural people, including as a cheap source of protein through providing of meat and eggs.

Uganda has an estimated poultry population of 27 million birds (*UBOS, 2008*), more than 87 percent of which are local chickens managed under the free-range system in rural areas. In 2000, the chicken population was estimated at 23 million, of which 80 percent were indigenous breeds (*MAAIF Report, 2000*). Exotic commercial birds were introduced into Uganda in the 1960s, and over the past decade the number of intensive commercial poultry units (for broilers and layers) has increased considerably, especially around urban areas.

Indigenous chickens remain the predominant poultry species in rural areas. The limiting factor for this activity is that traditionally village poultry is based on non-descript varieties of poultry stock with the inherent low genetic potential for meat and egg productivity (*Ssewanyana et al., 2008*). Modern varieties of chicken like Cornish Cross, Cornish Rock used as broilers and White Leghorns, Golden comets, Wyandotte used as layers require special feed, stringent bio-security norms and expensive inputs that are nonexistent in the village environment.

In a conscious effort to upgrade rural poultry, kegg farms located in India, a Company specializing in breeding of village specific poultry developed a variety of multicolored chicken named "Kuroiler". Introduced in the early 1990s, the breed was created by Vinod Kapur of Kegg Farms Private, Ltd., and the name is a portmanteau of Kegg and Broiler. The Kuroiler is a hybrid breed of chicken developed in India. Kuroilers are derived from crossing either coloured broiler males with Rhode Island Red females, or, White Leghorn males crossed with female Rhode

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